

Minutes

Oakland University Student Congress
McGuinness / Caver Administration
Legislative Body Meeting Agenda
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday March 27, 2006
4:00 P.M.

I. Call To Order

4:09 PM

II. Roll Call

Absent: Timothy Atwood, Montrell Porter, Joshua Rotarius

Quorum: Met

III. Special Disciplinary Committee Update

Mersol-Barg: Removing several legislators from body. Montrell Porter, Mia C. Evans, Stefanie Mungo. George Nahas submitted resignation earlier today.

K. Miller: Have these people been notified prior to this meeting.

Mersol-Barg: Yes

Evans: Did receive letter for a disciplinary hearing. No one was present at the time of the hearing. Did receive Mike Mersol-Barg's email. If we were supposed to be removed regardless, why the hearing?

Mersol-Barg: Thought that we had some leeway, that's why I originally contacted you.

Fallis: Thought we would be able to decide on an individual basis. Joshua Miller read constitution. We are under the impression that we have no leeway.

McGuinness: There is a voting decision. It is not automatic. There is a bad precedent; it has been the practice of this body to vote. Something more stringent should be implemented. There should be further conversation about this.

Mersol-Barg: We are constitutionally bound. I wish that under the current constitution we could take it by the case by case basis.

Kubicek: This year there was a certain legislator that missed more than three meetings and got a letter saying that there could be a leave of absence, what is the difference between this decision and that?

Vitale: Valid point. We believably could put someone on a leave of absence at the time. It was point of absence that we don't have a choice.

Evans: Really unprofessional; people should've gotten in touch with me. At what point did you know this was in the constitution? What is the disciplinary committee for if they have no decision?

J. Miller: They asked me today what my interpretation was. Why weren't you notified, you have to ask Mr. Porter.

M. Miller: Was it interpreted as 3 absences this year, or this semester? If there are people that are opposed to this, according to parliamentary procedure is to make a motion to overturn the decision of the committee.

McGuinness: Legislator Stefanie Mungo emailed me that she was under the weather, and the message was forwarded to the Disciplinary Committee. I

hope that I won't see this from the disciplinary committee. It's a matter of interpretation of what comes with committee meetings and office hours.

Ewing: Difficult situation. Wish that the new constitution has already been approved. We are not deciding anything. Yield to Fallis.

Fallis: We don't like what we are about to do. We don't think that you can. The blame shouldn't be put on the committee.

Stevens: The word interpretation has been tossed around a lot. We have a new Constitution. We need an interpretation. Yield to K. Miller

K. Miller: Bylaws speak of confidentiality, and confidentiality has been broken more than once.

Kubicek: Motion to recess for 5 minutes

Motion: Approved

Recess: 4:53

Re-adjourned at 4:58

Quorum: Met

Burton: Motion that this is postponed until next week

Allen: Yield to McGuinness

McGuinness: Legislator Kopson was removed because she went incognito, last year Montrell Porter was up for removal for more than three absences. This is a different situation.

Burton: Yield to Madalyn Miller

M. Miller: Since the members up for removal did not get the chance to make an appeal, it would be appropriate to give them that chance to appeal.

Kubicek: Motion to discharge disciplinary committee's decision and send it to the legislature.

Ewing: Call to question

Call to Question: Approved

Motion: Passes

McGuinness: Someone of the legislature should motion to postpone.

Putansu: Motion to call to question

Motion: Fails

Kubicek: Motion to postpone for one week.

Motion: Passes

Fallis: Motion to amend the agenda to add approval of new legislators as the fifth Jordan Twardy.

Motion: Passes

IV. Confirmation of New Legislator

a. Jordan Twardy

Twardy: Appreciate you jumping through hoops to get me approved. I hope that I can be approved.

McGuinness: Will you be able to attend next week's meeting

Twardy: Yes

Twardy: Approved

V. Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2006

Kubicek: Motion to reconsider the postponing of the removal

Burton: Yield to Mia Evans

Evans: Clearly something was overlooked within the disciplinary committee, since we are removed from the body. If you're going to bring me back on just to kick me off again, don't bring me back on. If that happens, don't think it will end here, because it won't.

McGuinness: Make sure there was consensus. Should only vote to reconsider if the vote is going to be to retain these legislators. The purpose of reconsidering is to make sure they retain their membership while we are doing the deliberation and making sure we're on the same page. There was a motion and a second to determine whether or not we are going to go back in the agenda.

Fallis: What can be done so they can sit in their positions and Congress can discuss it next week?

McGuinness: There are legislators interested in reconsidering so they can retain their membership for the next week.

Putansu: Call to question.

Kubicek: Motion to reconsider

Motion: Passed

Motion reconsidered (to postpone): Failed

Putansu: Call to Question (reverse disciplinary committee's decision)

Motion: Passes

Minutes: Approved

Proffett: Motion to amend agenda to remove committee member Richard Smith and add Randi Clark.

Motion: Approved

VI. Student of the Month Parking Spot Drawing

Mike Lerchenfeldt

VII. Nomination of Committee Chairs

a. Disciplinary Committee

Putansu: Motion to strike

Motion: Approved

VIII. Confirmation of Appointed Agents

a. Alicia Feys, Public Relations Agent

Feys: Approved

IX. Approval of Committee Members

a. Michael Mersol-Barg

b. Emily Corbishdale, Steering Committee

c. Randi Clark, student, Validations Committee

d. Jim Gammicchia, student, Validations Committee

e. Demond Pryor, administrative professional, Validations Committee

f. Linda Harding, clerical / technical, Validations Committee

g. Thomas Discenna, faculty, Validations Committee

h. Summer Lusk, student, Validations Committee

i. Julie Wojciechowski, student, Validations Committee

Putansu: Motion to combine all steering committee members.

Motion: Approved

Steering Committee Members: Approved

Putansu: Motion to combine validation committee members

Motion: Approved

Members: Approved

X. Comments from the Gallery

Scott Burke: Here to speak on the censure issue. Don't know if I'll be here much longer. While it may be true that some facts were interpreted, to center the group was ludicrous. I was at every meeting as a non-voting member, and I saw no wrong doing in the voting members and they weren't contacted.

M. Miller: Do you think it would be detrimental to your organizations for you to be restricted?

Burke: Haven't really given it that much thought. Trying to nip it in the bud.

Redmond: What is your position at the university?

Burke: Advisor for Student Video Productions

K. Miller: Carnival for Change is tomorrow. If any of you plan on attending and don't live in the residence halls, please sign up with me.

Gammicchia: Has come to my attention that there are no Liaisons. Applications are due.

Allen: Is it true that students who vote at a polling station today will be entered into a cash drawing?

Gammicchia: Yes, sure!

Fallis: What time is the Board Meeting?

Gammicchia: 2:00

XI. New Business

Ewing: make a motion to suspend the rules and go through first three bills

Motion: passes

a. C.B. 06-16 (Budget Amendment, first reading)

b. C.B. 06-17 (Bylaws Amendment, first reading)

c. C.B. 06-18 (Budget Amendment, first reading)

Kubicek: Motion to reinstate the rules

Motion: Passes

d. C.R. 06-16 (SAFAC Censure)

M. Miller: I have no problem with what I did. The deficit safety net didn't exist anymore. This committee was out to look out for the best interest of the students. If we were to say that these individuals can't be on this committee that would be detrimental. Above all, the body was supposed to look out for the best interest of the students. You're telling me that the student organizations can't be represented by those who know best? You should vote NO resoundingly for the best interest of the students.

McGuinness: Samantha advised the committee and she wasn't one said to be censured. Yield to Samantha Hardenburgh

Hardenburgh: I agree with Josh that there should be a process and it should be followed, however, I do believe that the legislation is insulting. You're tying their hands for the future. We never spoke of it maliciously and never decided to take the decision away from the student body. I would also appreciate that if you censor members of that body, that I am censured as well.

Kubicek: Upset. There was supposedly an investigation. Student leaders said that they didn't know about an investigation, therefore there wasn't an investigation. SAFB was about to run out of money, that is what a deficit safety net is for. Yield to McCullough.

McCullough: I didn't know about the 2 year thing. The reason that we did this is to be proactive; not reactive. With the \$27,000 we gave, 29 student organizations a chance for programming. Don't like the fact that there is a censure on my name; I've worked damn hard this year. Yield to Madalyn Miller

Point of Personal Privilege: Vitale

M. Miller: Is there a precedent for a censure?

Twardy: We're going into political craziness. Yield to Mia Evans

Evans: This is unfair to those who participated. They didn't intend to step on OUSC's toes.

Hardenburgh: Yield to Scott Burke.

Burke: Liking what I hear, so I hope most of the discussion stands. We discussed if we should touch that or not. That discretionary fund was to be used by that committee. It was given to SAFAC to cover any issues.

Putansu: We're discussing three issues all at once. Rolling back; that's not any part of legislation. The "never serve again legislation" is a bit extreme. I am supporting the censure, this was not just a bill or resolution; the students voted on it. I think it was a poor course of action. I can see a censure.

J. Miller: There was malicious intent by this legislation. I'm insulted at the way that I've been ignored. My investigation was to look at the voting records and looking at the actions taken. I'm not concerned with the debt anymore because clearly the student body is not.

Point of Personal Privilege: Mersol-Barg

Quorum: Lost 7:01 pm

Quorum: Regained 7:11 PM

Gammicchia: The 2% can be redistributed, but 2004-2005 bills can still come back uncollected.

Fallis: Motion to call to question

Motion: Passes

Burton: N

Corbishdale: A

Evans: N

Ewing: Y

Fallis: A

Kubicek: N

Mersol-Barg: Y

Panchenko: N

Proffett: N

Putansu: Y

Redmond: N

Twardy: A

Resolution: Fails

e. C.B. 06-15 (SAFAC sanction)

Kubicek: Call to question

Motion: Passes

Burton: *N*

Corbishdale: *N*

Evans: *N*

Ewing: *N*

Fallis: *N*

Kubicek: *N*

Mersol-Barg: *N*

Miller: *N w/rights*

Panchenko: *N*

Proffett: *N*

Putansu: *N*

Redmond: *N*

Twardy: *N*

Resolution: Fails

J. Miller: I apologize. Realize it was to extreme. Had it not been called to question I would've motioned to withdraw.

Mersol-Barg: Motion to adjourn

Motion: Passes

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 pm