

LOBBY CORPS MINUTES
Meeting #14
December 7, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Genesis Jara called the meeting to order at 12:31pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Voting Members Present

Genesis Jara (Chief Government Relations Officer)
Sofia Musman (ASI Vice President)
Stephanie Argent (Senate Representative)
Hilda Jurado (Senate Representative)
Amanda Kilian (Student-at-Large)
Nicolas Olenslager-Orton (Student-at-Large)
Autumn Farmer (AVP Legislative & External Relations Designee)

Voting Members Absent

VACANT (Student-at-Large)
Danielle Carancho (Senate Representative)

Non-voting Members Present

Lindsay San Miguel (Asst. Director, Government Affairs & Initiatives)

Non-voting Members Absent

Guest

Joseph Nino (ASI President)

3. APPROVAL /CORRECTIONS AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(M) Argent (S) Jurado to approve the Lobby Corps Agenda, Meeting #14, December 7, 2017

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 7-0-0

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

A. Lobby Corps, Meeting #13, November 30, 2017

(M) Jurado (S) Argent to approve Lobby Corps Minutes, Meeting #13, November 30, 2017

VOTE ON THE MOTION

PASSES 7-0-0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

6. REPORTS

A. Chair/Government Relations Officer

Chair Jara reported the following:

- Student-at-Large position is now open and posted on BeachSync
- Please continue to log your office hours so that Laura can keep track of them. All members should be doing at least 3 office hours per week.

B. Vice Chair

Vice Chair Carancho reported the following:

- Absent, nothing to report

C. Students-at-Large

Students-at-Large reported the following:

- Olenslager-Orton: Long Beach City Council reconvened this week on December 5th. They agreed to participate in the Grand Prix.
- City Council also opened up a position for a new City Manager.
- Kilian: Is working on a meeting list for CHESS and already has all of the legislative contact information and is trying to put together a form so that everyone can put in pending confirmation and confirmed meetings.

D. Senate

Senator Argent reported the following:

- Tabled ASI Stands Resolution indefinitely; they will be sending it to SJEC
- Passed a Bylaw Amendment for ASIMBOT
- Passed a resolution commemorating Dr. Jeane Caveness
- Reconsidered a resolution for the Football Exploratory Committee, but it failed

E. AVP Legislative & External Relations

Farmer reported the following:

- CSULB Alum, Steven Spielberg was inducted into the California Hall of Fame
- Is going to follow up with Terri Carbaugh for strategizing with Lobby Corps for the proposed tuition increase and lobbying efforts.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Information Item: Housing Long Beach – Jordan Wynne
Wynne introduced their colleague, Benjamin Mohd Yusof.

Update: Rent Control Policy for Long Beach that will be on the ballot in November 2018. The Long Beach specific focus is rent control and the statewide focus is to repeal the Costa Hawkins Act.

They started up the Long Beach Tenants Union, which will hopefully become its own separate organization of tenant advocates. Right now, they are teaching them campaign strategy, networking strategies across the city. So far there are mainly older people, but there are a couple of LBSU alumnus and are trying to get more students involved.

They are getting the ballot language approved by the city and will resubmit tomorrow, December 8th for final approval. After this, they will be going to canvas for ballot initiatives and they need about 33,000 signatures and they have until the end of May 2018 to get those signatures.

Wynne stated that they are looking to gain as much support as possible from as many businesses and institutions all across Long Beach.

Yusof added that they conducted a poll in November and found that approximately 70% of the population is in support of some type of rent control measure. They were also able to break it down by demographic and found that millennials, aged 18-35 were the most supportive of rent control, coming in at 80%. Unfortunately, they were also the ones that were least likely to vote in the midterm election.

One of their goals is to reach out to this demographic so that they can have more voting power when the 2018 election rolls around.

Jurado asked if they have an estimation as to when the official ordinance will be established.

Yusuf answered that they are currently working on their final revisions and the document will be submitted tomorrow and the city is supposed to respond within 15 business days. They are also trying to get Costa Hawkins Act repealed.

Yusuf explained that there are 3 proposals/avenues for collaboration:

- 1st: To develop a local lobbying strategy. Once the campaign starts picking up and the community becomes more informed, they feel that they can bring this information to current legislators

In 2016, they organized for just cause eviction to the City Council and they did not put it forward in their agenda, they believe their voice could be emphasized if they were to be allied with more organizations and institutions in Long Beach.

Wynne added that a small conversation was started with the Long Beach Progressive Alliance and they have at least gotten wind of what is going on. As far as the City Council, endorsements have basically been a rumor mill. They think that their most likely allies would be Pierce and Gonzalez.

- 2nd: They want to give a broader presentation to other members of the student government, such as ASI Senate, to inform them and connect with potential advocates
- 3rd: Open to having joint programming and canvassing on campus. They are partnering with Next Gen America to have voter registration events to prepare for the ballot measure

Olenlager-Orton asked if they had the names of any city council members that they believe would be against this measure.

Wynne stated that they do not know who would be against it for sure, but the ones they are probably going to vote against this would be people living in east side Long Beach, such as Daryl Supernaw and Stacy Mungo. While Wynne does not believe they have come out publicly against it, they would most likely be the ones who would oppose it, even though a lot of their developments would be immune to rent control.

Yusuf added that even though council members in Long Beach are regarded as progressive when it comes to social issues, a lot of them have leaned towards developers. The reason they are having such a hard time reaching out to these members is because they have strong ties with property owners and developers.

Yusuf believes that the way that the city has been tackling this problem has made it worse by loosening regulations for developers. There are about 150,000 rental units in Long Beach, and if their proposal were to pass, they would be able to cover 93% of housing.

Yusuf wanted to clarify that this measure is not meant to set a price limit, but rather set a price limit on how much rent can be increased per year according to the local inflation rate.

Gentrification in Long Beach is similar to what happened in Oakland, San Francisco, and Berkeley, and they are trying to help prevent this from happening so citizens, especially students can afford to live here.

B. Discussion Item: Semester Recap

Jara thanked the members of the board for all of their hard work this semester. Next semester they will continue to focus on tuition increase, the Dream Act of 2017, and preparing for the CHESS conference.

Musman asked if they are doing any planning during winter break in regards to tuition increase efforts.

Jara answered that they would be here preparing for CHESS with San Miguel, but there are no formal meetings scheduled or required during break.

Jurado asked if anybody is willing to go on any legislative visits during winter break and stated that they would send out an email to see who is available to go on those visits.

Jara stated that they would be here, so if the board would like to meet during break, they are willing to do so.

San Miguel recommended that they meet during winter break because the challenge with trying to have those discussions when the semester starts is that it is so hectic. They should focus on identifying strategies and have initial outreach efforts with potential partners to help alleviate some of that stress. They should go into the semester with at least some sort of framework.

9. VOLUNTARY CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Jara wished everyone good luck on finals.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection Chair Jara adjourned the meeting at 12:58pm.