## Elections Board Minutes

## ASsquare_logo.tifAssociated Students

11/1/2017, 11:00 AM

Nati Conference Room

**CALL TO ORDER at 11**

**A. MEETING BUSINESS**

1. **Roll Call**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Note:** absent (excused/not excused)arrived late (time)departed early (time)proxy (full name) | **Name** | **Note:**absent (excused/not excused)arrived late (time)departed early (time)proxy (full name) |
| Mary Zhu | **Present** | Kia Sadeghi | **Present** |
| Amy Koo | **Absent, excused** | Hieu Le | **Absent** |
| John Paul Renteria | **Present** | Ali Suebert | **Absent, excused** |
| Davis Quan | **Present** | Aaron Jones | **Present** |
| Stoddy Carey | **Absent, excused** | Ruth Garcia Guevara | **Present** |

**B. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

B.1. Minutes

Mary: who wants to do minutes?

John: I can

Mary: thank you so much, John. You can do them on paper or laptop.

B.2. Duties and responsibilities of board members and chair

Mary: Have you both been getting the emails from the elections electronic mailing list and the entities one? You are not obligated to respond to any of them. You can read them and at times we will discuss the contents of them during meeting, but you do not need to respond to any emails that come in through that list serve. It is my responsibility as chair to do that and I speak on behalf of the board when I do. If you are ever approached or bothered by anyone outside this board/committee regarding anything related to elections you are not obligated to respond and you can relay that correspondence to the board. If you ever have any questions you can always come to the advisors or me.

Ruth: if someone wants to talk to you, invite them to write to the committee and talk to the committee. You don’t need to talk to them. What happens during side conversations causes confusion. We want transparency and everything is clear. For example someone wants to have a meeting with you, they can later come back and say “he said x, y, and z”, but it wasn’t discussed in meeting and not in the minutes. We need minutes for our records and judicial council. I also have a code of conduct agreement that everyone attends these meetings needs to sign. This is to keep everything said during meeting is kept confidential. We don’t want misunderstandings and it is really important to refer people to the board. We might talk about individuals and we don’t want any information to get out.

Aaron: our role is to support your work. To support you. As Michael Young said, students can make up their own minds with all the information. Our role is not to influence your decisions, but to give you information or background. You need to know the code and that’s it. The confidentially is critical. We ask the vice chancellor to send out an email before election season every year to encourage people to not target the elections board. Your work is protected by us and if anything comes up and challenges you please bring it up

Ruth: besides confidentiality, it is hard to disclose all your relationships to the candidates. It’s important to let us know if you plan to run again. You will no longer be able to serve on the board. If you know the person we are discussing, be transparent and let us.

Mary: In regards to that, we have been assigned two senate liaisons that ran with Campus United last year. We were worried that it may seem unfair or biased that both came from the same party and I asked the IVP, Jasmine, if maybe we could get a senator who ran with the Isla Vista Party as a liaison, but she said that the senators we have been assigned will act independently of their prior association with their respective party. Parties also don’t exist off-season. Furthermore, the two senate liaisons we have been assigned were approved unanimously by senate. I wanted to mention that in case it comes up later in the year. It’ll be good to have this in the minutes as something we tried to address.

B.3. Elections Code revision

Mary: now we can continue where we left off last week, hashtags. Ruth?

Ruth: there are certain points in the code where you are/aren’t able to use hashtags. We need to make it explicitly clear. Last year we decided hashtags could only be used during active campaigning. The board thought it was a form of advertising. We want to make sure that a decision is made and it will be reflected in the updated code.

Mary: at declaration of candidacy up to active campaigning no use of hashtags

Davis: I think any time before declaration is excessive and no point to it. They should be allowed to advertise before and after they declare

Ruth: I think there is a paragraph on it. On pg 41. Wait I think this is just for meetings. This is area or the part above. This is stuff that comes up all the time and this is one of those situations

Davis: I think recruiting is fine, but when they promote themselves before declaration of candidacy that’s fine

Ruth: would they say I’m running for? Is that considered as campaigning?

Davis: oh

Ruth: on page 35 it says when active campaigning begins

Kia: is the point of this committee to outline the rules for elections for spring?

Ruth: yes and we put together and organize all the elections related things. We do the calendar dates, and closer to elections we decide on fines. Do you know if you plan to run?

Kia: I don’t think I plan to run

Ruth: if you have a role in the party please let me know as well. It’s on page 37

Davis: so we’re considering hashtags as social media?

Ruth: it’s up to you all deciding that. We had them stop at week 9 of winter quarter and they can start again week 3 of spring quarter last year

Davis: so that’s like a dead period when they decide candidates?

Ruth: yeah, they have their own internal thing at that time. recruitment, doing interviews might be now, but by declaration of candidacy they already know who they plan to slate

Davis: do we only limit to when they are recruiting? Since they are going through internal things? And after they would be gearing up for elections. Only limit to week 6-9 winter quarter and then at the end of the party recruitment they can’t until active campaigning begins

Aaron: Kia, what do you think?

Kia: so why are we talking about hashtags?

Mary: last year there were a lot of complaints about the use of hashtags considered as active campaigning and we’re trying to figure out when they can be used

Aaron: typically elections code changes annually, but last year’s didn’t pass so last year’s code is the code we used the year before as well

Ruth: have you heard of anyone wanting to make changes to the code?

Kia: no

Davis: soft campaigning would be the first 3 days of active campaigning?

Ruth: yes, people were getting overwhelmed by the advertising. It’s a 2-week period. So to avoid voter fatigue they wanted to do a soft campaigning for the first few days. Give the candidates a bit of a break. There are different thoughts about the length of active campaigning. We’ve heard different ideas

Davis: Kia, since you ran last year how do you feel about the campaigning?

Kia: soft campaigning was fine. If we can limit the amount of time that can be beneficial

Davis: so we can limit the use of candidate names in hashtags can’t be use until active campaigning

Ruth: what about the recruitment time?

Davis: I think that’s fine for the parties? It would be hard to enforce and have I feel the part hashtags aren’t that bad. So maybe a party hashtag would be okay from recruitment to the entirety to the end of elections

Kia: to be honest I don’t see a problem with that. If you want to advertise who you are and who you are with I don’t see a problem with that. May the best advertiser win. Both parties have the same opportunities. Both groups of people can do it as much as they want. It is up to each person how they take advantage of social media and promote themselves. I don’t know if you saw the music video I made. I think it’s totally fine for the parties

Ruth: I’m having a hard time separating this from active campaigning.

Kia: is there a definition of active campaigning in the code?

Davis: bottom of page 35

Kia: why do we have so many restrictions?

Ruth: with social media we sort of had to rein it in. you wouldn’t be able to table and flyer. Now with social media it is counted as social media, so we wanted to define what counts as active campaigning in social media. Are you ready to make a motion and vote or?

Davis: can we define it? Encouraging a voter to vote for a candidate or a different form of that?

Ruth: people know who the parties are anyways, so why are we limiting it to these specific times? We need subcategories for Internet campaigning

Davis: I don’t think there’s a point to rein it in after party recruitment. Restriction for individual candidate

Ruth: if you see #coolparty and a group of people how do you feel?

Davis: they aren’t promoting themselves anyways so it doesn’t matter. They can go from recruitment to the end of elections. Did you use the hashtags before recruitment?

Kia: we were not allowed to use a hashtag before a certain time. I still found that a little odd. I think we can post whenever we want.

John: I don’t really have any concern with it. With what you said, Ruth, I feel it’s some type of recruitment. It should be limited in a sense from winter week 6-9 it should be come to learn more about us.

Kia: I think it’s a potential problem “I’m eating lunch #coolparty”?

John: I don’t think it’s a problem

Mary: wait it’s almost 12. John has class so we’ll have to continue this next week

Ruth: maybe Mary can send out another doodle poll so we can all meet twice next week

**Adjournment at 11:58am by Zhu**