

ASUW Student Senate Steering Committee
01-30-2006
Minutes

Respectfully Submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Alex Kim called the meeting to order at 3:36PM.

Alex Kim-present
Erin Shields-present
Travis McCoy-present
Travis Grandy – arrived late
Lee Dunbar-not present
Hala Dillsi – proxy Jon Lee
Jon Lee-present
Derek Hazen-present
Sam Al-Khoury-present
Cailin Magruder-present
Shawn Fisher-present
Jerome McCuin-present
Alvin Chen-present
Rene Singleton-not present

II. Approval of the Agenda

Derek Hazen moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. Passed without objection.

III. Chair's Report

Alex Kim said he hoped to talk to steering and the Senate officers about his statement to Senate. He said he wanted to make committees more efficient and to possibly form a new committee centered around taking action on Senate's resolutions.

He said Senate could take on additional lobbying power and expand its roll of activism on campus.

Derek Hazen said he didn't see it as an option, but a necessity. He said he wasn't sure how Senate had survived this long without it.

Alex Kim said it was the job of the Senate chair to enact legislation, but that such duties usually get pushed to the back with other Senate duties taking precedence. He said this would help Senate have a group of students dedicated to enacting legislation.

Sam Al-Khoury said he thought that different caucus bodies would be helpful taking such actions.

Alex Kim said he agreed and that he didn't envision a major overhaul of Senate, but a more informal change in structure.

IV. Officers' Reports

Erin Shields said Senate 101 would be starting tomorrow, including new senator orientations at 4:30.

She said instant runoff voting was discussed at the last board meeting. She said a significant amount of education would be necessary for the campus to inform students about how instant runoff voting works. She said a sample website would probably be made available for such a purpose.

She said a public forum with Lincoln Johnson would be held on February 7th regarding the HUB renovation. She said he would be asking opinions for how to expand the HUB.

Derek Hazen asked if UW's logo would be changed.

Jon Lee said the athletic department has a contract with Nike. He said the UW is bound to have that logo, but that the UWAA is switching its merchandise to a more classic design.

Travis McCoy noted that the online forum is online and had more than 20 users registered. He encouraged committee chairs to integrate the forum into their committee reports and activities.

Travis Grandy said committee appointments are ready for this week. He said he would be removing all of the senators who are in bad standing.

Jerome McCuin said he thought Dog Daze was a good chance for students to find out about Senate.

Erin Shields said peer advisors and Senate handouts in the past have informed new students about Senate, but that First Year Programs could certainly do more to promote ways to get involved on campus.

Sam Al-Khoury asked if the people being removed from Senate would be sent a notification.

Travis Grandy said he would be notifying them, and would give them a chance to reapply, but that they would be removed. He said commuters would be removed as their seats could be filled with other commuters.

Shawn Fisher said he thought a notification was necessary before removing them from Senate.

Derek Hazen asked how many extra seats were unfilled.

Travis Grandy said there were probably 40 open seats.

Sam Al-Khoury asked what the situation was with RHSA.

Travis Grandy said RHSA would never lose its seats, but that individual senators could be removed.

He noted that senators this quarter in bad standing have not attended any meetings this quarter. He said he could send out a warning email first if steering would prefer.

Sam Al-Khoury said he would prefer if notifications could be sent out before senators losing their seats immediately.

Erin Shields said senators should be informed of the ability to proxy and have excused absences.

Travis Grandy said he preferred proxies and not excused absences.

Jon Lee noted that excused absences were granted only at the will of the Membership Coordinator.

V. Legislative Referral

R-12-20 A Resolution in Opposition to the Denial of Financial Aid

Jon Lee moved to refer the legislation to General Affairs. Seconded. Objection.

The motion passed. The legislation was referred to General Affairs.

VI. Approval of Committee Appointments

Jon Lee moved to approve committee appointments. Seconded. Passed without objection.

VII. Election of Senate Steering Liaison to Spring Events Committee

Alex Kim said OHS, Greek Week, and Spring Fling conflicted last year.

He said steering was given a liaison to the committee that will be scheduling major events this year.

Sam Al-Khoury asked if the liaison would be a functioning member.

Alex Kim said it would be a functioning position.

Travis McCoy nominated Travis Grandy. He declined.

Cailin Magruder nominated herself.

Sam Al-Khoury nominated himself.

Caitlin Magruder said she attended the meetings last year planning Greek Week.

Sam Al-Khoury said he hoped to prevent the conflict between OHS and The Shins concert last year.

Jon Lee asked what the candidates would value more, lower prices or reserving money for additional events.

Sam Al-Khoury said he thought the most important idea was to give students a great event, even if its at the expense of a slightly higher ticket price.

Cailin Magruder said she thought quantity of events was more important than a single large event.

Cailin Magruder was elected to the position.

VIII. Approval of the Senate Agenda

Erin Shields moved to insert *Nominations and Elections for Liaisons* as the first item under *Orders of the Day*. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Alex Kim noted that STF needed R-12-10 passed by the end of tomorrow's meeting.

Travis McCoy moved to approve the agenda. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

IX. General Discussion

Travis Grandy said he was interested in doing a dating auction for Valentine's Day and wanted to know if steering would be interested in participating.

Alex Kim said he was cautious about doing such an event.

Shawn Fisher said he didn't think steering should be concerned about the political correctness of the event.

Erin Shields said she was hesitant regarding the amount of time necessary to put on such an event and the popularity of the event.

Alex Kim suggested returning to the proposal next week with a more concrete concept.

X. Approval of Minutes

Jon Lee moved to approve the minutes. Seconded. Passed without objection.

XI. Adjournment

Jon Lee moved to adjourn. Seconded. Passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27PM.