



**MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING
MINUTES FOR
Tuesday, April 22, 2014 2:15 PM-Forum (3-130)**

Student Senators:

At-Large Senator Jopson
At-Large Senator Poloznik
Science, Health & Business Senator Wyble
Senator Jackson-**absent**
Service Clubs Senator Schollnick
Academic Clubs Senator Cassidy
Social Clubs Senator Savarese

Speaker of the Senate:

Adrian Hale

Deputy Speaker:

Glenn Rapp

President:

Mark White-**absent**

SL&LD Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

SL&LD Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog

SA Secretary:

Lisa Truman

Visitors: Richard Schill, MCC Public Safety; Alice Wilson, Library Services; Mike McCullough, Library Services; Ken Koban, WMCC; Patricia Henkel, WMCC; Joe McLean, WMCC; Evan Marcellas, Celtic Society; Sharde' Salters, SGA; Brian Steele, SGA; Ginny Geer-Mentry, MCC Association.

I. CALL TO ORDER (2:22 pm)

A. Roll Call (See attendance above)

B. Approval of the April 8th & April 11th Minutes.

Speaker Hale called for a motion to approve the April 8th, and April 11th Minutes.

Senator Jopson so moved, Senator Wyble seconded.

Discussion: There was no discussion.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association, approves the April 8th & April 11th Minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

There was no one to speak to the Senate.

III. REPORTS

Senator Jopson

He spoke about his Textbook Affordability Report that was passed out to all of the Senators and audience. He told them that the reason he started this project/report a few months ago was due to Marks McBride's presentation to Faculty Senate in November. He said that in his opinion, textbooks are one of the greatest factors effecting students success here at MCC, which are currently affected negatively because of very high costs of textbooks and little being done about it. The high cost is preventing or influencing students not to purchase their required textbooks and that the report he has created fully outlines three of the many different methods faculty and MCC can use to combat this issue. He made it known that there are no demands being raised, just recommendations and support to the different methods. He continued by explaining the power of publishers and their unchallenged competition in the market. He would really like this to be a success and said that he plans to disperse it to the Faculty Senate on Thursday, April 24. He would like this document to go campus-wide and eventually present or share it with other various governance entities in the future.

Senator Jopson mentioned that the Personal Health and Safety Committee will be continuing their work on Title IX and told everyone the next meeting will be held on April 23rd, Wednesday.

Senator Jopson talked about the Planning Committee and said that a while ago the Planning Committee completed their grant funding process. He explained the process they went through to get each member's input on how well each request coordinates with the college's strategic plan to help in making the overall committee decision and said that three out of five grants were funded and ways of funding the other two are still being researched. He said that the President has recently approved the committee's decisions, those of which exceeded the budget by a little bit, so the approval was something great to hear.

He spoke about his meeting with the President of the Faculty Senate, Mark Ernsthausen, where he explained how they met a while ago and Senator Jopson asked Mark for his feedback on Sean's current representation which was followed with pleasing remarks. They also assessed how well they are achieving their goals and objectives informally spoken about in the first semester. While on the subject, Senator Jopson made it known that the Faculty Senate meeting will be held at the DCC campus on Thursday, April 24.

Senator Jopson also went to Ty Patterson's talk, which was held in Monroe A & B before break. He asked questions he did not have time for in the meeting. He asked if MCC looked for input from other businesses in the surrounding area because of the possible loitering and trespassing that might increase on areas surrounding MCC, which is a highly commercialized area. He said there were other questions as well and said that overall it was a good conversation.

He made note to the students that he was very disappointed with the turnout of the invite and angered that people were walking in, getting the free food that was offered, and then leaving. He told the students that a primary influence on how well the SGA can represent the students rests on how much the students interact with SGA and the campus at events such as Ty Patterson's talk. He said that students could not be upset about what goes on around campus or mad about implementing an initiative if those same students never gave their input. Furthermore, Senator Jopson said SGA could not represent the students to their fullest unless the students give SGA the back up and help needed for proper advocacy.

Senator Jopson handed out a Case-Study packet on "node" chairs as well and explained to the students how the Faculty Senate Classroom Committee went to the Planning Committee with these chairs and asked for the students opinion. Sean mentioned the "node" chairs are being considered for building 6 where there are boards and other faculty resources located on multiple walls, which put professors in the situation of choosing to limit which resource they use or constantly make the students turn their heads. He said that the decision might ultimately rest with the Classroom Committee but student's opinions will have a great influence on that decision and recommends students speak their opinions.

He briefly mentioned that recently the Planning Committee joined SCAA and Special Projects committee in reviewing the President's reorganization structure proposal. He said it was a very cool experience that he is excited to be a part of and learn more about.

He brought up that currently efforts are being taken by people such as Mitch Redlo to add a Veterans lounge to the 3rd floor of the Library. He said that nothing is approved yet but there is talk of stagnant money being moved from one budget to another so it can be used to fund this project. He said it is moving very well from what he can hear and he is excited for that to happen. Talk of it being keycard accessible so only veterans and specified people can enter, he also raised the question about putting webcams in this room too so veterans could speak to counselors if they need to and was told that webcams are in the plan for this lounge.

In an attempt to convince people to run in the almost empty elections this year Sean explained that he recently was accepted into the University of Rochester, which is a very great school. He explained that in the letter it said one of the primary reasons for his acceptance is his leadership involvement in MCC's SGA and reiterated that elections are coming up shortly and SGA is a great way to improve leadership abilities.

Advisor Stewart

This Saturday, April 26th is Scholars Day. It is from 12:00pm-2:00pm in building #12. She hopes all will attend. Many students will be presenting research projects they have been working on with faculty mentors and judged on their presentations. There is a total of \$20,000.00 in scholarships to be given out. Wednesday, April 30th, Visiting Scholar Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson will be at MCC. He will be here from 7:00pm-9:00pm in Building #9. Meet the Candidates is Wednesday, April 30th in the Main Dining Area of building #3. May 16th is the upcoming annual MCC reception and it will be held on-site this year at MCC in Monroe A & B. The reception recognizes students involvement in clubs, organizations, and athletics and awards will be given at that time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Items (items requiring a Senate vote)

There is no new business.

2. Discussion Items

a. MCC Library to speak about services offered.

Mike McCullough and Alice Wilson from the MCC Library spoke about services offered in the library. They are

going around campus providing information to students on ways the library may be able to assist students with class work that they may have not known about. They felt the SGA would be a good forum to get the word out. The library offers research assistance with projects, finals and homework a student may have. A student would make an appointment in advance with the library, be assigned a staff member, and given the assistance they need to complete their assignment. These appointment times may vary, anywhere from perhaps 15 minutes to an hour on an individual basis. There is also library assistance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If a student is up late completing an assignment, you can go on the MCC Library website on any day or time and be able to chat with a librarian who can assist. The library personnel are eager for all to be aware and utilize all the services offered. This fall, a new library website will be up and running and will offer easier instructions and access to services. The library is asking for input on the new service and would like students to offer opinions on how user friendly the new site is, and if they would like to see any changes.

b. Public Safety Discusses MCC Lockdown Procedure.

Richard Schull from Public Safety has taken on the task of going over the existing Lockdown Procedure and updating as necessary. He has pamphlets, laminated cards, and instructions on what one would do if a Lockdown was necessary. Contrary to what most think, a Lockdown does not mean all the doors to a building are secured and all persons must remain inside. It is a procedure to try to ensure the safety of all located on, in and around the property. MCC utilizes an ENS System (Emergency Notification System). All phones will display a written notification, and there is an audible notification as well that emits from the phone's speaker. MCC also uses the S.U.N.Y. Alert System, which will call, text, and email all who are in the system. The college itself uses email blasts, the MCC website, and social media to make all aware if a lockdown has been implemented. Mr. Shull has detailed handouts and all the information is available on the MCC Public Safety website. There are two videos available that go over the procedure and explain exactly what to do.

The basic steps to take during a Lockdown are:

- An announcement will advise of the current situation. (MCC Alert/NYS Alert)
- Immediately seek shelter in the nearest classroom or office area.
- Lock the door to the classroom or office. Once inside, remain in your rooms until an "ALL CLEAR" notification.

c. Senator Jopson would like feedback on the "MCC Textbook Affordability Report" he has written.

Speaker Hale calls for a motion to table this Discussion Item due to the fact the Senate just received said report and has not had a chance to review the contents.

Senator Jopson so moved, seconded by Senator Schollnick.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Student Government Association Senate will discuss Senator Jopson's report next week.

V. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Senator Poloznik announces the mural in building #12 should be completed in approximately 4 weeks. He invites all to go over and take a look at the progress. Senator Jopson passes out a pamphlet on a chair the college is considering purchasing. It is called a "node" chair and swivels and moves so students can put chairs together for group projects and will also be able to view all areas of classrooms. This is important as most classrooms have "smart board" technology where every wall in a room is a potential area which can be projected on by a professor. There is some concern from Senators regarding the actual size of the chair which appears to be small. There were also comments regarding a student being distracted by moving chairs during a lecture. Senator Cassidy and Senator Schollnick have both previously been able to sit in the node chairs and said while they were comfortable, they did move quite easily. Senator Jopson was going to check to see if the wheels could lock while sitting in a stationary position.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Hale called for a motion for adjournment. Senator Poloznik so moved, with a second from Senator Savarese.

A vote was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 3:22pm.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Truman
SA Secretary