

SUFAC
Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2012

I. Call to Order

SUFAC Chair Matt Balson called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

II. Roll Call

- a. **Members Present:** Matt Balson, Kimberly Dawson, John Landrum, SGA Exec., Shawn Brown, Joshua Shope, Kyle Zellner, Megan Simson, Jeff Huebner, Trevor Fuller, Jack Mellberg, Megan Leonard, Brianna Mollberg.

III. Recognition of Guests: Kristi Villers-Phoenix Students for Life, Laura Wire-Phoenix Students for Life.

IV. Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Matt entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Kyle motioned. Jeff seconded. Megan called the question. Shawn acclimated.

V. Reports

- a. **OFO:** None.
- b. **Senate:** Megan said she is the new speaker, Rebecca has resigned.
- c. **SGA Exec:** I have no Vice-President or Union and Dining Chair yet. We will reallocate for the ice rink and RHAA will help to subsidize some of the money and we will pay the rest.
- d. **Vice Chair:** Thank you for coming to this meeting on such short notice. Welcome to the last meeting of the semester
- e. **Chair:** As of midnight tonight, Kim will become the new Chair and Shawn will be the new Vice Chair. Thank you everyone for being a part of SUFAC this year.

VI. Discussion Items:

- a. Phoenix Students for Life Travel Request
I want to thank everyone for being here and making time to come during finals week. Phoenix Students for Life would like to travel to Washington D.C. for the March for Life for the purpose of achieving a portion of our mission statement as a student organization to make "...abortion and destruction of human embryos socially, ethically, and legally unacceptable solutions to human problems..." How will this trip help us to complete our mission? The tragic event of Roe v. Wade in 1973 triggered the legalization of abortion within the United States. In reaction to the legalization of abortion, the first March for Life began in Washington D.C. on January 22nd, 1974. On that day, 20,000 committed pro-life Americans rallied on the West Steps of the Capitol on behalf of our pre-born brothers and sisters. Since then, the number of participants has grown. Last year,

500,000 Americans took a stand for life by participating in the March, and the pro-life group at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (Phoenix Students for Life) would like to increase that attendance number by sending their pro-life members in an effort to make "...abortion and destruction of human embryos socially, ethically, and legally unacceptable solutions to human problems..." as stated in our mission statement. The anniversary of Roe v. Wade is the whole reason for why our student organization exists. It is essential for our student organization to attend the March for Life as it provides a snapshot of history explaining why we as pro-lifers exist, and creates a window into the future of what the pro-life movement will be. In addition to the March for Life, we also plan to attend the Students for Life of America's National Conference. This our second purpose for attending. This all-day conference allows us to meet with college groups just like us from across the entire nation. Here we will complete another part of our mission, "Phoenix for Life hopes to educate and promote positive alternatives to each of these acts" (euthanasia, infanticide, abortion and destruction of human embryos) "as well as help those women or families in need in the Green Bay and surrounding areas." This conference will teach us how to educate and engage students as well as teach us how to promote alternative choices to help women and families in need. Nationally known speakers and pro-life activists will inspire us to complete our mission as a student organization. Attending the Holocaust Museum will engrain our theme as a pro-life group in the importance of respecting all life (every man, woman, child, of all races, religions, genders, and ethnicities) from conception to natural death. It is absolutely, and completely essential that we make it to Washington D.C. so that our student organization can work towards completing our mission in the most obvious way possible, by going to the grassroots of where it is the pro-life movement began and fulfilling out duties in attempting to overturn Roe v. Wade with other pro-life citizens from across the country. This year's March will be especially moving, for the human rights activist, Nelly Gray, the women who began the March in 1974, passed away this past year. She's the role model all of our members look up to, and special memorials will be held in remembrance of her legacy there at the March. Please allow us to fulfill our student organization's mission by funding the flights of our members to Washington D.C. it is essential in completing our organization's goals.

I am going to go into some of the more specific points. The Students for Life of America's Conference is made for us to network and find potential jobs and internships in the pro-life movement. It's to educate us on the pro-life movement with information sessions and speakers. And it is to become educated on recent national pro-life movement activity at the federal level and to understand the different pro-life issues from state to state and how to use our knowledge of the national pro-life movement to create awareness on campus. The difference between this conference and the Wisconsin Right to Life College Training Seminar is that the training

seminar is more collaborative and it's brainstorming. It is just for the students so we can collaborate and brainstorm as to what other organizations have done on campus and what we do on campus. The large difference between these two conferences is that at the Wisconsin Right to Life Training Seminar we talk to each other and educate each other on the pro-life movement. It is more interactive. At the Student for Life of America's Conference they teach us and we listen. They are the employers and the people who are leading us so we learn from them. The Wisconsin Right to Life Training Seminar is also based on state information. The other conference is based on national information, so there is a large difference. The information that we will learn at the Students for Life of America's Conference cannot be found online. Many of these things are not exposed in the media or in any classes that we take. It is not popular and people feel that this type of culture does not need to be known. It is important that we get the information straight from the activists themselves and we won't get this opportunity to meet these activists anywhere else. This type of national job networking also can't be done anywhere else. This kind of work is specialized toward national wide employers. The March for Life also cannot be done anywhere else. This trip is about finding our roots as a pro-life group.

We will be visiting the Holocaust Museum to understand where in history there has been tragic disrespect for life. Within the museum students will be asked to write down and look for any connections they see between the Holocaust and the holocaust of the unborn. Next students will be asked to view the monuments and the White House and journal the history they found and how the legislation of the time led us to where we are in the pro-life movement today. This whole trip is research based and for growing the student's knowledge. Next we will visit the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the Cathedral of St. Matthew to observe how religious institutions have impacted the pro-life movement today and throughout history, especially in the Washington D.C. area. There is a big difference between the pro-life movement here and the pro-life movement in D.C. The March for Life has affected them in gratuitous amounts and we need to learn from the people in the area. The students who go to the March for Life exhibit will document how the annual March has impacted the Washington D.C. area as well as the nation. There students will learn about the history of the March, who started the March, and how the March impacted citizens of the U.S. Students will be responsible for interviewing select individuals that I choose from Washington D.C. and asking them how the march has impacted their lives. Students will submit their final collection of information from visitations, conferences, exhibits, the museum, and interviews and will describe what their ideal museum will be for the unborn and what that museum will look like based on the information they have found. The whole trip is researched based so they can come up with their ideal museum.

To try and save money we have done fundraisers like candy bar sales, showing movies on campus, we applied for grants and sent letters to like-minded organizations. We have come up with enough money for the conference and to cover our travel to research destinations in Washington D. C. and we have collaborated with a local church that will provide housing during our stay. Each and every member has worked very hard to fundraise their portion of the trip but we need a little help to get the plane tickets and that is why we are here. Even with all of the work we have done we are running just a little short, we are not asking for much. The total expense for the plane tickets will be \$2,688, so the SUFAC portion will be \$1,792 and we will provide \$896. Without this money some of our members might not be able to go because we would only be able to afford a train or bus and some of our members can't do that because they will get car sick. Taking a bus or train will be a 24 to 29 hour ride. They can't be sick for that long and I won't allow them to endure that even if they wanted to. It would be very sad to see them go through that and we are already staying at a church so they are giving that up. I am asking that you please help us out with these plane tickets so we can get there and get our research done and have a better understanding of what it going on in our nation.

Questions: Kyle asked how many days this trip will span. Four days, it starts January 23rd and we come back on the 27th. Jack asked if they advertised for the trip to the outside campus community in any way since they have 7 members going. We talked about the trip at Org Smorg and invited anyone to come through tabling but only the 7 were interested. Heba asked if the conference could be found online. We cannot find the information that is at the conference online the only way we can get it is to go to the conference. We cannot possibly find the information that we will learn there through any research that we do online. Kim said they were approved to go on 2 trips this year, so what is the difference between this one and other the trips? The training seminar is collaborative, we meet with students and brainstorm and we educate each other. The conference in D.C. is where they teach us. Employers and national activists are there. We can't research at the training seminar in Wisconsin. It will only help us brainstorm for little events held on campus. It is about how we can use the knowledge that we have to better educate students. The one in D.C. is about gaining more knowledge and being able to better teach students. Kim asked if the other two conferences have professional people. The other trip we are taking in Wisconsin is strictly legislative; it is about what is going on in legislation at the state level. Katie asked if the money left in travel in the budget is used for the legislative trip. Yes. Heba asked about the grant they received. We applied for an activism grant with the Leadership institute. They helped pay for the license of the movies we showed so that the money we did have coming in was pure profit. Heba asked if they are a national group. Yes. Shawn asked if there is anything like this conference or March that is closer. No. There is no way we can research Washington D.C. or the pro-life movement without actually going there. Kim said I know you said you are

researching, but I think that we are paying for you to go sightseeing. I don't see how that is essential and how SUFAC should fund that, so can you justify that? We are not only visiting but documenting and talking to people around. It is just a part of the research. Going to see the monuments and documenting what they see there, along with outside research is important. Matt asked if 7 students are for sure going. Yes. Heba said you will be choosing people for the students to interview, what was that about? It will be asking people how the March for Life has impacted them. It will be used for tabling and educating students. You won't see the March for Life on the news but everyone in Washington D.C. is impacted by it. Trevor asked if they could you give a timeline of the events. Our plane will arrive on 23rd and we will use this day to get set-up, depending on what time the plane arrives. We will get to know the people we are staying with and ask them how the March for Life has impacted them. On the 24th we will do a lot of research. We will go to the Holocaust Museum and different monuments and do more interviews. We will be going to the White House on that day. We will also ask questions while on these tours. The 25th is day of the march. We have rallies during the day, we have the actual march and the exhibit is going on. That is also when we will see the St. Matthew Cathedral. We will observe what they have done as a religious institution to keep people involved in the movement. Friday, the 26th, is the all day conference. It will go from 9am-9pm and we will be learning and trying to network. Saturday, the 27th, is when we will come home. Kim said Washington D.C. is outside Midwest and farther away than any trip we allowed this year, except one. Are there protests going on in Wisconsin? I don't see how the law is not just as in effect here as it is in D.C. I think you would have to understand the culture of the movement to really know that for sure. There are no protests in Wisconsin, the only March for Life movement is in Washington D.C. Everyone from the nation flocks to one spot and you can't find that anywhere else. You can't get that conference anywhere else because you will not be able to meet these people or network like we can at this conference. It will help us to understand what is going on at a national level versus a state level. It is important for us to go to our grassroots and understand where we came from to help us better educate students. Many times we have been accused of not knowing what is going on and we want students to understand who we are and appreciate our culture. Heba asked them to talk about other events on campus that their org does. We did a baby shower and we donated items to local moms in need. We are working with Unchained to help gain respect for women and to spread awareness about sex trafficking. We had Women's Health Day where we educated people about women's health and what the pro-life movement has done for women's health. We met with Dr. Martin Luther King's niece, which was very cool. We have shown movies and we prayed outside local abortion clinic. We made Christmas cards for the elderly to help support and show respect for all ages of life. Jeff asked why this wasn't in the budget for the current year if it is so essential and he asked why it is being brought to us now. We want to do this every other year. We will research this year then educate students next year. We don't want to spend all of our time fundraising. We are a new organization and I just started running this last year. I wasn't able to bring this to anyone's attention

because I wasn't in the group. Heba asked them to explain more about what the research is. Yes, it is a lot of documenting and speaking with professionals and the actual activists themselves. Students can get to know the activists so we can better educate students about who these people are. Trevor asked if there is a march in California. Not that I know of. Its takes place in Washington D.C. because that is where Roe v. Wade was passed. The whole purpose of everyone going to Washington D.C. is to get the media's attention and let the media know that people care. This movement has rich history.

Matt entertained a motion to make this request an immediate action item. Kyle motioned. Shawn seconded. Megan called the question. Kim acclimated.

VII. Action Items

a. Phoenix Students for Life

Matt entertained a motion to approve the Phoenix Students for Life Travel Request for \$1,792. Jeff motioned. Kyle seconded. Shawn called the question.

Matt entertained a motion to enter committee of the whole for 10 minutes. Kyle motioned. Shawn seconded. Kim called the question. Megan acclimated.
Entered at 5:48 pm.

Board discussed Phoenix Students for Life Travel Request.

Shawn motioned to extend committee of the whole for 10 minutes. Kyle seconded. Jeff called the question. Kim acclimated.

Committee of the whole extended at 5:57 pm.

Shawn motioned to exit. Kim seconded. Shawn called the question. Megan acclimated.
Exited at 6:02pm.

Straw poll taken to reduce the cost to \$40 per person per day. Straw poll failed 4-5-1.

Trevor made a friendly to the motion to reduce the cost to \$40 per person per day. Jeff rejected the friendly.

Discussion: Brianna asked how many people had car sickness. Kim said we did not ask, so we don't know.

A guest in the room asked to be recognized. Matt asked if he was a student. He said no, he is an alumnus. Matt is no, he is will not recognize him.

Roll call vote. Failed 4-6-0.

VIII. Announcements: Kim said I want to thank Matt for all he has done for SUFAC. Good luck with graduation and remember us little people. I just want to remind everyone that D-day is February 16th and we have a meeting on Valentine's Day. Please make plans the week before or some other day. Matt said thank you everyone. It has been an awesome last semester for me. Have a fantastic rest of the school year and a great Christmas break. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

IX. Adjournment: Matt entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh motioned. Shawn seconded. Jeff called the question. Kim acclimated. Meeting adjourned at 6:09pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Lindsay Krapfl
SUFAC Administrative Assistant