

Minutes

**Oakland University Student Congress
McGuinness/Caver Administration
Legislative Body Meeting Agenda
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday, November 28, 2005
4:00 P.M.**

- I. Call to Order**
4:04 PM
- II. Roll Call**
Absent: Shaylin Jones, George Nahas, Montrell Porter, Meghan Redmond
- III. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2005**
Mersol-Barg: I have a lot of corrections. I not only asked if the McGuinness/Caver Administration campaign slogans were appropriate, I also asked why; I also said that having Michael choosing members for the committee would be a conflict of interests. I didn't say that Michael McGuinness would be biased, but that anyone that holds the position would be biased.
McGuinness: Allyson Cummings-Stuckman was spelled without an "s" on the Cummings.
Minutes: Approved w/Corrections
- IV. Approval of Committee Members**
a. Aaron Kochenderfer-Steering Committee
J. Miller: As you all know Ms. Kopson was removed and was the 5th member of the committee, and Mr. Kochenderfer has been on the waiting list. He will not be able to start until next semester because we only have one meeting left this semester. I hope that you approve him.
Kochenderfer: Approved
- V. Comments form the Gallery**
Randi Clark: I am over the dorm security program (Nightwatch). I have concerns about the memo sent out by Mary Beth Snyder. (Reads Changes) There are loopholes in all of these decisions. No one from the inside was (Nightwatch staff) consulted. I have a concern as to where the funding will come from for these changes.
K. Miller: How many new people are going to be hired for nightwatch workers?
Clark: About 30 more people in addition to our current 25.
Mersol-Barg: How much money do you have left to work with in the emergency fund?
Clark: I don't know.
Mersol-Barg: If it's not coming from the emergency fund where is the \$ coming from?
Clark: I have no idea.
J. Miller: Has any help been offered to you?
Clark: No

Sawicki: I stay in Fitz, and we were told that there would be a roster.

Clark: Yes there will be a roster, but who wants to look through all of those names every time someone comes in the building?

McCullough: Were these policies brainstormed at the safety and security meeting?

Clark: Yes, and I addressed these concerns, but I guess that didn't matter. We have a meeting with Christine Engel tomorrow to figure out the logistics

K. Miller: Can you be more specific about the changes in the cafeteria?

Clark: They would like to play classical music.

Mark Ewing: In regard to the music in the cafeteria, I heard that classical music is for studying, I think that's hocus pocus in the cafeteria. I remember Eleanor saying they will find money for security purposes. I like the idea of police presence. I have trouble with (reads the last portion of the letter) I think it is a serious mistake to reduce guest privileges from 3-2. This is students' home, it is a place for them to feel comfortable and have fun. I think a better decision would be to get people to be more knowledgeable about who they are signing in. These "Marshall Law" types of changes are uncalled for.

Dan Kubicek: In the past month ½ there have been frequent false fire alarms at about 5 AM. Before Thanksgiving vacation we had 2 in one week. This is becoming a problem. As I understand when the fire department is called out, the university is charged. Congress should look into this, because this is costing a lot of money.

Cummings-Stuckman: Did you take this to Residence Halls Council?

Kubicek: No

J. Miller: Are the alarms protected at all by anything?

Kubicek: There is a box and it says pull the box then pull the alarm.

VI. New Business

a. C.B. 06-10 (Fall/Winter Budget Amendment, first reading) [Peter Vitale]

Vitale: We are currently out of scantrons, and this will allow us to stock up for next semester and hopefully for finals this semester.

VII. Discussion Topics

a. Selection of next Discussion Topic of the Week

Allen: Memo by M-Beth Snyder 1 oppose 1 abstention

Approved

b. Postponed discussion Topic-Smoking on Campus

K. Miller: Via a statement of student concern we had 2 weeks ago; a student is concerned with the state of smoking on campus. Why are there trays next to the doors? Student Services Committee discussed the issue, and thought of a designated area for smokers, so other students don't have to walk through a cloud of smoke going to classes.

Vitale: Someone mentioned a law that there is a law that you have to smoke 25ft away from an entrance. The smoking policy for Oakland is (describes the Oakland Smoking Policy)

Cummings-Stuckman: The residence halls do have areas for smokers. They're going to keep huddling up next to the building if they have nowhere else to go.

McGuinness: Vice President Caver has had conversations with Mel Gilroy, and he said that he's not familiar with any policies. It seems that it has an impact on smokers and non-smokers alike.

Evans: Maybe we should get students' concerns, because if students are concerned about it, it shouldn't matter if it's a law. I think the drawing if the line would be to have it outside of the residence hall.

Vitale: I think it is a bigger deal in front of the residence halls.

Rotaries: The concern I have with the smoking pavilion is that it is still a walk, and students won't want to go so far just to smoke.

Vitale: You can fine them \$50 for first time.

M. Miller: I'm not sure that we have any avid smokers, and maybe the legislators could talk to a group of smokers and ask what they think.

K. Miller: I would motion to send to Research and Review.

Vitale: I make the motion to send issue to research and review to determine if there is a state law stating that smoking is not allowed more than 25 ft away from buildings, and to see what the policies are at other Michigan Universities for one week.

Motion: Approved

Evans: I don't hate smokers, but I think that it is more important to accommodate those who don't smoke, or who don't want to be affected by smoking.

McGuinness: Some students have health concerns. Vice President Caver who can't speak because of chairing the meeting has bronchitis.

c. Postponed discussion topic-Security Cameras

K. Miller: Student was concerned because her car was hit in P-5, and when OUPD was contacted they said that cameras couldn't pick up the license plate.

Sawicki: I had a similar accident happen to me last year, and my concern is what is the purpose of having cameras if they aren't working?

Vitale: I Motion to send following questions to research and review; when were they bought, how much did they cost, and how old are they until 1st January meeting.

Motion: Approved

Putansu: What could I do about someone hitting my car in front of my house; there are some things you just can't worry about.

Vitale: If we spend \$1000's of dollars to do what they are there for and they are not doing it, why buy them?

McGuinness: I also understand there have been lots of break ins into cars on campus.

Kubicek: I agree with Derek, but if I pay my money they better damn well work; and who's idea was it to put the cameras on the residence halls and not in the parking lot.

McCullough: As far as I know new cameras have been put in the smaller residence halls, and they catch everything.

Cummings-Stuckman: If we want to look into cameras in the parking lot, that's what we should look into. The speed limit in the actual parking lot is not monitored as much as it should be.

Evans: Just because they can't pick up a license plate, they may be serving another person.

M. Miller: There are cameras that will pick up your license plate...trust me.

J. Miller: Just a reminder, we did refer this to research and review.

d. Additional discussion topics related to Guest Speakers, Comments from the Gallery, & submitted statements of Student Concern

K. Miller: There was another statement of student concern about no lighting on the 3rd floor of the parking structure.

McCullough: There is no fine for false (Point of order)

McGuinness: Students are leery about the parking structure.

McCullough: There's no fine with the police department. Oakland has a contract with the city of Auburn Hills.

J. Miller: We got covers for fire alarms at my job that made a loud noise when the cover was pulled, and that deterred people from pulling the alarms.

M. Miller: What is the penalty if alarm is pulled and do students know?

McCullough: They are kicked out of residence halls, and they are fined. Students are aware because it's in the handbook.

Mersol-Barg: The likelihood of someone getting caught is negligent.

K. Miller: We do catch people, and there are certain precautions taken, such as cameras at least in Vandenberg.

McGuinness: The cover is a clever idea.

Kubicek: They are not catching anyone in Hamlin and it is becoming ridiculous.

K. Miler: Info is not revealed to students about who does this because as staff persons of Oakland University Housing, we may not be aloud to talk about that.

McGuinness: This is the Discussion Topic of the Week, so I recommend a little conversation.

Mungo: Students can bring in as many guests as they want before 8 PM (nightwatch), we should keep that in mind.

VIII. Reports

- a. Michael McGuinness- Student Body President
- b. Kori Caver- Student Body Vice President
- c. Brendan J. Stevens- Financial Affairs Director (**Absent**)
- d. Lindsay McCullough- Student Activities Funding Board Chair
- e. Madalyn Miller- Student Program Board Chair
- f. Katie Miller- Student Services Director
- g. Saman Waquad-Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director (**Absent**)
- h. Krupa Ujla- Public Relations Agent

IX. Updates

- a. Montrell Porter, Disciplinary Chair
- b. Kristina Butler, research and Review Chair
- c. Stelanie Marshall, Scholarship Chair
- d. Joshua Miller, Steering Committee Chair

X. Comments from the Gallery

Mark Ewing: Smokers will smoke no matter what. If u wanna prevent smoking make something that is convenient for them. If you're gonna do this, do it right. Also, I would like to have a date for the Grizz Statue. I would like to know how the process is going and when the bear is going to be here.

Matt Kelly: There is a camera in Vandenberg Lot and it does pan the lot. The smaller camera outside of the residence halls do record.

K. Miller: Are u aware of the cameras that view the P-5 lot.

Matt Kelly: There is 1 camera, and it's been there for 3 years.

Allen: What are the policies for nightwatch if someone runs past the nightwatch desk?

Kelly: They are to contact a RA and if they feel the matter is extremely serious they are to contact OUPD.

Mersol-Barg: You don't feel that these new policies are unjust at all?

Kelly: I don't think that the policies are unjust to all. Safety is important and we're enforcing policies for student safety.

M. Miller: Is there any that you feel are not needed, and what actions would you like this body to take?

Kelly: Classical music calms people, OUPD is more visible, nightwatch will be great, it will decrease amount of people in the building, because if you've ever been an RA you would agree that it is a lot harder to control residents when more people are in the building; changes in where nighwatch will be in Vandenberg, needed quiet hours before finals. OUSC could officially support the memo.

K. Miller: Is 24 hr. quiet hrs starting now, or will RAs enforce The quiet hours?

Kelly: more enforcement

Mark Ewing: Safety is a big concern. Security should stand major improvements. I have trouble with restricted policies. I think people are going to leave, restricted policies don't stop people from breaking the policies, and they make people find other ways to do it.

Rozalyn Morgan: As a young lady who has been to many nightwatch stations, we don't have background info on people who come in so having extra nightwatch stations wouldn't keep guest off campus unless they are already on the restricted list.

R. Clark: I still don't feel that there was an adequate student representation. If decisions were made concerning nightwatch, if there are nightwatch issues, someone from nightwatch should be consulted.

Kelly: This is not a policy that is set in stone, it will take place, and then it will be evaluated.

XI. Announcements

- a. There is an opening on the Research and Review Committee. Interested legislators should contact Research and Review Chair Kristina Butler.
- b. 112 concert this Friday, December 2 at 9:00 P.M. in the Shotwell Pavilion.

XII. Adjournment

5:43 pm