



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

Student Senators:

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

President:

Jason Childers

Vice President

Christopher Hollander

Speaker/At-Large Senator

Jack Hills

Deputy Speaker/At-Large Senator

Michael Gray

Campus Center Advisor:

Elizabeth Stewart

Faculty Advisor:

Joseph McCauley

Campus Center Advisor:

Rebecca Herzog

Visitors: Scott Blue, student; Kelly Bynes, SGA Cabinet; Jason Childers, Celtic Society; Mone Cooper, Chris Brown, ASL Club; Christine Flanagan, Celtic Society; Keene Hammond, Celtic Society; Lizz Komstok, Celtic Society; Chad Peters, SGA Cabinet; Tom Quinn, Celtic Society; Ron Ring, student; Dick Ryther, Student Services; Travis Sharp, student; Catherine Higgins, Secretary.

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

A. Roll Call

(See attendance above)

B. Approval of February 15, 2011 Senate Meeting minutes.

Speaker Hills called for a motion to approve the February 15, 2011 Senate Meeting Minutes.

Senator Snyder so moved, seconded by Senator Hale.

Discussion:

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, the Monroe Community College Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate unanimously approves the February 15, 2011 Senate meeting minutes as written.

II. SPEAK TO THE SENATE

Student Ron Ring spoke to the Senate to express his interest in organizing a student peace movement. This could involve signing anti-war petitions and lobbying against war. He would like to visit local Congressional offices and get students involved in a phone campaign. He would like to encourage students to speak out against violence. He asked what kind of communication the school has to offer. Speaker Hill suggested speaking with WMCC Fuse and the Monroe Doctrine and come back with a blue print as to what he wants to accomplish. Senator Hale suggested that he may want to organize a club.

III. REPORTS

A. Deputy Speaker

Deputy Speaker Gray...

Two weeks ago he attended a Constitution Committee Meeting, which included Senator Yost, Christopher Hollander and Rimsha Kahn. He also held a productive meeting with Luis Burgos, the City of Rochester's Commissioner of Youth and Recreation. Discussion included bringing a speaker to MCC

to discuss the growing number of HIV victims in the community, as well as support groups to discuss HIV awareness. Commissioner Burgos discussed the Safe Zone training here at MCC and would like to implement the program with his employees.

In the upcoming weeks, Deputy Speaker Gray would like to work with Recruitment Coordinator, Michael Snyder in an effort to begin recruitment for the upcoming summer and fall semesters. He also will continue to work with Commissioner Burgos regarding the Safe Zone training. He plans on visiting the Child Care Center, and quoted a single mother of two, who is returning to school who said, "The Child Care Center is one of the best programs MCC offers. My kids love it and want to go back."

B. Vice President Vice President Hollander...

SUNY Student Assembly

During February break he met with the SUNY Student Assembly Executive Committee at Herkimer County Community College. They discussed SUNYpalooza and April's conference. It is being discussed that the fees at the four-year institutions will be going up higher than usual next year. This is due to the health fees that individual colleges charge their students. With an apparent demand that colleges need to be providing mental health services to their students after incidents at Virginia Tech and in Arizona, the cost needs to be made up somewhere. So even though students will be paying more, the quality and quantity of health services will increase. There was also discussion that SUNY is currently working with a marketing company on creating a new brand for SUNY. Some prototypes were presented and discussion occurred regarding the Student Assembly's logo.

SUNYpalooza

SUNYpalooza will be held on March 15th. The agenda includes time to meet with Legislators and attend a rally on the Empire Plaza. Hudson Valley Community College will be providing lunch to all those that attend. The Student Government Association will be renting a bus to bring up to 33 people to Albany that day. There are still seats available for any Student Leader that wants to attend. If you are interested, please see me or e-mail me at chollander006@student.monroecc.edu. We will be leaving Monroe at 4:00 am and coming back the same day around 9:00pm. Breakfast and other snacks will be provided. He encouraged all members of SGA to attend this event, as it will give us some time to interact with our peers at other SUNY schools.

The purpose of SUNYpalooza, will be to advocate some changes we would like to see implemented within SUNY. These were all things the Senate approved when we supported the SUNY SA Legislative Agenda. This will also be a huge benefit to MCC students, as the current budget proposal in Albany will cut funding to MCC by \$3.5 million. Students cannot afford any huge increases to tuition and this will be the time to be heard.

Student Assembly Spring Conference

April 8-10th will be the Spring Conference for the SUNY Student Assembly. It will be held at the Royal Crown Plaza Hotel. This conference will have the elections for the Student Assembly. Information to be discussed in the business meeting will be available as we get closer to the dates. Non-voting delegates that attend will also have an opportunity to get a Sustainability Certificate, so please check out the website <http://www.studentassembly.org> for more information.

Petition Drive

Student Trustee Visagie and Vice President Hollander are working on a petition drive. The petition will be delivered to New York State Legislators on March 15th. It states that we do not support Governor Cuomo's cut to SUNY and MCC. We need volunteers that can collect signatures from students, faculty, staff, and other members of the community. We also need people to sit at the table we have reserved. If anyone is available from 9:00am to 2:00pm from March 9th to the 11th, please contact Student Trustee Visagie or Vice President Hollander. We will be having a meeting for anyone interested in helping out on March 3rd in the SGA office at 4:30pm. An e-mail was sent out to all student leaders at both of our campuses.

Club Constitution Committee

The Club Constitution Committee has approved the Constitution for the MCC Celtic Society.

ASACC

Vice President Hollander has been in touch with Ted Carey regarding the ASACC trip. Mr. Carey is the Budget Coordinator for SEGA and President of ASACC, the American Student Association of Community Colleges. He is looking for a time when the representatives of both campuses will be able to meet. He has scheduled times for us to meet with staff from both Senator Gillibrand and Representative Slaughter's offices.

@ Home

Office hours for SGA are posted. Please be at your scheduled office hours. Also, Campus Technology Coordinator Renn and Vice President Hollander have requested wired internet hubs in our office. This will allow both the Cabinet and Senate to connect their laptops with an ethernet cord and access the internet. We felt it was necessary to bring in these hubs because of the connectivity issues we have. Having a wired connection available to use will increase our productivity of what we can do online.

C. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Stewart...

Advisor Stewart commented that the current issue of the Monroe Doctrine provided 3-D glasses and pictures. She encouraged everyone to take a look at it.

She had a meeting yesterday with Anne Barker from the Child Care Center where they discussed having a Sustainable Day. They will be holding an annual Beach Party event on March 31st and she encouraged SGA to help them with this event in any way they can. There are many ways to get involved with the Center throughout the semester and they are thrilled to have SGA's support.

D. Office of Student Life & Leadership Development Advisor Herzog...

Advisor Herzog and three members of CAB attended the National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) Conference in St. Louis over the weekend. There was a wide range of activities to participate in from lectures to attending documentaries and entertainment events. They will be discussing a Homecoming Headliner and will have more information to report after some discussion.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. ACTION ITEMS (Items requiring a Senate vote)

a. Resolution to charter the MCC Celtic Society

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approves the Constitution as submitted by the MCC Celtic Society members, and further be it

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate accepts the petition for charter as submitted, and approves the chartering of the MCC Celtic Society.

This resolution came from Committee; Senator Yost read the resolution.

Discussion:

Jason Childers, representing the Celtic Society explained that their mission is to raise awareness of the Celtic culture. They are currently without an advisor, but are actively looking for one. Donna Allen is helping them out. Future plans include bringing in a speaker and attending some off campus events and festivals. They also plan to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 12th.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association approves the resolution to charter the MCC Celtic Society.

b. Resolution to appoint Kelly Bynes to the Club Constitution Committee

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate consents to the appointment of Kelly Bynes to the Club Constitution Committee for the remainder of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Speaker Hills made a motion to appoint Kelly Bynes to the Club Constitution Committee for the remainder of the 2010-2011 academic year. The motion was moved by Senator Moore, seconded by Senator Yost.

Discussion:

Vice President Hollander commented that he feels the workload will not be an issue, with the elections coming up.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association approves the appointment of Kelly Bynes to the Club Constitution Committee for the remainder of the 2010-2011 academic year.

c. Resolution to amend the SGA By-Laws by revising Sections 1 – 6

Resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Government Association Senate approve the revisions to Sections 1-6 of the SGA By-Laws.

Speaker Hills made a motion to table the resolution to give the Senate a chance to review the changes that are being proposed. Senator Hale so moved. The motion was seconded by Senator Wassel-Saxe.

A vote was taken.

Be it resolved, that the Brighton Campus Student Student Government Association Senate approve the motion to table the resolution to approve the revisions to Sections 1-6 of the SGA By-Laws.

V. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Mone Cooper and Chris Brown, from the ASL Club, spoke to the Senate about the Silent Dinner that was held last semester. They both felt that it went well. There were 40 people for dinner and another 10 or so showed up to attend the entertainment portion. Mr. Brown stated that after attending the dinner he had a better understanding of the deaf culture and what it is capable of. Ms. Cooper stated that she enjoyed the culture and being exposed to it. She was surprised at how much involvement the culture has in the Rochester community.

Vice President Hollander commented that it sounded like a good time.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 2:47 p.m. Speaker Hills called for a motion to adjourn. Senator Gray so moved, seconded by Senator Snyder. The motion passed; the Senate meeting was adjourned.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Higgins
Secretary