Rio Hondo College
Associated Student Body Senate Minutes
Regular Meeting – Friday, September 23, 2011
12:00 p.m. Student Activities

I. Call to Order at 12:10

II. Roll Call -

III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2011 – Move (Guerrero/Zepeda) to Approve (7/0/0); Passes.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Move (Preciado/Leon) to Approve; Move (Zepeda/Cruz) to amend item E under Executive Board Reports to read Jasmine Lopez instead of Mike Munoz and to table item I from New Business ("Budget Approval for the Year 2011-2012") (8/0/0); Passes; Move (Preciado/Ledezma) to table item C from Unfinished Business ("EYO Workshop Budget") (8/0/0); Passes; Amended agenda (7/0/0); Passes.

V. Open Communication for Public Comment – 3 minutes maximum
- Juan Osuna, President, MEChA – The library is too loud. It is not fair that people choose the library to socialize. Asks what are the current policies in place regarding the issue and what can ASB do to improve the situation. Suggests more involvement from library staff. The fact that a PE class takes place next to the computers does not help.
- Jose Espinoza, Catholic Newman Club – Encourages people to check out the club. There will be an orientation September 29th at noon on the 4th story of the old library tower covering the history and purpose of the nation-wide organization. Russell Castañeda Calleros, Director, Government and Community Relations, is the advisor.
- Leonardo Zepeda, ASB Senator – In light of Wednesday's power outage, has concluded that the campus is not ready for a disaster. Disabled students were being told to evacuate but the only transport they have is through the Access Program. Disabled students taking Administration of Justice classes have trouble getting to the Police Academy. ASB should look into arranging a shuttle to help them. The Access Program is willing to provide signage to mark designated pick-up zones: Access picks up students at various locations along the route. George Lopez (Manager, Operations & Maintenance) would like to meet with anyone regarding this issue. Fernando Centeno seeks ASB endorsement (Senator Almaraz pointed out that the ASB is not allowed to make such political endorsements).
- Mariela Samano, ICC Vice-Chair – Please like the RHC Cheer Squad Facebook page. Welcomes ideas, advice, comments, and questions. Would like to get a team going by next semester. (Student Trustee Ojeda stated

that the interim dean of P.E. and Athletics would be glad meet and discuss the idea).

VI. Executive Board Reports – 5 minutes maximum

A. Zeus Galindo (President) – Committee assignments: Basic Skills (Senator Guerrero), Commencement (Senator Cruz) and Student Grievances (Vice President Preciado and Senators Almaraz and Guerrero). Student Union walkthrough on October 14th. Distributed copies of the Nursing Club's constitution to review for next week's approval of a club with a similar name.

B. Irina A. Preciado (Vice President) – Tickets to the party benefitting the California Dream Network scholarships for undocumented students at Leonardo's Nightclub on September 29th: $10 or $15 at the door ($5 for CHIRLA members). Mariela Samano from ASEA was elected ICC Vice-Chair. Asked clubs to submit written reports. ASEA meets Tuesdays at 11 am and 4 pm in S309, Art Guild is attending the Tim Burton Festival at LACMA on October 15th, GSA had a guest speaker regarding sex ed and discussed National Coming Out Day, Film Club is working on t-shirt designs, SGC is contemplating an ice-cream fundraiser, Sports Medicine club is meeting today, Kinesiology is planning their display case, scavenger hunt September 27th and fundraising for their Boston conference; Tri Omega will have their regionals October 27th-29th and are collecting Administration of Justice textbooks to donate to the library, HTS is having a Shakey's night this Thursday from 6 to 9 pm.

C. Eric Leon (Treasurer) – No Report.

D. Emilio Nunez (Secretary) – No Report.

E. Jasmine Lopez (Advisor) – Missed the hotel discount rate on September 20th but does not want to miss the deadline for the discount rate for the actual conference. Passed the registration forms for the CCCSAA conference, which must be postmarked by September 30th but submitted to her by Wednesday. Senator Zepeda created a list of supplies needed.

VII. Student Trustee Report – Julianna Ojeda – 5 minutes maximum

Rio Hondo Symphony is coming up, which is free. Information regarding GoRio's TAP was emailed to everyone. Has a copy available of the Sacramento report. Regarding the LRC issue, speak to Kats Gustafson (Dean, Student Learning Support) on the second floor or Robert Holcomb (English as a Second Language Department) on the first floor.

***Recess 12:35-12:52**

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. ASB Grant for Textbooks Reserve **(Expenses not to exceed $1500.00 from Account #8010) –** Motion (Reyes/Almaraz) to Approve (8/0/0); Passes.

B. Discussion: ASB Senate Resolutions – Move (Almaraz/Leon) to open for discussion. Vice President Preciado would like to consider each resolution separately when approving and asked if the resolutions would require

funding in the future. Senator Almaraz stated that expansion of the Gateway Tutoring Program may require money for scholarships and also reviewed the proposed resolutions discussed last week.

- 002) Requesting that the Associated Student Body will publicly support the creation of a new student discount program. Move (Padilla/Guerrero) to Approve (9/1/0); Passes.
- 003) Requesting that the Rio Hondo Associated Student Body to generate a feasibility study regarding the expansion of the GoRio initiative to part time students. Move (Preciado/Leon) to Approve (10/0/0); Passes.
- 004) Requesting that the Rio Hondo Associated Student Body to generate a feasibility study regarding the expansion of the Gateway Tutoring Program. Move (Leon/Reyes) to Approve (8/1/1); Passes.

C. EYO Workshop Budget – Tabled.

IX. New Business – 5 minutes maximum

A. 9/11 Commemorative Event **(Expenses not to exceed $155.26 from Account #8090) –** Requestor: Jasmine Lopez and Mario Cruz – Monies are being requested to reimburse Cathy Butler for materials used for the event: candles, American flags, streamer, paints, pins.

B. Constitution Day **(Expenses not to exceed $150.00 from Account #8090) –** Requestor: Jasmine Lopez and Gabriela Ledezma – Monies are being requested as reimbursement for the purchase of a constitution birthday cake, prizes for a trivial pursuit, and other decorations, goodies or activities for the event. Motion (Ledezma/Preciado) to amend amount to $96.50 (8/0/0); Amendment passes.

C. Balloons for ASB/ICC Events **(Expenses not to exceed $80.00 from Account #8140) –** Move (Almaraz/Preciado) to Postpone Indefinitely (8/0/0); Passes.

D. The One Less Victim Project Club Constitution and Bylaws – Requestor: Ana Lee – Move (Preciado/Almaraz) to Approve. Discussion – Vice President Preciado stated that the club will set up workshops with the aim of informing and promoting awareness. (9/0/0); Passes.

E. Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Constitution and Bylaws – Requestor: Wayne Thai – Move (Almaraz/Preciado) to Approve. Discussion – Helps business students and anyone else who wants to develop leadership skills. Offers help with networking, interview skills, and resume writing. Encourages community service. PBL is a nationwide organization.

- Senator Zepeda asked for clarification on the national and state dues under Article III Section 1 in the constitution.
  - $10 in state dues and $10 in national: $20 total to become a member. Deadline is October 21st.
- Senator Almaraz asked what the goals of the club for the year are and how they intend to achieve them.

        - PBL will set up workshops to help with networking. Guest speakers in various areas of expertise will be hosted. Club members will brainstorm ideas for community service opportunities.
    - Senator Guerrero asked how the 20 participation points requirement can be satisfied.
        - Vice President of the club has a complete list. For example, dressing professionally to club meetings, attending meetings and fundraising hours.

Approval (9/0/0); Passes.

F. Shout: The Student Advocacy Club Constitution and Bylaws – Requestor: Phillip Lien – Move (Preciado/Almaraz) to Approve. Discussion – Aim is to empower students with truthful information and give students an opportunity to speak out. Hoping to set up booths with surveys to be filled out by students to gauge feelings on campus.
    - Senator Padilla asked what kind of issues the club plans to pursue.
        - Have not set up booth to determine this yet. Cannot speak on behalf of everyone else but noticed in the ASB meeting minutes a scolding of the ASB President and Vice President for speaking out at a Board of Trustees meeting. Also asking Student Trustee to represent students on the Board of Trustees. May also advocate for ASB resolutions 002, 003, and 004. Club members will ultimately decide what issues to take on.
    - Senator Almaraz asked how the club would approach decisions made by ASB or the Student Trustee that the club members do not support.
        - Inform students. Can speak with the individual about the issue. Group may also move to impeach (Senator Almaraz asked how the club can ensure that the information is factual and not biased). Information will inevitably have a bias for the students' voice but will still be truthful. Have dedicated committees to conduct research to release substantiated and factual information.
            a. Dr. Dyrell Foster (Dean, Student Affairs) stressed that specific questions should be avoided and focus should instead be placed on the constitution and purpose of the organization.
    - Vice President Preciado added that the club will also advocate for off-campus issues, such as March in March.
        - Senator Ledezma suggested adding this aspect to the constitution of the club.
    - Senator Zepeda pointed out that the club may serve as a partner to ASB.

- Senator Ledezma expressed concern that certain issues may go out of control and students may be put in some sort of danger.
    - The club is not about violence or creating disruption for students. Clarified to members on the site to communicate without name calling. Club has not met and such posts made on the page do not reflect the stance of the club as a group. ASB is voting on the idea of the club not Facebook pages. Regrets having a student feel unsafe. Such posts were removed. Wants a voice that is heard and respected.
- Senator Reyes pointed out that Article II Section 1 of the Constitution refers to being a nonunion organization yet the Facebook page has comments from union members, though this is out of club's control. Added that the club looks great on paper. Asked if issues will be dealt with in an orderly manner or incite or call for something to be overthrown.
    - Any decision will be researched and substantiated. No claims will be made up. Union issue has been confronted. Will not be allowing professors or union members to post on the page; however, it is their right to see posts. Not sticking up for union but for professors whose employment may be threatened.
        a. Senator Reyes does not see professors' work environment as a student concern. It is between professors and administration. Different story if professors want students to help them but students should not get involved because the school pays professors with more than student fees alone. Hopes the club will stick to the Preamble.
        b. Senator Almaraz added that helping professors, staff or classified gets into a union issue. Students are not allowed in those situations due to chance for litigation. The club will find itself in a sticky area if it gets involved in that (Phillip Lien stated that the club will not do that). Appreciated editing of the comments on the page. Takes issue with posts that can be considered fist-pump-moments in reference to discussions on the ASB page.
- President Galindo stressed that the discussion concerns the club Constitution and By-laws and not previous or future happenings. Future happenings can be addressed when they occur.
- Advisor Lopez stressed that the ASB should not make assumptions that the issues have not been addressed. Every club knows that if something should happen they will be addressed at that point. Approved clubs agree to abide by Student Activity, ASB and ICC policies. Conversation can move forward provided something different is brought up.

- Senator Ledezma asked how many students should come forward with an issue before the club considers action.
    - There are approximately 60 students on the club roster. The issue is achieving consensus. Would like to implement the booth immediately if allowed. It is up to the club to decide to represent groups of students. No meeting has been held, so cannot assure this.
- Senator Villanueva expressed that the purpose of the club (representing and being a voice for students) is similar to what ASB and its priorities can be.
    - Phillip Lien asks if ASB is doing what the club intends to do, such as asking students what they feel. Does not see much discussion from student population, senators and senate candidates about those issues. Would love to see senators do this as well. Asks why there should not be a club that wants to take on issues and resolve them.
- Vice President Preciado stated that one of the ASB goals for the year is to advocate for students. Also added that the club gives opportunity for non-ASB students to advocate.
- Senator Zepeda stated that ASB should represent students. In one week, noted several things students needed help with. Cited evacuation of disabled students (Ruled out of order).
- Senator Reyes asks if the club would like to work closely with the ASB
    - Constitution mentions shared governance among faculty, staff and students. Though still a separate entity, would like to work with and have the support of ASB. Stressed that there will not always be agreement on all issues but will still move forward as a club to represent students in some way.
        a. Dr. Foster pointed out that it is through ASB that students—and clubs—are represented in the shared governance process.
- Senator Ledezma asked for clarification on the limits of who can be in the club
    - No limit. Meetings will be held at the lower quad to allow for open discussion.
- Senator Almaraz asked who the faculty advisor would be.
    - Currently, Mike Javanmard (Economics Professor).
- Senator Reyes asked if non-ASB students can be appointed to committees and if the club can have members serve on committees.
    - President Galindo confirmed this possibility.
- Senator Almaraz pointed out that the ASB President and Vice President would be members of the club and asked if membership in an advocacy group and ASB constituted an issue.

- Advisor Lopez pointed out that many Senators and Executive Board members are part of different clubs. Does not want issues to overshadow the club. ASB has the right to speak to representatives of the club about hesitations. Should not point out who are members but focus on the Constitution and vote accordingly.

Approval (4/5/1); Does not pass.

G. Rio Hondo Forensics Club Constitution and Bylaws – Requestor: Horacio Ruiz – Motion (Ledezma/Cruz) to Approve. Discussion – Senator Ledezma stated the club does not have a set meeting schedule. Trying to get more students involved. Wants to help students who are interested in speech and debate. She can answer some questions.
    - Senator Almaraz asked what will be the club's goals and activities for the year.
        - It helps students open up to public speaking and achieve growth.
    - Senator Ledezma pointed out that club membership is based on payment of the college services fee, enrollment in credit classes, minimum 2.0 GPA and not being on any kind of probation. Must be in the class to be on the Speech and Debate Team.
    - Senator Padilla asked who the advisor is.
        - President Galindo said the advisor is Libby Curiel (Director of Forensics/Forensics Coordinator).
    - Senator Almaraz asked if students must be enrolled in a speech class to be in the club, citing Article II Section 2.
        - Treasurer Leon pointed out Article II Section 5 regarding honorary membership with no voting rights for individuals not on the team.

Move (Padillo/Reyes) to table (10/0/0); Passes.

H. Catholic Newman Club – Requestor: Jose Espinoza – Move (Zepeda/Leon) to Approve reinstatement. Discussion – Jose Espinoza encourages the ASB to reinstate the club. Organization dates back to the 1800's. Named after John Henry Newman. Purpose is to serve students by supporting and encouraging them to practice their faith on campus. Does not discriminate on race, religion or gender. Anyone is welcome, even if one is Atheist and not a practicing Christian or Catholic. Open to dialogue and conversations. Went inactive due to lack of membership and motivation among students.
    - Senator Padilla asked what activities take place in club meetings.
        - Senator Zepeda said that there are forum-like discussions on theological themes where people share and express their personal beliefs.

Move to reinstate (8/0/0); Passes.

I. Budget Approval for the Year 2011-2012 – Tabled.

X. Committee Reports – 3 minutes maximum

A. Recycling Program – President Galindo reported that the committee has not met and thus has no report.
B. Communication – No Report.
C. Constitution and By-laws Review – President Galindo reported that it will likely meet next week.
D. Drop for Non Payment – No Report.
E. Leo Foundation – President Galindo reported that he has been talking to the Foundation to set up an account. Senator Zepeda is still expecting a letter notifying him if he was or was not approved for the installment plan.
F. Elections – Senator Cruz reported that the candidate meeting and forum were held last week. 29 candidates running, 10 spoke at the forum. Committee meeting today after ASB Meeting. Committee consists of Mario A. Cruz, Kathelenee Reyes, Eric Leon, Prudencio Merino, and a vacant slot. Senator Reyes reported the planning of another candidate forum. Senator Ledezma asked if one had to be in the committee to count votes (No, but cannot count votes if helping a candidate). Dr. Foster asked how many Senator positions are open (Nine).

XI. Announcements

- Daisy Villanueva – Clothing exchange committee met with Troy last week. Valeria and Lisa signed up as Co-chairs. Meeting today at 3 p.m. Senator Reyes announced the possibility of Target donating money for this event given a Tax ID number and a letter. Senator Villanueva also announced the possibility of her aunt donating clothes for this event or supplies for the Child Development Center given a Tax ID number.
- Christopher Almaraz – Suggests having the new Senators volunteer at the Dia De Los Muertos event as a team-building excellent.
- Kathelenee Reyes – Julianna Ojeda would like to be on the Elections committee. Advisor Lopez asked that the person has not already openly endorsed a candidate. Julianna Ojeda was confirmed as 5th member of the Elections committee.

XII. Adjournment – Move (Leon/Reyes) to Adjourn meeting at 1:59.