



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, November 18, 2008
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Acosta
At-Large Senator Carey
At-Large Senator Kuhn
Liberal Arts Senator Halling-**Absent**
Residence Hall Senator Rice
Science, Health & Business Senator Ruhindi-**Absent**
Service Clubs Senator Malin
Social Clubs Senator Bauman

President:

Daniel Elliott

Vice President:

Sarah Robinson

Speaker/At-Large Senator

Stephen Darrow

Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator

Matt Lawson

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Visitors: Dr. Susan Salvador, Dr. Susan Baker, Dick Ryther, Student Services; Lee Struble, Leah S. Torregiano, John Mallaber, Public Safety; Donna Mueller, Health Services; Janet Ekis, Rosanna Condello, College & Community Relations; Jonathon Rolle, Global Union; Craig Learn, WMCC; Malcolm Cohen, Presidential Cabinet; Donna Brennan, Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:16 p.m.)

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of November 11, 2008 minutes

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve the minutes for the November 11, 2008 Senate meeting.

Senator Rice so moved, seconded by Senator Carey.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the minutes for November 11, 2008 as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Lee Struble, Director of Public Safety, presented a debriefing of the altercation which took place on campus on Tuesday, November 11. At approximately 2:30 p.m. the Public Safety dispatcher received 2 calls from MCC staff members of a fight/altercation in progress in building 11 near the 2nd floor stairs. The first Public Safety Officer responded within 30 seconds as he was in the area near the Library entrance and heard the commotion. The responding Officer observed a large physical altercation and noted one of the individuals bleeding from the arm go down the stairs and exit the building. At that point, a witness identified two individuals leaving the area as “stabbing” the other students. The Officer pursued the two suspects and apprehended them outside the East entrance to the Flynn Campus Center with the assistance of additional Public Safety Officers and staff arriving on the scene. The two suspects were immediately turned over to the Brighton Police Department and transported to Brighton Headquarters for questioning. Medically trained staff from Public Safety provided emergency medical care to two students who were stabbed during the incident. Both students were transported to Strong Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. One student suffered cuts to his forearm area and was later released. The second student suffered cuts to his neck area, which required surgery, but he has since been released. Due to the immediate and appropriate response by the initial Public Safety Officers, both suspects were apprehended within minutes and without incident. MCC’s Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT), as well as several other concerned faculty, staff and students assisted Public Safety in many capacities during and immediately after the incident. In the immediate aftermath of the incident, in conjunction with the Brighton Police command staff, it was decided to not do a mass notification with the new NY-Alert system. It was believed that using the NY-Alert system may have caused unnecessary “panic” and impeded the Brighton Police Department’s investigation. The NY-Alert system is designed to provide emergency messages that

require “protective action” in “life-threatening” situations, such as an evacuation of the campus, a lockdown or a shelter-in-place due to an active shooter. It is not an informational system. The Public Safety Office works together with the College’s Community Relations Department to tap into other communication technologies, such as the new voice over IP telephones and campus speakers, the MCC website, email system and voice mail system to broadcast emergency information, but due to the fact that there was no immediate or on-going threat to the campus, the NY-Alert system was not used.

John Mallaber, Public Safety Operations Coordinator, shared some details regarding the ongoing investigation. Due to the number of people who were either involved or who witnessed the altercation, the investigation continues. Until it is determined who was actually involved, all of those people have been banned from campus. He stressed that this was not a random incident. It began off campus on Friday, November 7, with an altercation between 2 groups. They just happened to run into each other on campus on Tuesday, November 11 where it started again. The attacker has been charged with 1st assault degree which is a violent felony. He again stressed that this was a personal issue in which some friends got involved. In the days following the incident, Public Safety has worked very closely with the Brighton Police Department to provide additional patrols to the campus, including the Residence Halls.

Lee Struble stated that Public Safety and the MCC Administration are committed to doing everything possible to provide a safe and secure campus. He also stressed that campus security is not only Public Safety’s responsibility, but is the shared responsibility of every member of our campus community. Reporting suspicious persons or conditions, reporting incidents of harassment and intimidation and making safe decisions everyday is everyone’s responsibility. He also encouraged everyone to enroll in NY-Alert by visiting the Public Safety website. Public Safety and local police train on critical incident command on a regular basis and the proper use of the NY-Alert system is a critical component of our mass notification and response plan. There is also an extensive crime prevention page on the MCC Public Safety website as well as information and access to MCC’s “Silent Witness” program.

Deputy Speaker Lawson asked about the status of the transition to Peace Officers.

Lee explained that all of the Public Safety Officers will need to complete a minimum of 300 hours of training; they are putting together an in-house academy using MCC’s trainers. He estimates it will take about 30 weeks to get 10 people, currently on staff, trained to become peace officers. Four Public Safety Officers are currently active Police Officers in other agencies who could become Peace Officers. They are waiting until they have enough people so that the majority of the department can make the transition at the same time. It is possible the transition could take place this spring.

Senator Carey asked if the PA system could be implemented if a similar incident happens again.

Lee mentioned that there are 10 people trained on a monthly basis to use the voice over IP (VOIP) system. At their last training they decided that they will all be gate-keepers of the process to make sure the system is used.

Senator Carey asked if any non-students were involved.

Lee stated that has not yet been confirmed but it is a good possibility.

Deputy Speaker Lawson asked what the college is going to do to boost MCC’s image.

Lee suggested it will be important to be open and transparent about what occurred and the appropriate and timely response that resulted with the ending of the incident. He suggested people look at the MCC Public Safety website. John stated that it is also important to get information out regarding the training the Public Safety Officers receive. He believes that most people are not aware that MCC’s Public Safety Officers train with other police agencies in Monroe County.

Jonathan Rolle from Global Union invited the Student Government to participate in a Holiday Bash Global Union is sponsoring on December 10 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. They need help with American holidays other than Christmas.

III. REPORTS

A. Speaker

Speaker Darrow

- ❖ He was very impressed with how well the campus security handled the unfortunate situation on Tuesday, November 11.
- ❖ He had fun at the Fall Ball on Friday, November 14.
- ❖ Reminder - November 22 is the last day to withdraw from classes.

B. Deputy Speaker

Deputy Speaker Lawson...

- ❖ He and Speaker Darrow are planning and organizing the student government holiday party.
- ❖ The Events Committee is working on a community service project for December; possibly working in a soup kitchen.
- ❖ MCC Rock the Vote Committee will be planning events for President Elect Obama's Inauguration.

C. Senators

Senator Acosta

- ❖ The Catholic Bible study group will be having its first meeting on Thursday, December 4. At the meeting they will be taking an academic look at the bible and preparing for an interfaith luncheon. All of the interfaith clubs and organizations on campus will be invited. They are also working on a spring lecture series.

Senator Bauman...

- ❖ He met with Campus Environment Coordinator John Gordon to discuss the prospect of cleaning up the MCC Pond. They are currently looking at the use of water based plants that will not only beautify the surroundings but provide a more purified water source that could eventually even support an entire ecosystem of plants and animals.

Senator Carey...

- ❖ He also had an enjoyable time at the Fall Ball sponsored by the Damon Campus.
- ❖ He and Advisor Stewart are scheduled to meet with Mary Dewitt, an MCC student, about RTS. Her ENG 250 class is doing a research project on how to get more students to use RTS; they would like to share ideas.

Senator Rice...

- ❖ Monday, November 17, he attended an interesting Resident Program hosted by RA John Hladchuk. It was a drinking game, not involving actual alcohol, but more of Candyland meets Jeopardy.
- ❖ He met with Diversity Coordinator Yost and Environmental Coordinator Gordon to discuss the procurement of businesses for the Discount Card. Senator Bauman had informed him that Piatza's has signed on and they will be giving a 10% discount on all orders over \$20.00.
- ❖ He is still looking into resident hall laundry policies at a few more community colleges.
- ❖ Thursday, November 13, he and Annette Agness, Director of the MCC Association, met with two representatives from Bucks-4-Books. He will be meeting with President Elliott, Advisor Stewart and others to discuss this further.

D. Campus Center Advisor

Campus Center Advisor Stewart...

- ❖ Reminder - the "Friends" DWI Exhibit in the Gilman Lounge will end next week; if you have a chance, visit it before it closes. It is very moving.
- ❖ She received minutes from the Fundraising Committee meeting which she appreciates. She reminded everyone to that make sure they meet with her early on in the planning of events; event space books up quickly.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to approve a Co-Campus Environment Coordinator

Resolved that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve, using due process, Amy Battaglia as the Co-Campus Environment Coordinator.

Speaker Darrow called for a motion to approve a Co-Campus Environment Coordinator.

Deputy Speaker Lawson so moved, seconded by Senator Kuhn.

Discussion:

Senator Malin inquired as to why a co-campus environment coordinator was needed.

President Elliott stated that 25% of the Student Government goals this year are sustainability related. He would like to bring Amy on to help Coordinator Gordon. Amy is already involved with a sustainability effort on campus.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves Amy Battaglia as the Co-Campus Environment Coordinator.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:49 p.m. Speaker Darrow called for a motion to adjourn.

Senator Bauman so moved, seconded by Senator Kuhn. The Senate meeting was adjourned.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Brennan
SA Secretary