



ELECTIONS BOARD AGENDA

Associated Students

10/13/20, 2:00 PM

Virtual Meeting - Zoom

CALL TO ORDER by Andrew Yan at 2:00 PM

A. ROLL CALL

Name	Note:	Name	Note:
Andrew Yan <i>Chair</i>	Present	Ruth Garcia Guevara <i>Advisor</i>	Present
Wessal Esber <i>Vice Chair</i>	Present	Diana Collins Puente <i>Advisor</i>	
Emma Xing	Present	Ahura Nezhad <i>Senate Liaison</i>	Present
Shannon Hollingsworth	Present	Dylan Martinez <i>Senate Liaison</i>	Present
Austin Foreman	Present		
Lauren Sullivan	Present		
Daniel Ong	Present		

Also in attendance:

Tyler Barth, AS Attorney General

Icebreaker:

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

B.1. Complaints

Andrew: Hi all, we have a packed agenda today. Let's talk about complaints first. When do we want to open the portal for this election?

Austin: When was it open last year?

Andrew: We opened it a few days before campaigning, so similar to now.

Ruth: Can we wait to open the campaign portal until everyone has signed the waiver.

Andrew: Yes. Do you all think we should mention the complaint process during the DoC meeting?

Dylan: I personally think it's like a transparency thing, it probably more or less doesn't matter to the process but it would probably be a good idea.

Emma: I think you should mention it.

Ruth: Maybe a suggestion, is I can email the form out to everyone while we're doing that meeting or maybe later on. And maybe we can open up the portal by Thursday.

Motion to open the complaints form on Thursday @ 8 AM once and if the confidentiality forms have all been signed

First/Second: Martinez/Foreman

Vote: 6-0 to APPROVE, no abstentions

B.2. Roles

Andrew: Let's talk about board roles. We need someone to be the advertising and publicity coordinator. That was my role on the board for the past three years, since 2017, and while I'll still help it would be nice to have someone ready to take over on that because half the board is graduating this year.

Andrew: We have a Facebook page that I can continue to run. We also have an Instagram that we don't use. It would be great if someone could help run that.

Lauren: I can do Instagram.

Andrew: Great, I'll send you the details later.

Andrew: And also the rest of us are enforcers. That's an official role in Elections Code. All that means is if you ever see anything that violates election rules during an election then let us know. It doesn't mean you should be patrolling the streets or anything. For example, if you already happen to be in IV to get food and you notice someone passing out flyers then that would be something you could bring back to the board.

Andrew: Emma, do you still got the complaints this year?

Emma: Yes

Andrew: Cool, you're the complaint lead. Do you want to get someone to help you with that?

Emma: Shannon said she can help.

B.3. SAG

Andrew: Moving on to candidate forums. Last week I emailed everyone the four questions I wrote. What do you all think about that?

Andrew: I know the questions look easy and they are, at least compared to last year. The reason they're like that is because candidates only have 40 seconds to answer all 4 of the questions.

Dylan: I looked at the questions and I liked them a lot. But last year I was actually in the SAG Office and I had some suggestions for the questions. Maybe we could make it so there's 3 questions but they have a longer time to answer them?

Andrew: Sounds good, reply to the email, we'll work on that outside the meeting. We have until Thursday to get them right.

Andrew: I also wanted to address the \$600 budget for independent executive candidates that is in Elections Code. I'm concerned about an inequality issue if someone is spending \$600 and the rest of the candidates aren't spending anything.

Austin: From my prior experience from the last online campaign, I ended up spending \$0 which was not my initial goal before everything went online. When it went online I still tried to do Instagram and Facebook ads as an independent candidates. The thing is Instagram and Facebook have really

cracked down on their ads. They don't allow political ads anymore and it blocks ads if anyone tries to run one.

Andrew: I have always experienced that issue with normal election ads. You have to escalate it.

Austin: I actually did talk to someone. And also I think it's specifically in the Elections Code that independent candidates can spend \$600, so I think that's where we should leave it be. But we should tell them that they don't need to spend anything to run their campaign.

Andrew: Anyone else have opinions?

Andrew: Alright there is none, so it seems like we're in favor of keeping it where it is.

Andrew: I also wanted to do office hours this year. There are 20 people declared for SAG right now. [edit: there were 26 at end of declaration]. I was originally going to do half hour 1-1 meetings with everyone but that is not happening if there are 20 people. Maybe we can still do them but we make them optional instead.

Andrew: Going back to the candidate forum issue, what do we do if someone does not participate in candidate forums? Keep in mind that Elections Code says that candidate forums are mandatory. We added that in two years ago.

Dylan: It sounds like an immediate disqualifier to me.

Andrew: That's what I thought.

Wessal: Let's also mention that if there are extenuating circumstances we will talk about it as a board.

Motion to disqualify any candidate who does not submit candidate forums by Sunday 10/18

First/Second: Esber/Martinez

Vote: 6-0 to APPROVE, no abstentions

B.2. Recall

Andrew: Moving on to the next topic, what about endorsements for the recall? I don't know if anyone has received their state election voter guide yet but for the propositions they have pro/con statements for each. We already do a pro/con statement for fees and I was wondering what y'all thought about extending something like to the recall?

Wessal: I understand why but I personally don't think it's a good idea just because it's such a sensitive topic, especially the sentiment behind the recall. I think it just opens the floodgates to something that we don't want to instigate.

Lauren: I think if there's another place where they can get that information we probably shouldn't send it out.

Dylan: Is there a way to link to a Nexus article, or maybe somewhere third-party?

Austin: Maybe if there's somewhere else they can get it, I'm not sure if we can link it unless there's links to both sides. If there's just one side it could seem partial if we link it, but similarly if we host the pro/con statement and there's also only one side, that could still look like it's partial. If there's both sides then the voters can see both sides, and usually the pro/cons list they're right next to each other. Usually they're a few pages of pros or a few pages of cons, then we could be hosting both the pros and the cons in one place.

Andrew: I do understand that because like you said, no one ever submits a con statement for fees.

Austin: I think part of it comes down to the duty of Elections Board. I would think that voter education would be part of that, educating the voters on what exactly they're voting for and what are the sides. There's only yes or no.

Ruth: I agree @ voter education.

Andrew: Tyler, what do you think?

Tyler: It's up to the board but I would recommend no, personally. Elections Board has to also consider what is the role of Elections Board, what is your duty. You are the ones who are directing how the recall works and what is the timeline. And not to say you would be altering the semantics of the recall itself and people in AS have already posted on the recall as well.

Austin: The only thing is, would it be a surprise when students see the question on the ballot? I'm thinking it might be to some people who don't know anything about it. They might skip it, they might choose to educate themselves to take a side. I just wonder if there is a way for us, if it does go on the ballot, if it is up to us to provide education. They basically do all of the groundwork on educating voters. And it is for the SAG and for the one running. The candidates do that and they do a lot of the education, and I believe on the recall it would be up to them to do the education. I'm leaning towards no on the endorsements now, it's up to the sides on whether they want to do education.

Wessal: What are the options for the recall on the ballot, are the options yes, no, or I don't know?

Andrew: The options are yes, no, or hit next to skip the question.

Wessal: And it needs 20%?

Austin: Yes, I was wondering if people skip the question would it affect the 20%?

Andrew: I would think yes.

Wessal: It's the percentage of the student body who vote in that election. Technically they're still in the election if they don't answer the question, so is it true that the recall would only be valid if 20% vote in the election? If 20% of the student body is going to vote for SAG but not the recall, does it affect the number?

Austin: When you look at the fee reaffirmations it calculates the percentage it's based off the number of votes cast for that. Even if you just pull up last year's election results it tells you how many votes were cast for that item.

Ruth: For that item but the recall vote is different and I think you need to reach the 20% for the recall. I think you need to reach the 20% for the recall. As long as 20% of the folks voted then it's fine. I think for this one specifically it has to be 20%.

Andrew: I haven't thought about it that way before. Can we have everyone think about this for next week?

Ruth: Tyler, we're going to need your help on this one for sure.

Ruth: I know it's past 3pm but I just had one last question for the board. I'm concentrating on SAG first then I'm doing the recall stuff. The question came up about letting the petitioner know what signatures are valid or invalid and maybe letting her know what the specific signatures are that are invalid.

Wessal: My thoughts are no, we're trying to keep it close as normal to the original petition.

Dylan: I agree with Wessal.

Austin: I agree as well.

Andrew: Point of information, the petitioner already has the names of everyone that signed the petition, so we are not exactly revealing anyone's names if we let them know about this.

Wessal: I think it's confidential, I think it's kind of a breach of privacy if we start providing info about individual signatures. For example, if we tell her that one of the signatures is technically not a

student this year. Especially telling her who is not valid by signing the petition is not cool. I would let her know that we're trying to keep this as close as possible to a paper petition and explaining why, this is not something that we want to do.

Austin: We don't know what they're going to do with that info.

Tyler: I agree with Wessal.

Ruth: Alright, thank you all.

Andrew: Ok, so we're over on time and I want to set a backup meeting time because one meeting a week isn't cutting it since we are going over every time. I'm looking at the meeting poll and Friday at 3pm seems to work for most of us. I'll email everyone if we have to meet at that time. We'll only meet if necessary, like if we get complaints or something else comes up.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Andrew Yan at 3:12 PM