

Committee on Civic Engagement

Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session
Minutes for Wednesday, February 27th, 2019 at 4:45 p.m.
Joe Crowley Student Union President's Conference Room

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Senator Amaya called the Committee on Civic Engagement to order at 4:46 pm in the President's Conference Room on the Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Breanna Czerlanis.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Senator Amaya, Senator Clemons, Senator Lemus, Senator Mckinney, Senator Rogers, Senator Westerman, and Senator Yeghiyann were present.

A quorum was present.

Senator Clemons walked into the room at 4:47 pm.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

4. **MINUTES**

There were no minutes to be approved at this time.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business discussed at this time.



Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Pennington Student Achievement Center, 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 Amaya at senatoramaya@asun.unr.edu.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Director Jickling said she was going to be doing a presentation on the Earth Week events. She asked if they would like to know about all the events or just the ones that involved the Committee on Civic Engagement.

Senator Mckinney asked if Director Jickling would be discussing all the events for Earth Week at Senate.

Director Jickling said yes.

Senator Mckinney said they should discuss the parts that involved the Committee on Civic Engagement then right now.

Director Jickling said she had a conversation with Senator Amaya about it. She said on April 27th they will have a volunteer day relating to the environment. She said they will have three organizations involved. She said she also has talked to shuttle services about having three vans to take students to the volunteering events, which allows students who cannot drive to go. She said she did not want to assume that everyone could drive or carpool to the events. Director Jickling said they will have at least eight volunteers for each organization. She said one of the volunteering events will be in Truckee, California where they will be planting saplings. She said another one of the events would be a river clean up. She said they have many options and station close to the University of Nevada, Reno where they can go clean up the river. Director Jickling said they may get a specific University of Nevada, Reno site to send volunteers or spread out the university volunteers. She said part of that volunteer event includes having small groups go out to identify trash using iPads or iPods to identify what brand or kind of trash they're cleaning up. She said she is still searching for a third organization and has not confirmed a third one yet.

Senator Mckinney asked if the event is on April 27th.

Director Jickling said yes.

Senator Mckinney said they will not be in office at this point. He said they could help the new Senators with the event and encourage them to volunteer. He said he would still like to volunteer even though he would not be in office anymore.

Director Jickling said she forgot the Senators would be out of office at that point. She said she would appreciate if they would help with the transition to get the incoming Senators excited about sustainability.

Senator Amaya asked if there were any questions.

There were no questions at this time.

Senator Amaya thanked Director Jickling.

a. Committee Goals

This item was not discussed at this time.

b. Discussion on NEDA Week

Senator Amaya said NEDA Week was currently happening. She said she will send out a flyer to the Senators and she encouraged them to attend. She asked if there were any questions.

There were no questions at this time.

c. Discussion on Wolf Pack Reading Week

Senator Amaya said she talked to Senator Collins and received an email about what Senator Feil had already done for Wolf Pack Reading Week. She said she also met with Amy Koeckes. She said there really isn't much in place for Wolf Pack Reading Week as of now. Senator Amaya said she would like to brainstorm ideas. She said it is not realistic to go into the classrooms to read with their schedules and with what time they have left. She suggested they do pen pal letters with a classroom.

Senator Clemons asked if they had to do it with elementary schools or if they could do it with any youth. He suggested the Boys and Girls Club.

Senator Amaya said she is not sure, but she thought it could be with any youth.

Senator Rogers said Wolf Pack Reading Week is typically done with schools who n higher need.

Senator Clemons said the Boys and Girls Club is like an after school program. He said the kids who participate in it are typically from low income families and they could benefit from it.

Senator Yeghiyann suggested they do a book drive for the Boys and Girls Club. She said she liked the pen pal idea.

Senator Amaya said in the past they have worked with different schools and age ranges, but for the most part they have worked at schools. She said they can talk about the possibility fo doing it with the Boys and Girls Club. Senator Amaya said she suggested they start a little library for kids. She said they need to first start with writing legislation. She said she thought about starring a book exchange program where kids will take a book from the little library and then leave a book. Senator Amaya said it would give more access to books. She said she liked the pen pal idea with the Boys and Girls Club more though.

Senator Yeghiyann said they talked about the goals for Wolf Pack Reading Week. She said they want to encourage kids to read. She said the pen pal idea could include reading a book with the kids or suggesting books.

Senator Amaya said the goal of Wolf Pack Reading Week was to improve literacy. She said the pen pals could make an impact with the kids. She said it gave the kids a connection with someone in higher education. She said the kids will also have the opportunity to practice their writing skills and make connections with others. She said they could also ask each other questions in the letters.

Senator Rogers said the pen pals also gives kids a positive role model to look up to and someone to talk to. She said some of the kids do not have actual role models and don't have positive family relationships.

Senator Amaya asked if there were any other ideas or comments.

Senator Yeghiyann said the pen pal idea was good. She said it will not have a lot of time commitment and will not be hard to plan since it will not be a huge event.

Senator Amaya said she would discuss the pen pal idea at Senate before she reached out to a classroom to get kids. She said she does not want to have a lot of kids involved and only have five Senators writing letters.

Senator Clemons said he would be fine with writing more than one letter.

Senator Amaya thanked Senator Clemons.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Amaya adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.