



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
Minutes
November 30, 2017
7:15 a.m.
Student Union, Room 211
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas 89154

Meeting called to order by NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza at 7:20 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Ms. Kanani Espinoza, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA (NSA Chair)
Ms. Kimberly Tran, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Vice Chair)
Mr. Christopher Roys, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (Secretary) – **joined at 7:32 via phone**
Ms. Alicia Contreras, Nevada State College, NSSA
Ms. Tania Covarrubias, Western Nevada College, ASWN
Ms. Becky Linville, Great Basin College, SGA
Ms. Elizabeth Zuniga, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN

Absent:

Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA
Ms. Kathleen Rodrigues, Desert Research Institute, GRAD
Mr. Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN

Guests:

Ms. Renee Davis, NSHE

A quorum of members is present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

November 17 minutes not available for approval.

NSA NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION

NSA Vice Chair Tran reminded the members the next newsletter is scheduled to be published in spring. She also shared that she has a printed copy of the fall newsletter in the TMCC SGA office for sharing with students.

NSA CHAIR’S REPORT

INFORMATION

NSA Chair Espinoza said she would like to announce approval of the resolutions as well as information about the #VegasStrong campaign. Members discussed mentioning fund raising efforts to help victims of the Route 91 incident in October.

Chair Espinoza skipped to Item 9: Discussion on Revisions to the Nevada Student Alliance Constitution.

DISCUSSION ON REVISIONS TO THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE CONSTITUTION

INFORMATION

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza led a discussion on the constitutionally-defined responsibilities of the Vice Chair, in particular the duty to produce a newsletter. It is felt the newsletter is an outdated mode of communication, and the focus should instead be on social media. Director of Student Affairs Renee Davis pointed out there are social media duties currently assigned to the Chair. It was suggested that the responsibility, as written in 300.44, be moved under 300.6. Current 300.63, which mentions the newsletter, would be replaced by this language. Ms. Davis agreed to write up the revision for review at the next meeting of the NSA.

At this juncture, Chair Espinoza called Secretary Chris Roys and he joined the meeting via phone at 6:32 a.m. She asked if he had a proposal regarding the part of the constitution with Secretarial duties. He mentioned his opinion was that since NSA is a recommending body, but that would be more of a Board of Regents decision. Ms. Davis gave some background on previous discussions and encouraged Secretary Roys or others to bring up at the evening meeting between NSA, Board Officers and the Chancellor.

Ms. Davis also suggested one thing to look into is whether OML allows a public body to dispense with minutes as long as a recording was in order. Secretary Roys suggested a revision whereby minutes would be published only when action was taken.

It was asked if this counts as a first meeting for review. Ms. Davis explained the next meeting where an actual revision is presented would count as the first review and a vote could take at the next meeting after that.

Secretary Roys explained he was parking, would join the meeting momentarily in person.

Chair proceeded to item 10: Discussion on System-wide Initiatives & Goals.

DISCUSSION ON SYSTEM-WIDE INITIATIVES & GOALS

INFORMATION

Chair Espinoza explained this would be a standing item on the agenda so that she could check in with membership at each meeting to see if there was interest in NSA member organizations pursuing a new system-wide initiative. She mentioned Secretary Roys is working on a UNLV smoking policy, but that probably was not appropriate to pursue systemwide.

Chair proceeded to Item 11: NSA Meeting Schedule.

NSA MEETING SCHEDULE

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Chair Espinoza proposed eliminating the January 12 and April 13 meetings. That way there would be a meeting before each of the Board meetings. Secretary Roys agreed with striking those dates, and disconnected from the call. Other members gave input on how the changes would work for them. Alicia suggested dropping April and keeping the May meeting.

Secretary Roys arrived at meeting in person. He explained there are lots of finals in April, so it is not a good month to meet. Ms. Davis said she could help communicate with new student body presidents earlier in order to encourage them to attend the May meeting.

Motion to eliminate January 12 and April 13 NSA Meetings (Roys/Covarrubias) passed 6/1/0.

Chair moved back to Item 6: Resolution Supporting Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM (PSLF)

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion to adopt resolution (Roys/Linville) passed 7/0/0.

Chair proceeded to Item 7: Resolution on Condemning Bigotry on Campuses in Nevada.

RESOLUTION ON CONDEMNING BIGOTRY ON CAMPUSES IN NEVADA

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion to adopt resolution (Roys/Contreras) passed 6/0/1.

Chair proceeded to Item 8: Resolution Opposing House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1).

RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE RESOLUTION 1 (H.R. 1) OF THE 115TH CONGRESS

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Secretary Roys explained a similar resolution would be going to CSUN for its approval in December. In general, the resolution is written to oppose the entire spirit of the current tax bill, which has a number of provisions that will negatively affect students and faculty. Chair Espinoza said that GPSA is also considering a similar opposition to the bill and pointed out the timing is crucial due since Congress is set to take action soon.

Motion to adopt resolution (Roys/Linville) passed 7/0/0.

Chair jumped to Item 12: Member Reports:

MEMBER REPORTS

INFORMATION

Vice Chair Tran reported that TMCC SGA is working on updating bylaws, constitution, and other governing documents. They are also working on marketing, including a new logo.

President Linville reported that GBC SGA is also working on constitutional revisions. Had a retreat in October. Also updating manual for clubs and organizations.

Secretary Roys reported CSUN is working on their governing documents over winter break.

Ms. Davis reminded everyone that there is a System approval process for any student body government constitutional changes, and to contact her with questions or to request the approval form.

President Zuniga explained that ASCSN is currently working on a survey of students over an item that will be on the Board of Regents agenda. They are also considering a constitutional revision that would allow elected representatives to serve up to three terms, instead of 2.

President Contreras said they are working on setting up a retreat over winter break, which can be attended by current and potential future officers. Constitution revised over summer and it is under legal review. Also conducting a student survey to determine whether students would prefer a student lounge or basketball court.

Chair Espinoza reported that GPSA is working on response to tax bill and a search for a business manager.

Chair proceeded to Item 13: New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Constitutional revision for possible action.

PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment presented.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 a.m.