

Civic Participation Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2005

ATTENDEES

Janine Adkins
Susan Carlson
Albert Celozza
Paul Dale
Brian Dille
Chad Douwstra
Cynthia Dunham
Kona Fitzgerald
Robert Flores

Charlie Freer
Michael Greene
Steve Helfgot
Maria Hesse
Brandy Howard
Herschel Jackson
Sandy Kaszeta
Chris Mims
Noel Morelos
Alberto Olivas

John Oyler
Jorge Rodriguez
Bernie Ronan
Linda Rosenthal
Melanie Starns
Linda Thor
Paula Vaughn
Lindsey VerStraeten
Julie Wechsler

Welcome & Introductions

Linda Rosenthal and Steve Helfgot began the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the group. Review of the minutes of the last meeting and they were accepted.

Great Moments in Democracy – Constitution Day Albert Celozza

There were remarks on how “Constitution Day” was created as a law. This year is the first year of Constitution Day. There were many suggestions on how to celebrate the event. The law is vague on what events can occur. The District colleges had many responses to the event. Phoenix College had a quiz and an essay contest. The quiz was given to the group.

AZ Civic Leadership Initiative Melanie Starns Governor’s Office on Aging

An introduction of the history of the initiative was stated. The Governor saw a need to gather information on the aging of the State’s offices and departments to be able to handle the needs of aging in State government. The Center for Civic Participation assisted in the creation, material gathering and moderating of forums throughout the state. The forum sizes ranged from 10-50 participants. Community leaders were invited to attend. CCP organized the post forum information collating that was given to the Governor. In November, the next phase of the program will be approximately 3 forums aimed at the “mature workers”. CCP will moderate those forums also. The budding relationship between the State’s community colleges and the Governor’s office has helped the Governor understand the community colleges better.

High School Reform Susan Carlson ABEC

High school reform will be a continuing conversation in the state. The Governor is very interested in this topic – P-20 issues. The ABEC forums were described. The community

needs to be partners with and involved in all school reform activities. The CCP developed the process of discovering the public's needs for school reform. Reports were gathered from eleven communities for the process. A main question was "Who needs to be in the room to discuss high school reform?" Possibilities for other forums are targeting high school students, Latinos and other populations.

Maricopa Americorps: A Proposal Paula Vaughn

The history of Americorps programs in colleges was discussed. Several focus areas of the program were talked about including Governor Napolitano's need and priorities. A sampling of an Americorps daily tasks were reviewed. A question put to the group was how they saw future Americorps placements being used in the District. The Americorps placement is for 32-36 hours a week. They are given a living allowance, health insurance and need site supervision, office space, etc. Please contact Paula Vaughn if you are interested in an Americorps placement. MCC members voiced concern that the new Americorps placements might negatively impact the placements already in place.

SPPF Chad Douwstra

This year, Kelly Loucy and Chad Douwstra are the Director's of the SPPF program. This year's group will be chosen by the end of this week. Greg Stanton will speak to the new SPPF'rs on what the local political field looks like. For the tour of the State Capitol, the guest speakers will be Leah Landrum Taylor and Laura Knaperek. Albert Celozza and Brian Dille are working on additional activities for this year.

Voter Outreach Alberto Olivas

More concrete information on voter guidelines was discussed. Please dispose of all white voter registration forms. They are outdated. The new ones are yellow. All forms needed can be found on the Center for Civic Participation website – www.maricopa.edu/civic. We will have new trainings on voter registration in partnership with County Elections department. All colleges were asked to email Alberto Olivas any information on future civic activities which will be added to the CCP website. New registration forms were discussed that have information on citizenship requirements for voting. It was noted that Senator Baker and President Carter are working on voter reform. Students are being recruited to work at the polls in all elections.

Maricopa Learns Through Service Julie Weschler

This is a new program in response to Dr. Glasper's belief that we need service as a part of the college experience. Many programs around the country were reviewed and researched. The best idea was to have employees do service work in the community up to six hours. Currently, fifteen people are committed to the program. Several programs throughout the county are participating as service organizations that college staff can serve in. The employee must be board approved. They must research and select the agency for their participation. There is an assessment at the end of the period of service. Employees can volunteer 1 ½ hours a week or up to six hours a month. The chosen agency for service should be within 30 minutes of the employee's home.

Community Partners Updates

League of Women Voters

Handouts were distributed. There is a monthly program titled “Let’s Talk America”. The first program is on October 26. There is no designated speaker. It is all discussion with a facilitator. All are invited to these discussions that are on the last Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Leadership Centre

Flyers will be sent to Charlie for email distribution. Last week, the first class in the new leadership series, was very successful. There were more than expected participants from all over the county. On October 20, the Centre will hold a Valley HOA summit titled “Rentals in the Community”.

AZ Secretary of State

There is a new project with the Motor Vehicles Department that provides a one-stop for voter registration. There is a new Voter registration form available in December/January to register out of state people. To find out what is acceptable ID at the polls, go to www.azsos.gov for a list. A new form “New Registration Requirements” was distributed.

Institute of Cultural Affairs

Handouts were distributed. ICA now has a woman as its Chief Executive Officer. She lived in Russia for years. An item discussed was how youth that have participated in ICA training are using their training currently. ICA is talking with the Kellogg Foundation to develop a national faculty of youth in their twenties. ICA is looking for partner organizations to work with.

Make A Difference

Make A Difference now has more information on their website. On October 26, the Fifth Annual leadership forum will take place at the Hyatt downtown. The cost is \$100 a day or \$55 for the lunch program. Principal Day is November 14-18.

Campus Updates

Mesa CC

Faculty contributions are being received for victims of Katrina. Student Government is assisting children in Iraq.

Chandler – Gilbert CC

Katrina evacuees were adopted. Collection jars are all over campus with off-campus match for the funds collected. A blood drive was held. COM 230 classes held a donation drive. The athletic department held a charity basketball game. There will be a Supreme Court Justice event in the fall semester. Another “Into The Streets” program was held. 490 students participated in a Rock & Roll paint-a-thon. On November 4th an event was held to benefit the Paz de Cristo shelter.

Estrella Mountain CC

The campus supported Katrina victims. Students went into the community to raise money and household items for the evacuees living in the Estrella community. They collected twenty shopping carts full of goods.

Phoenix College

The campus did SPPF recruitment. They also held a Model UN conference. Another conference on "Ethics – an International and Global perspective. Students also took a tour of the AZ capitol.

Rio Salado

Constitution Day materials are offered on the Rio website. The Phi Theta Kappa society on campus has a vested interest in service learning. This is one of the best chapters in the country and raises funds for the Cancer Society. Students drive cancer patients to doctor's appointments. \$16,200 was raised for Katrina victims. The college is collecting gently used blankets for 169 dogs from New Orleans. On October 24th, a blood drive will take place. The Sloan Foundation is offering free courses at Rio.

Gateway

Campus organized a party with ASU for an Easter Egg Hunt for kids, baskets and donations were accepted. To benefit Katrina victims, \$1500 was raised for the Salvation Army. A toiletry drive for evacuees was also held. SPPF elections were held. A holiday food drive is beginning. On October 22, a Rock & Roll paint-a-thon will happen for 102 elderly families.

Paradise Valley

Katrina efforts include a benefit concert with ten artists and donations taken. The PVCC club adopted a classroom in a grade school in New Orleans. MAD members volunteered at the college.

Scottsdale

There are nine students from Louisiana enrolled at the college. There are many efforts to aid the victims in New Orleans, including selling pictures of New Orleans and donating the money to the Red Cross. On October 5, there will be a Volunteer Fair with 40 agencies represented. Make A Difference Day is October 21-22. Students will be going to Sunshine Acres and painting the cottages. On September 14, a blood drive was held and 35 pints of blood were taken.

Director's Update

On November 4, 2005, moderator training will be held at a District College. The Center interacted with PC, MCC, CGCC to target kids for elections. We chose not to pursue it at this time since most elections are bond elections. A curriculum is being developed. The CCP website is now up and full of great information including voter registration info. The next AZ Issues forum will be on Culture and the Arts and the Economy. The Center is partnering with the Center for Global Tolerance and Engagement on "How do we Restore the Trust?".

Plus / Delta

- + - Katrina efforts
- we need a smaller set up next time

Next meeting on February 13, 2006 . Location TBA.