



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, February 1, 2011
2:15 p.m. – Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

At-Large Senator Abdi
Interdisciplinary Studies Senator Wassel-Saxe
Liberal Arts Senator Hale
Science, Health & Business Senator Snyder
Social Clubs Senator Yost

President:

Jason Childers

Vice President

Christopher Hollander - **Absent**

Speaker/At-Large Senator

Jack Hills

Acting Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator

Michael Gray

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Campus Center Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog

Visitors: Dick Ryther, Student Services; Shirley Batistta-Provost, Craig Proctor, Office of Student Life & Leadership Development; Eddie Visagie, Student Trustee; Ted Carey, SEGA; Jonathan Muniz, CAB; Maria LoCastro, Monroe Doctrine; Wei Lin, Suping Zheng, Grant Gangi, Chinese Culture Club; Anthony Young, Hospitality Club; Chad Peters, Erin Markum, Presidential Cabinet; Travis Sharp, Scott Blue, Ashley Yost, students; Violet Harrison, visitor; Donna Brennan, Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:15 p.m.)

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of January 25, 2011 Senate Meeting minutes.

Speaker Hills called for a motion to approve the January 25, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Abdi.

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the January 1, 2011 Senate meeting minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Kurt VonAllmen, speaking on behalf of the Honors Council, talked about a fundraiser they are planning to raise money to purchase a walker for a child whose mom attended MCC but no longer can because of the care her child needs. They are hoping to get other clubs and organizations involved in this effort to raise \$1500 – 2000. They are expecting it to take 2 semesters to raise enough funds for the walker.

Eddie Visagie, Student Trustee, announced his office hours for the spring semester. At Brighton they will be Tuesday and Thursday, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in 3-135; at Damon they will be Friday from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the SEGA Office. He also mentioned that he and Advisor Stewart are working on a new name for the Student Tribune which is used as a resource by the clubs and organizations to announce events. If anyone has any suggestions for a name that would describe what the Student Tribune is, send it to evisagie001@student.monroecc.edu.

Chad Peters, Presidential Cabinet Campus Environment Coordinator, announced a fundraising opportunity with UNO's in Victor. 15% of a customer's overall bill would go to the cause. This is called a "Dough Raiser" and can be held on whatever date the students pick.

Ted Carey, Budget Coordinator for SEGA and President of ASACC, talked about the March 19-22 ASACC conference in Washington, DC. He stated that the students have their work cut out for them and will need to lobby hard. He would like to have a pre-conference meeting with the Brighton and Damon students who will be attending. He also mentioned the Summer Leadership Conference in Utah, June 15 – 18. If students are interested in being on the ASACC Leadership Team they must attend the summer conference.

III. REPORTS

A. Speaker

Speaker Hills...

"Let me start this by first saying how much of an honor it is to be here before you now as your Speaker. I am privileged to not only serve this position but serve you as the Speaker. However, much of this was made possible by the work and dedication of my predecessor, Mirlin. He was an individual that no matter what, put the needs of the Senate before his own, and regardless of what many might have thought he left this place, this ~~senate~~ Senate, and this school a better place than the way he found it. And ultimately that's what we all should be striving for, leaving this institution better than the way we find it. Ideally what I would like to see this Senate focus on for the coming semester is first and foremost, increased awareness of what SGA is and our role in serving the students. Hopefully this will translate in the coming months through increased voter turnout for next year's election, as well as social and academic club events. Secondly, I would like us to try to find ways to help bring alternative energy solutions here to MCC, whether it is through solar panels for the bus waiting areas, or even smaller commercial wind turbines, something tangible that we can accomplish, or at least set in motion and will help this school. Lastly, I would like to see SGA as a whole create and develop acts of legislation that will *hopefully* help the students, help the school, and even help the community. I thank you for your time, and look forward to working with each of you."

B. Vice President

Vice President Hollander's report read by President Childers...

- ✓ **Carolina's Fight for Life** – this event is being postponed to a later date due to conflicting events.
- ✓ **SUNY Student Assembly** – the first Executive Committee meeting of the semester was held on the MCC Campus on January 15, 2011. They finished their Legislative Agenda and he made sure it was amended to include Community Colleges in the top priority. The next Executive Committee meeting will be in Herkimer, NY in February.
- ✓ **Office Hours** – he is in the final stages of getting everyone's office hours; these will be posted soon.
- ✓ He officially recognized and congratulated Speaker Hills on his new position and he is very excited to think of the possibilities this group can do with the new leadership team this semester.

C. Senators

Senator Wassel-Saxe...

- ✓ **SGA Training Day** - she feels they bonded more as SGA and discussed goals for the upcoming semester. Various charities which they could help raise funds for or donate to were discussed.
- ✓ **Interdisciplinary Studies** – she will contact the department to see if a representative would attend the Tuesday meetings to get a better understanding of the Senate and what the Senate can do for them.

D. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Stewart reminded everyone that Activity Day is tomorrow, February 3.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to approve the funding of \$3,020.00 to the Chinese Culture Club

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the funding of \$3,020.00 to the Chinese Culture Club to sponsor the event, "China Night: Splendor of China."

Discussion:

Wei Lin, Vice President, explained that the goal of the event is to foster a better understanding of the Chinese Culture through traditional music, dance and art. They hope to involve more MCC students in the show this year. Promotions for the event this year will include posters, flyers, MCC Tribune, facebook, announcements on WMCC and in the Monroe Doctrine. The target date for the event is April 16. Wei explained that in 2009 the event was free for everyone and attendance was around 500. In 2010 there was a \$5.00 charge for the community and attendance fell to around 250. The plan for this year is to charge family, friends and community members \$2.00; MCC faculty, staff and students would be free with ID.

Advisor Stewart explained that in the past when it was free, it would look like a sold out event but many of those with a free ticket would not attend leaving others who wanted to attend unable to. She also explained that the money received from ticket sales when there is a charge for the event goes back into the MCC Association general revenue account to help balance the budget at the end of the year.

Shirley Batista-Provost stated that the club doesn't put anything into funding the event, it has been solely funded by the SGA and the theatre would be packed with mostly community members, very few MCC faculty, staff or students attend.

Speaker Hills stated that he feels the event should be free of charge. MCC is a community college and he sees it as giving back to the community which in turn may draw members of the community and family members to MCC as students.

Ted Carey stated that Student Life fees are funding the event and the community should not be using Student Life fees for anything. \$2.00 is a very minimal charge and he doesn't see a problem with charging members of the community.

Senator Hale asked if anyone from the club came back to the Senate last year to report on the success of the event.

Wei Lin stated that last year no one reported on the event but he will make sure someone does this year.

Speaker Hills stated that if the Senate is going to approve \$3,000 for a single night event he wants to make sure there is maximum participation. Therefore, he feels the event should be free for everyone

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approves the funding of \$3,020.00 to the Chinese Culture Club with one abstention.

b. Resolution to approve the funding of \$2,608.00 to the Hospitality Club

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the funding of \$2,608.00 to the Hospitality Club to sponsor a trip to the National Restaurant Association Convention.

Speaker Hills called for a motion to bring back to the table the resolution to approve the funding of \$2,608.00 to the Hospitality Club.

Senator Hale so moved, seconded by Senator Wassel-Saxe.

A vote was taken.

The motion to bring the resolution back to the table is unanimously approved.

Discussion:

Anthony Young, representing the Hospitality Club, explained that the money will be used to help pay for students to attend the National Restaurant Association educational conference and trade show in Chicago.

Shirley Batista-Provost explained that 24 hospitality students will be attending the conference and they will be putting \$400 of their own money towards the cost of the trip. The Club also received some funding from the Travel Contingency.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association unanimously approves the funding of \$2,608.00 to the Hospitality Club.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to Approve Various Committee Appointments

Resolved, that the Senate consents to the appointments of Jason Childers to be on the Student E-mail Committee and Michael Gray to be on the Club Constitution Committee for the remainder of the 2010-2011 academic school year.

Speaker Hills called for a motion to approve various committee appointments.

Senator Abdi so moved, seconded by Senator Wassel-Saxe.

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association

Senate unanimously approves the appointment of Jason Childers to the Student E-mail Committee and Michael Gray to the Club Constitution Committee.

b. Resolution to approve Michael Gray as Deputy Speaker

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve the selection of Michael Gray as Deputy Speaker for the remainder of the 2010-2011 academic school year.

Speaker Hills called for a motion to approve Michael Gray as Deputy Speaker.

Senator Hale so moved, seconded by Senator Snyder.

There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association

Senate approves Michael Gray as Deputy Speaker with one abstention.

VI. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were no questions or comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:59 p.m. Speaker Hills called for a motion to adjourn. Acting Deputy Speaker Gray so moved, seconded by Senator Abdi. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Brennan
SA Secretary