



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday November 5th, 2013 2:15 PM-Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

Academic Clubs Senator Jopson
At-Large Senator Poloznik
Senator Richards
Foundation Senator White--**Absent**
Science, Health & Business Senator Wyble
Service Club Senator Schollnick
Social Clubs Senator Williams
Senator Miner
Senator Jackson

President:

Nelson Clark

Vice-President:

Mark White

Speaker of the Senate:

Adrian Hale

Deputy Speaker:

Alexandria Cassidy

SL&LD Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

SL&LD Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog

SA Secretary:

Lisa Truman

Visitors: William Golson, Student; Nathaniel Thomas, Campus Ambassadors; Daniel Steiner, Mini BAJA; Robin Reyome, Peer Mentors; Ameen Smith, WMCC; Patricia Hakel, WMCC; Ginny Geer-Mentry, MCC Association; Sean McCann, Celtic Society; Shanel Montalvo, SUNY SA; Morgan Shoff, Celtic Society; Linda Tarp; Bertram Gamory, Mini BAJA; Kent Lilley, Mini BAJA.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:19pm)

A. Roll Call (See attendance above)

B. Approval of the October 29th Minutes

Speaker Hale called for a motion to approve the October 29th minutes.
Senator Miner so moved, Senator Schollnick seconded.

Discussion:

Deputy Speaker Cassidy asks SA Secretary Truman why the minutes are not reflecting the actual discussion, verbatim, regarding Matt Lawson's portion of Speak to the Senate. SA Secretary Truman states that meeting minutes are not a word-for-word account of exactly what was said at meetings; they are the summary of talking points, agendas, and discussions. SA Secretary Truman reminds all the meetings are being digitally recorded for all and if someone wishes to, they can hear the meeting verbatim in the recordings.

A vote was taken.

Senator Schollnick abstains.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association approves the October 29th minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Shanel Montalvo a representative from the SUNY Student Assembly states she is pleased MCC is registered early and ready to attend the SUNY Student Assembly Fall Conference from November 8th-10th in Rochester, NY. The conference has an informational and educational agenda and she is looking forward to seeing all this weekend.

Ameen Smith of WMCC updates all on status of zone system repair. There are certain areas of the MCC campus where the WMCC broadcast is unable to be heard. He has met with Craig Proctor from Operations and AV Solutions to correct the problem. He will return to let all know when it is fixed. He offers WMCC as a means of broadcasting information for the Senate and reminds he is able to do both live and pre-recorded messages.

III.

REPORTS

President Clark

President Clark is still continuing to hear from students regarding the impending smoking ban. He has decided to create a petition and submit the results to the Public Health and Safety Committee. He felt there were polarized views but all seem to agree that kicking the smoking students off campus is an action they would not take. He calls all who feel passionate about this subject to join the petition drive. His intention is to poll 5000 students and submit the results during an SGA meeting. Students at the ATC have complained about their microwave. They would like a new one as the current one is in disrepair. Since it was donated by a private individual source and not provided by the college it cannot be replaced by the college. It is the only amenity in the lounge and only source of a hot lunch on the premises. President Clark will follow-up with Senator Poloznik on his proposed project. Senator White has expressed an interest and has his endorsement for the Library Committee.

Senator Jackson

The Civility Committee's goal is to create an environment where we value and respect each other. They have been nominated for the prestigious Bellwether Award which annually recognizes outstanding and innovative programs that successfully lead community colleges into the future. The "Trash or Treat" event held October 30th had collected 5 bags of trash. There were posters announcing the find and asking all to properly dispose of waste. They are working on holding more of these events on campus. Senator Jackson is meeting with Mr. "Skip" Bailey of the Athletic Department this week and will update next week on what is discussed.

Senator Poloznik

He has been working with WMCC to rectify the zoning/sound issues so all areas are broadcasting. He will keep all updated on progress. He has been working with Senator Miner regarding the broken microwave at the Applied Technology Center. He has been in contact with Virginia Geer-Mentry and she is looking into the Association assisting with replacing the microwave. Senator Poloznik has been working with Elections Coordinator Steele on changes to the elections packet. He met with Fred McCullough, a potential candidate for the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator. Fred stated he would follow up shortly if interested. Debra Dwyer from Public Safety passed on some information on parking machines. The machines take cash or credit, but she is uncertain if able to park all night. Ms. Dwyer will get back to him on this. Jays, a successful vendor, will be back November 11th -12th, and November 19th & 20th. Senator Poloznik met with Kathleen Farrell, the gallery Director at MCC. He spoke with her about putting up murals around the MCC campus. Ms. Farrell loved the idea, and stated if there were space and funds she could perhaps make it a class services learning project. She asks the Senate for ideas on areas they would like to use. Ms. Farrell spoke of other areas where class murals are around campus as well as the Child Care Center. They are currently working on a mural at the Damon campus. Senator Poloznik welcomes all ideas and will follow-up on the mural proposal.

Senator Jopson

Notifies all that the SUNY Student Assembly conference is this weekend and many of the SGA will be attending. They will vote and discuss many issues relevant to today's students. Senator Jopson will be hosting a Financial Literacy workshop and he is very excited to do so. He spoke this past weekend at MCC's Open House. He shared why he felt MCC is the right choice for many and how his decision to attend MCC has assisted him tremendously. He congratulates Deputy Speaker Cassidy on the voter information event. Senator Jopson volunteered and it was an extremely educational experience. He will be meeting with the Student Nurses Association on 11/18 to review the final copy of their revised constitution. He will discuss this further at a later meeting.

Senator Wyble

He reports on a Budget Resource Committee (BRC) meeting and met with Prof. Ed Grissing, Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Policies. He attended the BRC meeting on Wednesday, October 23rd. Dr. Kress began the meeting by giving the BRC its charge for the year and answered questions. The overall topic of the meeting was how to improve college wide systems to make the progression from admission to graduation more streamlined and easier for the students. He will be joining the BRC again on Thursday, November 21st and will give a report the following Tuesday. He also spoke with Professor Ed Grissing about joining the Faculty Senate Committee on academic policy. We talked about the current resolutions and topics the committee will be addressing. One being the academic calendar and possibly moving back the start/end dates for fall semester so intersession starts a week earlier. He will also be joining the academic policies committee for their next meeting.

Senator Williams

This past week he has had the opportunity to introduce himself around the campus and reach out to the clubs that have been absent in September and October from the roundtable meetings. He has been sharing fundraising and event ideas with a couple of clubs. Senator Williams has prepared three resolution proposals for Friday's SGA Pre-Agenda meeting. He has been working with the Travel Club assisting them on their travel package application which was presented to the Finance Committee.

Speaker Hale

Would like all to know he attended a meeting with the President of MCC, and various school officials at the highest level. Advisor Stewart, President Clark & Deputy Speaker Cassidy attended as well. There will be future meetings with these officials, trustees, and representatives. Speaker Hale reminds all if there is anything they would like addressed at these meetings to please speak with him. These would be the most prudent people to inform of any new ideas or address any issues with.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Items (items requiring a Senate vote)

(There were no new action items requiring a Senate vote under Section 1 of New Business)

2. Discussion Items

a. Toys for Tots

Senator Williams is heading up the Toys for Tots campaign. He is meeting with clubs to discuss participation. Boxes will be placed around the campus in monitored locations. The boxes will be picked up and dropped off by Toys for Tots, the Clubs are not responsible for this. Senator Williams asks for any and all help on how to place the donation boxes in strategic and safe locations. There may be room to store full boxes, locked in the SGA offices. He would like all to keep the dollar amount of donated toys at \$15.00 or less so donators are not discouraged thinking they must spend a lot to donate. New toy donations only. Ameen Smith from WMCC offers to assist with advertising over The Fuse. Senator Williams is working on specifics of campaigns such as dates and logistics and is asking all clubs to host a donation box.

b. Library Survey/Policy

Senator Schollnick is given the floor and asks for a motion to table the Library Survey/Policy discussion since Senator White is absent and she is the Senator handling the policy and discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association will table this discussion for one week.

V. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Senator Williams spoke with a student, a nursing mother, who would like a designated space provided for nursing moms who have chosen to pump. This would need to be a private and secure/locked area. He would like to ask the Civility Committee to assist if possible. Advisor Stewart states this may not be a Civility Committee issue, but the Office of Student Life and Leadership has provided an area for nursing mothers in the past and would be happy to continue to do so. Advisor Herzog announced the Civility Committee is working on a "Go" website that would list all resources MCC has to offer for just such things. She feels there are services out there available to students and she would like the information to access these services to be in one place to make this easier for all. Knowing where to go and who to ask is the best way as not to deter students from seeking and getting the information they need.

Senator Schollnick reminds all today is voting day. Please exercise your right to vote.

Senator Wyble is looking into the specifics at MCC of what actually constitutes a student receiving the letter grade of "A". He is confused as to why there is no standardized method of grading and how individual professors can set their own grading system. He sits on the Academic Policy Committee and is looking for these answers. Shirley Provost interjects and states she believes this falls under the Academic Freedom Act, that professors may set their own standard of grading as long as it is made known to the students in advance. She states the grading system all depends on the professor and the content of the class. Senator Jopson asks how this will apply to transfer students who come from colleges with a different grading structure than MCC. Senator Wyble is actively looking into this issue and will keep all updated.

Kent Lilly, a representative from the Mini BAJA Club gives an overview of the club and update on club status. Mini BAJA designs, builds, and races BAJA cars at a competitive level. Since they are currently looking for a new-work space and cannot physically assemble the car, they are working on the design of the car at this time. They will be presenting a revised proposal for their upcoming trips to SUNY Binghamton and Cornell. Mr. Lilly would like to combine the trip with the Engineering Leadership Council. He feels they have similar interests and the college visits would also be an advantage if a student was considering a transfer to a four-year college. **Speaker Hale** states the proposal will be reviewed, and a member of Mini BAJA may need to attend the SGA meeting at a later date when this is discussed.

Nathaniel Thomas approaches the Senate. He is a member of the Campus Ambassadors, and is here to report on their Fall Retreat which took place from October 25th-27th, 2013. The retreat was held at the Sacandaga Bible Conference, and a total of 26 students from MCC attended. The retreat brings members closer together, and assists in bringing first and second year MCC students together to build friendships and begin building relationships. That is why the retreat is held at the beginning of the Fall Semester. Campus Ambassadors recognizes that to be a dedicated, effective club, you need members that work well together. Their hope is this retreat will help them to better serve MCC as a whole, due to them growing as a team.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Hale called for a motion for adjournment. Senator Schollnick so moved, with a second from Senator Wyble.

A vote was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:13pm.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Truman
SA Secretary