

Civic Participation Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2006

ATTENDEES

Janine Adkins

Albert Celozza

Paul Dale

Janet Denson

Brian Dille

Cynthia Dunham

Kona Fitzgerald

Charlie Freer

Page Gonzalez

Steve Helfgot

Sandy Kaszeta

Jose Mendoza

Christopher Mims

Noel Morelos

Alberto Olivas

Matt Ortega

John Oyler

Kristi Passarelli

Tammy Patrick

Jorge Rodriguez

Linda Rosenthal

Jeffrey Shrade

Greg Stanton

Linda Thor

Paula Vaughn

Welcome & Introductions

Linda Rosenthal and Steve Helfgot began the meeting with a welcome and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the group. Minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Great Moments in Democracy – Immigration Marches in Phx **Group Discussion**

Students are not seen as knowledgeable but are actually very conversant on the topic. The AZ Legislature is considering Bill 131. The effects of this bill would make all voting registrars into pseudo immigration officers. Now the bill is being held in the rules committee. One CPAG member was in the march. There were many Native Americans and Anglos in the march also. Most marchers didn't seem to have specific motives. It was more of a unity issue declaring "We Exist!!". No specific change was marched for.

Question – was there voter registration at the march?

Answer – many people were collecting registration forms but very few were given to the County elections office.

Many marchers hoped that the Dream Act would be highlighted in news stories. It was good to see people peacefully demonstrating. It was surprising to see all the negative comments in the AZ republic. The demonstration didn't seem to change anybody's mind one way or the other. There doesn't seem to be any easy solution.

AZ Town Hall

Paul Dale

There was a discussion of the student's reaction to attending the Town Hall. The formalized structure of District staff involvement was discussed. There is a revolving college staff responsibility now in place. SCC switched places with SMCC for the upcoming Town Hall.

AZ Issues

Greg Stanton

Discussed the possible ballots for the upcoming election. One and maybe two of the forums will focus on ballots and their effect on the state. The CPAG membership was then asked to vote on which ballots they would like to see covered at the forums. Each

member was asked to vote for 2 of the ballots offered and the top two will be considered as topics for next year's forums before the elections.

SPPF

Chad Douwstra

Next year's SPPF program was discussed. SPPF is in contention for a National Council Award. SPPF is invited to present the program at a conference and will compete with the best programs in the country.

Maricopa Civic Academy

Alberto Olivas Matt Ortega

This program is to be a union of the Center for Civic Participation and the District's Government Affairs office. The academy has three themes:

- basic voting and election skills to involve people in the democratic process
- issue deliberation with key officials
- citizen advocacy and lobbying

Activities will be designed for each campus. This is not designed as a District event. This program is considered a pathway to get students and staff more involved. We want to channel citizen support. An event will be created for each of the three themes. Issues need to be interesting to students at the colleges. The Center will assist in contacting officials.

Voter Outreach

Several forums have been held in Mesa on its financial issues and they have been very successful. There was good press and PR on the discussions. Information concerning early balloting will be sent to all CPAG members for their distribution.

Community Partners Updates

Leadership Centre

The Centre will be holding a class on HOA's and vendors. On May 20, there will be a Neighborhoods AZ Conference. The conference is to deal with neighborhood issues.

League of Women Voters

Several women's groups are involved in the First Running and Winning workshop. The workshop is designed to give opportunities to teach women about the political process. By September, the LWV will have its Pro's and Con's booklet ready for the upcoming election.

Institute of Cultural Affairs

ICA is in the second year of a 4 year Positive Youth project in the Murphy District in Phoenix. 31 events are held each month somewhere in the Murphy District. On May 5 from 4-8 p.m. a Sharing Rally will be held in the District. The spotlight of the event is to assist in the neighborhood.

AZ Foundation for Legal Services

A handout on the article by O'Connor / Rower "Not By Math Alone". The article is on the importance of integrating civic involvement in schools. CPAG members were asked if anyone would like to have a seat on the committee involved with the project.

Maricopa County Elections Department

The Department is working with the District Government Affairs office on an internship with County Elections. The Department will send information on the internship position. The person selected will do outreach, be a board worker and office work. A bilingual person is desirable. There is another position with the ADA working with blind people on reading.

Having to show ID at the polls went well. Only 40,000 of possible 800,000 were at the polls. At one polling place only 84 of 500 voters didn't know of the new ID rules. 177 had no ID. 115 were not processed. 86% of those denied did not return with proper ID. In the Presidential election, that percentage would be about 5000 not processed. 80% of the elderly asked to come back with proper ID did not return.

Campus Updates

Mesa CC

Student government projects are focused on getting the community to come to campus. Service learning totals for Americorps – 441 participants with 141,000 hours of service from 2002-2005. Service learning had 985 students with 39000 hours of service. In class

Chandler – Gilbert CC

This year's hunger banquet and Generations Prom had their largest attendance ever. The campus will be hosting Citizen Clean Elections debates for the upcoming election.

Gateway CC

The campus held an Easter Egg hunt for a local elementary school. The event was good for the faculty and staff to interact with local community. The Blood Mobile will be on campus next week. Students made food baskets for St. Mary's Food Bank. The campus Inter-Tribal club became part of the Adopt a Highway Program. Campus students also worked the foodline at St. Vincent DePaul's.

Glendale CC

The selection of the President of GCC has been the most important event on campus. There will be several community forums regarding the selections for the position. There will be a campus leadership retreat next month. Estrella Mountain CC and Glendale are collaborating on several issues facing both colleges – PR, image, etc.

Paradise Valley CC

The campus had 200 people attend an "Into the Streets" program before Spring Break. The event created 1600 hours of volunteer work. PV was involved in the Relay for Life event as the only District college to participate. They raised \$2500.00 in the event.

Phoenix College

Recently, the student body held it's annual student elections. A public policy forum was also held on campus.

Rio Salado College

The Rio Women's Leadership group was involved in a Walk to End Domestic Violence along with several related activities. The Life Long Learning Center on April 11, will be involved with the program "Listen Up" on KJZZ and KBAQ.

A Wellness Fair was held with 30 vendor's including a Farmer's market and Blood services. Rio was involved in a Heart Walk and raised over \$5000.00

Scottsdale CC

The President of PVCC met with students from PVCC and SCC. In the *Many Faces of Hate* film series on April 27, the film "Coffee Colored Children" will be shown. Spring Fling will be on April 26th this year.

South Mountain CC

The Food Donation program has grown greatly. The campus also held and "Into the Streets" program. The Voter registration program is ongoing.

Plus

Presentations to the point and economical
Good business sense

Delta

Next meeting on September 18, 2006 in the District Boardroom.