

ASUW Student Senate Steering Committee
04-17-2006
Minutes

Respectfully Submitted by Senate Secretary Travis McCoy

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Alex Kim called the meeting to order at 4:41 PM

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

II. Approval of the Agenda

Shawn Fisher moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. Passed without objection.

III. Chair's Report

Alex Kim had nothing to report.

IV. Officers' Reports

Erin Shields said the first ASUW 101 meeting with CORE and CEDA

She noted that Provost Wise has been unable to schedule a public forum with Senate, but encouraged senators to attend the public forum from 4-6 on Thursday.

Sam Al-Khoury asked if President Emmert was available to speak to Senate.

Erin Shields said she would ask to see if it would be possible to schedule a forum, but had concerns about time issues.

Travis McCoy said he had reworked the forum so that new registrants had to be approved by a forum administrator.

Travis Grandy had nothing new to report.

V. Legislative Referral

There was no new legislation to consider.

VI. Consideration of Organic Acts

OA-12-7 An Act Modifying Roll Call Procedure

Sam Al-Khoury noted that British spelling was used throughout the legislation. He moved to change “procedure” to “procedue”, “queue” to “line”, “organized” to “organzied”, and “matter” to “manner”. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Travis Grandy asked how the roll-call section currently read.

Erin Shields said it didn’t give any direction on specifically how to carry out the roll-call.

Sam Al-Khoury asked if the paragraph format flowed with the bylaw format.

Alex Kim said he thought it did.

Travis Grandy moved to amend the last sentence to read “...shall be recorded on a roster of present voting senators, and the record of votes shall not be release until the legislation has been decided upon. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Travis Grandy moved to change the first “that” clause to append the 4th subsection of Part D in the bylaws. *Seconded. Objection.*

Erin Shields said she felt the language could be made to flow better and might be redundant.

Alex Kim said he felt it wasn’t redundant and was fine as it stood.

The motion passed.

Travis Grandy moved to add the current language as a ‘whereas clause’. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

Travis Grandy moved to amend the agenda to consider OA-12-7 after OA-12-1. *Seconded. Passed without objection.*

OA-12-1 The Comprehensive Records Act

Travis Grandy moved to strike section B of the second 'that' clause. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Travis McCoy moved to combine section a) into the second 'that' clause, eliminating the bullet format. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Alex Kim asked if the review of two people from Steering presented any legal problems.

Lee Dunbar noted that there were varying levels of making records public. He said making it available on request would be an option that would take care of many of the current concerns.

Jerome McCuin said it could simply be made available in the office. He raised the issue of how consensus would be reached as to how best to make the minutes "accurate".

Alex Kim asked how the recordings could be used to amend and improve the minutes.

Sam Al-Khoury said he thought it would be unethical to remove the current minute procedure.

Travis Grandy moved to amend the second 'that' clause to read "The recordings will be made available upon request and will be archived by the ASUW." Seconded. Passed without objection.

Erin Shields noted that the format of the Organic Act is not necessarily germane with the format of the bylaws.

Alex Kim moved to amend the Organic Act to be placed in Article 3, Section 4, sub-section B, 1, ix, and read "Maintain digital voice recordings for all Senate sessions, and make them available on request." Seconded. Passed without objection.

Travis Grandy moved to amend the third 'that' clause to read "that article 7, section 2, sub-section E, 3 be added, which reads". Seconded. Passed without objection.

Erin Shields said she thought there wasn't necessarily a need for the committee clauses as the recording could just be played in Senate.

Sam Al-Khoury clarified that someone in Steering had to make the motion to reconsider minutes, and that a general senator could not.

Travis McCoy moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

An informal discussion took place on the pros and cons of the Organic Act. They are attached as an appendix at the end of these minutes.

Travis Grandy moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

OA-12-7 An Act Modifying Roll Call Procedure

Erin Shields moved to amend the resolution to make it germane with the bylaws. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Travis Grandy said he didn't like the specification of the line being in alphabetical order.

Travis McCoy moved to amend the OA to eliminate the requirement for alphabetical order. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Lee Dunbar moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

An informal discussion took place on the pros and cons of the Organic Act. They are attached as an appendix at the end of these minutes.

Shawn Fisher moved to close debate. Seconded. Passed without objection.

VII. Approval of Committee Appointments

Shawn Fisher moved to approve the committee appointments. Seconded. Passed without objection.

VIII. Approval of the Senate Agenda

Shawn Fisher moved to amend the agenda to place R-12-35, OA-12-5, R-12-29 at the top of New Business. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Erin Shields moved to place OA-12-7 and OA-12-1 as the second and third items under new business. Seconded. Passed without objection.

Jon Evans said that he and several other members in Senate would like to see items on second readings first, followed by items on first readings.

Alex Kim responded that he thought first readings should go before second readings because first readings were often brief and it ensured there were always pieces of legislation to be voted on.

Travis Grandy moved to approve the agenda as amended. *Seconded. Objection.*

The agenda was approved.

VIII. General Discussion

Lee Dunbar encouraged students to apply for newly created positions of Vice-Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

Shawn Fisher asked if the title of R-12-35 was changed in committee.

Sam Al-Khoury said it wasn't changed in committee.

Shawn Fisher mentioned that emails regarding the Pappy Boyington resolution could be responded to with a summary of what actions Senate has taken.

Mikhail Smirnoff said he understood Alex Kim's point regarding agendas, but that there were pieces of legislation considered before ones that had been submitted earlier.

Jon Evans said it might be possible to allow for a mix of first and second readings at the beginning of new business, and asked that Steering reconsider the way it organized agendas.

IX. Approval of the Minutes

The motion was made to approve the minutes. Seconded. Passed without objection.

X. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:06pm.

OA-12-1

Pros

Permanent/accurate recording of the meeting.

Helps settle disputes as to what was said during the meeting in a manner that minimizes the burden on Senate

Additional accountability to constituents.

Increases limited access to fixing minutes.

Equips Senate and BoD to respond to questions as to what happened during the meeting.

Makes it easier to settle disputes regarding accuracy of the minutes.

Cons

Use of recordings to alter minutes undermines legitimacy of minutes as official record of Senate meeting.

Removes finality of approved minutes.

Financial cost of equipment, maintenance, personnel time.

Logistical issues re: equipment setup, maintenance, recording debates.

Could be used by media outlets as a source of sound bytes.

Possible chilling effect on debate.

Disputes over minutes are rare

Procedure already exists for reconsidering of the minutes.

OA-12-7

Pros

Reduces intimidation factor of roll call vote.

Cons

Lengthens the process of roll call.

Reduces accountability within Senate.

Increased risk of inaccuracy.

Dramatically alters prior roll call procedures.

Less transparent than current forms of voting.