

Committee on Civic Engagement

Senate of the Associated Students 85th Session

Minutes for Friday, November 17, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Flangas called the meeting of the Committee on Civic Engagement to order at 1:31 pm in the President's Conference Room on the 3rd floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Kaitie Christensen.

2. ROLL CALL

Senators Flangas, Smith, Thummel, Tool, Lee, Kuykendall, Bussman, and Billman were present.

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

4. MINUTES

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Science Fair

Discussion on the progress of the Science Fair. New Assignments to interns regarding tasks for the science fair.

Senator Flangas said she would send an email out with a wufoo form, organizations, when and where they meet, and she would resend out the assignments as well. The next meeting, she would have them give a definite update and she would send out a listserv email to the clubs on campus. The biggest thing was to get an update on the elementary schools. It was officially February 23rd in the ballrooms and room 420. They would have food in 420. She talked to Matt Dutcher and she got a stage so they may do a large project at the end for a finale.



Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Ansari Business Building, Mathewson- IGT Knowledge Center, and online at www.nevadaasun.com.

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Flangas at senatorflangas@asun.unr.edu.

Intern Pennington asked if this was only for clubs and orgs at UNR

Senator Flangas said they were targeting UNR clubs because they have club funding that they can get for community service and it is fully funded. They will say please come to the science fair, and they will provide the table, the children, and the food, they just had to volunteer their time and buy the supplies

Intern Pennington said they had a STEM club that built a trebuchet at her old highschool. While they were there they were talking about doing a build fair to show the things they built.

Senator Flangas said she will forward them all the information with the BBB presentation, the wufoo form, and she can send that to them. They would love to have more people come, the thing is they would supply the entire project and they supply the table space and children. She can get them parking passes. It was February 23rd from 10 to one. It was a Friday. Asked what type of food they should have. If you go out of silver and blue, you can only provide \$100 for food, which was a very small amount.

Senator Cammie Lee said instead of pizza, they could make sandwiches or something simple. You can get a discount for port of subs.

Senator Flangas said she would reach out to the one on campus and see if they can get a sandwich discount. Wanted someone to donate cups

Senator Cammie Lee said they could look at some local community stuff

Senator Flangas said they can't have them sell food because that would conflict with silver and blue. They would have to donate the food. They can't bring a new seller to campus. If they want to ask local businesses to donate they might say yes.

Intern Monge said his club was getting things catered by Panda Express and he thought they donated it

Senator Flangas said on campus catering might be something they are allowed to do. She liked the idea of healthy food. Asked for their contact information so she could contact them. She had a meeting with the Joe and had to go to the SEAB meeting. They had the room, 20 tables and a stage. They could get more tables. She was looking for someone to talk to the new IFC because it was during her class time but she wanted someone to talk to them.

Senator Lee asked what IFC was

Senator Flangas said Interfraternity council. It was the Greek frats

Senator Bussman asked when that was

Senator Flangas said 4pm on Wednesday in the senate chambers

Intern Monge said he could do it

Senator Flangas said she would talk to him after this about what they would say. They were scary and don't care but they can work it out.

Senator Bussman said he could also go.

Senator Flangas said they would get them the information

Senator Lee asked if it would be that PowerPoint, she had some updates

Senator Flangas said she would get that email

Senator Bussman asked what their role would be in the fair

Senator Flangas said she wanted to get in touch with the fraternity members because there are science people in every fraternity and they have to do civic engagement

Senator Bussman said the clubs have a purpose

Senator Flangas said they weren't looking for a club necessarily, but anyone could be at their fair

Senator Bussman said this could be one person in a frat doing a project

Intern Monge asked if she was contacting Panhellenic

Senator Flangas said she would do PanHellenic and MGC. She would try to do that, but she wasn't sure when they meet

Intern Monge said they meet Mondays at 4pm in Cain

Senator Flangas said she would send everything out

b. Hour Requirement SAS Change Update

Senator Kuykendall and Senator Thummel will bring an update on the resolution and SAS change for the Hour Requirement regarding civic engagement hours including a points break down.

Senator Kuykendall said he and senator Thummel visited with Chris Partridge to discuss Givepulse. He said it would be good once they set it up and make Nicole an administrator, she would just have to take a class. He wanted to speak about a class. They talked about the hour requirements. His idea was to do it monthly rather than two weekly, it was overwhelming considering a lot of service hours are done in bulk. The pros would be a senator would be consistent, the cons had to do with points around every 30 days. As a preface, the idea would incorporate the same amount of community service hours, just per semester. For monthly it would be two hours at least although he would like to see four hours.

Senator Thummel said he took the concept of community service in bulk by dividing the semester into two that way if someone comes in later they will have a separate period. His idea was that you usually show up for two to three hours at an event. At the last meeting Senator Flangas said the chair would be in charge of setting up events each semester. His idea was that those would be the main ideas that all of the senators could work on. Monthly requirements spread the events thin. His idea would be to have an event with all of them. He would divide the semester in half.

Senator Flangas said would the requirements start in the fall or when the senators come in to term

Senator Kuykendall said it would work better with the monthly scale. The CABNR seat wouldn't have to do community service for the month of November because they would have four days to do it. He was thinking the month that they take office. The twice per semester requirement was tricky because they shouldn't be exempt from doing their hours because they still have a lot of time to complete it.

Senator Thummel said one of the three events, if they go in on the first period, and there still haven't been one of the three events, they should have to participate

Senator Flangas said they would start the hour requirement when the first event is put on by the chair

Senator Thummel said that was if they come in late. He thought community service should be everyone together

Senator Kuykendall said he wanted to see the intern's opinions because the interns would be the next senators

Intern Barry said she thought it might be easier to do it semester. She stretched herself thin. A month can get away from her very quickly but at least you could have until the end of the semester to get it done

Intern Tabani said he liked the semester period because if they do it monthly they were assuming their lives wouldn't be busy and wouldn't have any tests or papers. Semesterly, they could spread it out

Senator Flangas said it would be two sessions per semester because there was a degree of accountability. If it were just on a semester basis, there is no way to hold you accountable when you go out of office. There would be a timeliness to it

Senator Billman said they wanted to calculate out how long the sessions would be

Senator Thummel said the amount of weeks in the semester divided by two

Senator Kuykendall said because it was monthly it was broken down. The last month would probably not count because it was the transition period

Senator Flangas said this was up to them. Wanted to read the room if they had to vote for it right now. Held a straw poll to designate what they were feeling. She still didn't think they answered the questions about how they start meetings in April and the semester doesn't end until May. The SAS had to say when the hour requirement would start. If it doesn't go in the senate rules, then it is not suspended over summer

Senator Kuykendall said they could circumvent that by saying the semester following when you are sworn in

Secretary Godoy said points only go in the senate rules because exec is not bound by the same system. Points are also suspended over the summer so the only way you can get points is for not going to office. Asked if they would do this over the summer

Senator Kuykendall said no

Senator Flangas said they could write into the SAS the duties of the chair. It can't be suspended over summer

Secretary Godoy said it would make this complicated because they would have to suspend a portion of the SAS

Senator Flangas said in the first meeting they approve the rules of the senate

Secretary Godoy said the new session would convene on the 18th

Senator Bussman said the reason he thought it was a good idea to put it in office hours was because office hours were already worked into the SAS so you don't have to worry about Summer. For semester basis, you could say every third collection of office hours

Secretary Godoy said office hours got suspended over summer

Senator Kuykendall said you could word it “unless otherwise suspended the hour requirement would follow an every three office hour requirement”

Secretary Godoy said when they suspend the rules there is one binding resolution for office hours and one for meetings. They can’t suspend the rules for one committee without a binding resolution

Senator Flangas said the speaker created the binding resolution

Secretary Godoy said technically they could suspend all the rules with one binding resolution, they just had to make a resolution. The speaker usually does it by unanimous consent.

Senator Flangas said have you met with Secretary Godoy about the changes to the point

Senator Bussman said they couldn’t because they couldn’t do math without knowing the interval

Senator Kuykendall said he wanted to decide right now. Their intention was to decide the time trade now because he can’t do his part yet.

Senator Flangas said there was a casual vote to do semester

Secretary Godoy said to keep in mind that periods are flexible because holidays throw things off. For Thanksgiving, the next period will be a little bit longer. They convene senate the nearest Wednesday to the 18th. Usually it was two weeks but sometimes they vary a little bit. It doesn’t have to be the 15th every month.

Senator Kuykendall said in that case, there was a general consensus they should do it twice per semester. Would they be open to transition more into an every three weeks or two week period?

Secretary Godoy said they collect office hours every two weeks

Senator Kuykendall said every four of those. There would be two periods per semester they would collect, it would be based on the pay periods that they have

Secretary Godoy said they would say the period closest to this date

Senator Thummel said every fourth time the secretary collects office hours

Senator Bussman asked if there were the same number of collection periods a semester. If it wasn’t the same it would throw it off

Secretary Godoy said she could count it. Usually it was constant, unless something

drastic came up.

Senator Thummel said the only issues was that Fall seemed easy, spring gets complicated when their term ends.

Senator Bussman said they could word it as the last collection period of the semester. Spring semesters are different.

Secretary Godoy said when you are sworn in, you do a period and a half of office hours. That week usually doesn't count. That second week is thrown out. Office hours are supposed to continue until you leave office, but sometimes speakers stop them informally a couple weeks before.

Senator Flangas said this was a better conversation for outside the meeting because there were a lot of technicalities. They should come up with the idea and then tell Bussman

Intern Pennington said if they didn't want to set a specific date, they could always write in a grace period to say due at the end of this period within a timeline of a week.

Senator Flangas asked when they could have this figured out and written

Senator Kuykendall said they could have it done by the spring semester

Senator Flangas said that way they could work out any kinks. They will have to pass it the last civic engagement meeting of the semester

Senator Kuykendall said they didn't decide how many hours

Senator Cammie Lee said they wanted to do two to four hours a month, if they did it a semester it would be 32 hours a semester. That was excessive.

Senator Flangas said ten hours was a period

Senator Cammie Lee said it was two to three hours of studying for every credit you take, so that's 45 hours for 15 credits, and then you have to make room for civic engagement as well

Senator Flangas said they wanted 2 hours a month.

Senator Cammie Lee said then it would be 16 hours a semester.

Senator Kuykendall said how many hours in a term should a senator do

Senator Flangas said most organizations have a 20 hours' requirement. If they are going to hold themselves to the same requirement, they should

Senator Thummel said it would be five hours a session

Senator Kuykendall said they would have to figure this out outside of a meeting because spring was shorter.

Senator Thummel said if they got how many hours a semester they could divide it up

Senator Flangas said 20 per term

Senator Cammie Lee said 20 hours per term was just fall and spring semester

Senator Smith asked if she met when they get elected and it goes all the way through when the new senators take over

Senator Flangas said yes

Senator Bussman said what about something who is elected later

Senator Flangas said they would have to decide that

Senator Kuykendall said they wanted to know hours for a full term senator

Secretary Godoy said the speaker can also change points and office hours as needed if there is a new senator. Sometimes if you get started in the middle you don't have to do two hours for a week and you could pick up next period. You don't have to split hairs over what happens in the middle of a term.

Senator Cammie Lee said when they put this policy in class are they getting rid of the outreach hours

Senator Flangas said no, outreach had nothing to do with civic engagement. That wasn't their discretion

Senator Bussman said there could be overlap based on what purpose they went to the event

Senator Flangas said yes there could be overlap you just have to log hours with Givepulse

Senator Lee asked if they could count those hours to both

Senator Flangas said yes

Straw poll: All Senators agreed on 20 hours per term

Senator Flangas said she was excited about this. They would have the chair provide three service opportunities a semester which included details for when they can volunteer and they would be out there to work with people.

c. New Resolution – Civic Engagement through ASUN Spending

The Committee will discuss the new resolution proposed by President Teixeira in regards to using our spending within the association in the local community.

Senator Flangas said she was looking for a senator and an intern to pair up. She was talking to president Teixeira and he said they spend money at Costco and Walmart, and he wanted to encourage people in the association to spend in their local community instead of these big businesses. There are all kinds of things about investing in the community. Was looking for someone to write a resolution about ASUN spending in the community whenever possible

Senator Billman said did they think about getting all the alternative businesses and have a list where they could go instead

Senator Flangas said they could build that into the resolution. There were some interns interested. It would be a cool resolution because it was outside of the box.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. S.B. 85 - A Resolution for 1874 Community Care

Senator Billman submitted this legislation to the Committee on Civic Engagement regarding Community Care in conjunction with the Department of Legislative Affairs.

Senator Flangas said senator Billman sent her a resolution but it wasn't attached so they can't talk about it. Leg affairs might want to meet with programming and change a few things. They would talk about this after they come back from break. She would get it fast tracked so please read it over should it get a good recommendation. They can't discuss what the bill was about.

b. Senator Updates

Each Senator will give a report on their actions since the last meeting and what they have been working on.

Intern Monge said Senator Kuykendall said they already contacted clubs and orgs about the science fair. He had given him that if he could recontact, he would.

Senator Flangas said she will send that out I the email who they reached out to. The science club commissioner is graduating and she wasn't sure how to reach out to them without her. Most clubs have a time when they can come speak. She wanted to show up and tell them what they were doing. People weren't responding to emails.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

8. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Flangas adjourned the meeting at 2:17 pm

9. NOTES.

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend the meeting. Please call the Speaker of the ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.