



Meeting Minutes
Oakland University Student Congress
Thomas-Engnell Administration
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday, February 13th, 2017



- I. Call to Order
- II. The meeting was called to order Monday, February 13th, 2017, at 4:00 pm
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Roll Call
 - A. Legislator Augistaniak present and voting
 - B. Legislator Church, present and voting
 - C. Legislator R Fox, present and voting
 - D. Legislator Harris, present and voting
 - E. Legislator Hubbard, present and voting
 - F. Legislator Jagtap, present and voting
 - G. Legislator Kleinschmidt, present and voting
 - H. Legislator Mabrouk, present and voting
 - I. Legislator Nasry, present and voting
 - J. Legislator Poppe, present and voting
 - K. Legislator Rafidi present and voting
 - L. Legislator Rourke, present and voting
 - M. Legislator Sanders, present and voting
 - N. Legislator Seeger, present and voting
 - O. Legislator Thompson, present and voting
 - P. Legislator Walton, present and voting
 - Q. Legislator T Fox present and voting
 - R. We had quorum
- V. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 13th, 2016
 - A. Vice President Engnell opened the floor to additions or subtractions to the Meeting Minutes from February 13th, 2016
 - i. Friendly motion to change Legislator Augistaniak's name, and to spell it right.
 - ii. There were no other additions or deletions.
 - B. The Meeting Minutes from February 6th 2016, were unanimously approved
- VI. Comments from the Gallery
 - A. Sean Foe, the Diversity Director from SPB, spoke about their event on Tuesday, February 28th Japanese night. The first fifty students will receive free water bottles. The acapella group Backtrack will be there opening and closing the show. The event will be from 6pm-9pm at the banquet rooms.
 - i. Legislator Seeger asked how the event will proceed

- a. Mr. Foe said that the karaoke would be in English, the activity is what students will be doing. The set will be at the beginning and at the end. They might perform with students
 - ii. Legislator Kleinschmidt asked for the date.
 - a. Mr. Foe said it was on February 28th
 - B. Jerry Johnson with climate survey came in to the meeting to talk about the survey. Mr. Johnson introduced himself as a graduate assistant in the Diversity and Inclusion Center. On Tuesday, February 28th the school will be administering the survey to campus. The Diversity and Inclusion Center on campus wants to assess student and faculty input on the level of diversity they experience on campus. Mr. Johnson came to today's meeting to ask for our support. In two weeks, he will pass out flyers to us, please pass them out to others on campus.
 - i. President Thomas thanked Mr. Johnson for coming out, he also asked for a digital copy of the flier so that it can be posted to social media.
 - a. Mr. Johnson did not have one personally but will check
 - ii. Legislator T Fox asked if they were physically handing the survey out, or through survey monkey.
 - a. Mr. Johnson said it will be on the website.
 - iii. Vice President Engnell talked about how this survey is really important, one went out three years ago and it helped out the Diversity and Inclusion Center address issues on campus.
 - C. Jake Semma talked about the GSA annual Drag Show and to explain the event before the bill for funding went up for approval. Last year we co-sponsored the event and covered the lighting, they are asking us to do the same this year. This is the 14th year and one of the biggest events that is held on campus, drawing around six hundred people. There will be six students performing and three professional entertainers. The event will feature lip synching, performance of gender, and visibility for LGBT community. Gold Vibrations will also be performing there. The cost this year is more than last year, Bandid did the lighting last year, but they doubled their cost. They are using a different company that is a much lower cost, but still higher than last year. Because OUSC is giving the most amount of money, we will receive four VIP seats, tabling opportunities, our logo goes on all marketing materials, it's up for negotiation if we want more. The GSC greatly appreciates our support, they really enjoyed having us last year.
 - i. Ms. Kubinski supported the bill and the event, and urged the legislature to vote yes on the bill in two weeks. Ms. Kubinski also noted that this year should be different with regards to not having to over-ride a veto in giving this event funding.
 - ii. President Thomas appreciated the background Mr. Semma gave, and promised that this year will be much smoother as he supported the bill, promising not to veto it.
 - iii. Vice President Engnell also supported the bill, stating that it's a great event and an even better way to support each other.

VII. Guest Speaker, Rob Mitchell

- A. Mr. Mitchel introduced himself as a pediatrician for more than twenty five years, and is here to tell OUSC about his organization and the volunteer opportunity it gives. Mr. Mitchel set up a non-profit to give full medical care to children without health insurance and to those who cannot afford to pay their bills. His practice is the only one in Oakland county that takes Medicare, a free sliding service, and will not turn those away who cannot pay. Mr. Mitchel spoke about his event Back to School Banaza, and the need for volunteers to help on the four hour event. The events provide all services, school supplies, haircuts, clothes, and educational materials for free. Over 600 kids come to the event on a Saturday. Mr. Mitchel explained he's trying to franchise the event to get more financial assistance to pay for the supplies. This year the event will be on August 12th and he will be passing around a sheet for those who wish to sign up.
- i. Legislator T Fox thanked Mr. Mitchel for coming in and said that there are not enough people like him that provide these kinds of services, and that he knows there will be volunteers from the Congress.
 - ii. Ms. Mishack thanked Mr. Mitchell for coming in again, and would collect the sheet of names for him. Ms. Mishack also said that it's a great event, and would highly recommend people to do it as its eye opening.

VIII. Old Business

- A. CR 17-03 Opposition to Executive Action, presented by Ryan Fox
- i. "Fear is the enemy of all that is righteous in the world," Legislator Fox spoke this statement in Arabic. He is also proud to present this resolution. The resolution does number of key things. First, opposition of federal government actions, based on specific countries, and showing preference to certain religions. Second, it assures that OUSC will work for inclusiveness, no matter what.
 - a. President Thomas stated that OU and OUSC remains supportive of all groups and people, and that we stand against this type of discrimination.
 - b. Ms. Kubinski urged the legislature to vote yes, and wished that she still could.
 - c. Legislator Nasry said that as a Muslim, this means a lot coming from a non-Muslim. It means a lot to the rest of Muslims on campus. Thank you.
 - d. Vice President Engnell thanked the Congress for all their hard work on this resolution.
- B. Roll Call Vote
- iii. Legislator Augustiniak, yay
 - iv. Legislator Church, yay
 - v. Legislator R Fox, yay
 - vi. Legislator Harris, yay
 - vii. Legislator Hubbard, yay

- viii. Legislator Jagtap, yay
- ix. Legislator Kleinschmidt, yay
- x. Legislator Mabrouk, yay
- xi. Legislator Nasry, yay
- xii. Legislator Poppe, yay
- xiii. Legislator Rafidi, yay
- xiv. Legislator Rourke yay
- xv. Legislator Sanders, yay
- xvi. Legislator Seeger, yay
- xvii. Legislator Thompson, yay
- xviii. Legislator Walton, yay
- xix. Legislator T Fox, yay

IX. New Business

A. Approval of Diversity and Inclusion committee, presented by Anders Engnell

- xx. Tyler Fox
 - a. Vice President Engnell said that Legislator, great individual and is probably already doing work for the committee and will be a great addition.
 - ii. No discussion
 - xxi. Unanimous approval
- ##### b. Approval of Judiciary Committee, Ryan Fox
- i. Graziano Mehmetaj
 - 1. Legislator Fox said that Mr. Mehmetaj is willing to help him out, and with Legislator T Fox resigning, he needs one more person. Impressed him with work ethic, and is a great guy
 - ii. No discussion
 - iii. Unanimous approval

B. CB 17-11, Ryan Fox

- i. Legislator R. Fox said that this event is a lot of fun and that the price has increased slightly since last year. The total will be \$1840. \$1700 of that amount will be coming from the Diversity and Inclusion budget and the additional \$140 would be taken from uncategorized. He said that there is still plenty in uncategorized and that it would not be affected much. The cost is to help cover the sound and light expenditures of the event. If anyone has questions they should feel free to ask.
 - a. It was the first reading, there was no vote

X. Discussion Topics

XI. Legislative Updates

A. Greek Council Representative, Vicki Harris

- i. Legislator Harris said that there are a couple events coming up. The first on Feb 16 at Blossom café from 3-8, the Circle K fundraiser. Then March 7th at 4pm AST is having a fundraiser at Panera.

B. Resident Hall Association Representative, Blake Walton

- i. Legislator Walton said that there are several things for housing this week. Applications for round two have gone live for positions such as bear bus driver and desk, as well as executive chairs are open, everything is due February 24th. Lastly on Wednesday 6-8 in the Vanwagner lobby there is a philanthropy event for humble hearts, they would be making tie blankets and hopes everyone can make it.

C. Updates related to Legislative Projects and Initiatives

- i. Legislator Jagtab updated everyone on her bench initiative for placing a bench outside south foundation by the round- about. She contacted the head of the facilities management and said that everyone is on board, however there must be a concrete there which would have to wait until spring but other than that they see no problem for funding; Mr. Engnell complimented her for completing two initiatives this semester.
- ii. Legislator R. Fox shared his results regarding a survey he conducted for the campus wide senate committee he is on, regarding the difficulties for students on scheduling that interferes with their ability to eat lunch through the day and even being able to graduate in four years because of the lack of availability for required classes and when they are taught. Opened himself up for any questions after the meeting if anyone wanted more information.
- iii. Legislator T. Fox shared his and Legislator Rourke's plan to look into the efficiency of the internet in residence halls based on a few student's complaints they have received. In addition, he wants to consider putting a library box, such as the one Dr. Jay Mitchell spoke about earlier, by the library in Pawley Hall

D. Questions related to Legislative Reports

- i. Mr. Thomas inquired what a library box was
 - a. Legislator T. Fox responded with The project that Dr. Mitchell afore mentioned about donating gently used books

E. Legislator Seeger asked Legislator Walton where the applications were at

- i. Legislator Walton replied with that if they were not on Handshake he will find out and let him know.

F. Executive Reports

- i. Student Body President, Zack Thomas
 - a. Shared with the Congress that he worked with Legislator R. Fox regarding the inclusion of the athletic student government (similar to the residence halls and Greek government) to the student congress. In addition, wants to add a graduate counsel and a counsel person similar to the tailgate chair in order to make sure both populations of the campus are represented. Shared that it would need two thirds vote in order to be passed so he wants adequate time before putting it up to pass to fully inform. Talked about the financial aid about the moved up E-bill and he is waiting

for feedback about the issues that may be caused by this. The proposed parking solution was passed in the Board of Trustees meeting earlier in the day, by fall of 2017 there will be 660 additional spots. He's going to be working on the State of the Student Address that will be taking place on March 6th, as well as other small housekeeping things.

G. Student Vice President, Anders Engnell

- i. Mr. Engnell shared that the bear bus express route has seen a 12.5% ridership increase this past week. He announced that there was a decision reached regarding what movie will be watched at the retreat. Inside out won! The campus life task force is coming to a close and they have several ideas and tactics and will have a completed copy by the middle of March to make campus life more fun and engaging for both commuters and residents. Regarding the spring break change, it has to be postponed for two years because of a line in the faculty contract stating that it has to be the last week in February. After that it will take an additional year because of the time it will take to reset the academic calendar. Worked with Alex Currington on the bereavement policy so that students will be allowed three days in the case a close family member were to pass away

H. OUSC Advisor, Stephanie Jurva

- i. She said kindness week is this week. Starting off tonight with Henry Winkler. Tuesday is the SAFAC open house, Wednesday is positive messages. Thursday is love yourself day and Friday is random acts of kindness and free hot chocolate in the fishbowl 8-10am. She wished everyone a good and safe spring break.

I. Updates related to E-board Projects and Initiatives

- i. None were made

J. Questions related to Executive Reports

- i. Legislator T. Fox questioned about the additional spots in congress. Would they take the place of two members in congress or add two and increase the size to 26?
 - a. Mr. Thomas answered it would increase the size
- ii. Legislator R. Fox asked if the OU vans were being used as a part of the bear bus express route. In addition asked if Mr. Engnell looked into getting time off for election days as well.
 - a. Mr. Thomas answered they spoke to several people including the provost, and President Hynd, but it again depends on the reset of the academic calendar. In regards to his first question he replied yes they are using the vans to help enhance the shuttle system to the south side of campus.
 - b. Mr. Engnell also replied that the main buses are still being used for the pre-arranged routes and the vans are being used for the expressed routes. If they see a large demand the main buses could

be used in the future. In regards to the election days, it would be more difficult to get time off of school where as with spring break they are just moving the dates.

- c. Ms. Goldwater stated the vans are clearly marked so you can see they are a part of the system.

K. Comments from the Gallery

- i. Ben Olsen- Point of order by legislator R. Fox for election speak
 - a. Corrected himself and congratulated the passing of the Resolution from earlier in the meeting
- ii. Shannel, this was her second meeting and had two questions hoping the Congress would answer. The first question was about why the cost of books and supplies at \$734 is included in the estimated price for Oakland yet students still struggle to buy books. Her next question was whether or not there was a committee that focuses on Mental Health.
 - a. Ms. Mishack answered the second question with “yes, the Environmental Health and Wellness Committee and you are more than welcome to join.
 - b. Ms. Posinelli stated that they have spoken before about this topic of cost and there is a cushion price for students that also allows them to estimate for classes their sophomore and junior years that may cost more.
 - c. Mr. Thomas also replied to her first question telling her that he was not certain but he could get her into contact with someone in admissions to help answer her questions.
 - d. Mr. Engnell answered that the cost is also affected and accounted for by financial aid.

L. Announcements

- i. Legislator Seeger announced there were two events in the OC tomorrow. Held by the neurologist club about finding true love and another about 1960’s music and college students documentary.
- ii. Legislator Jagtab about her Org, tickets are \$35 each, it’s on Wednesday at 7, if anyone has questions or would like to buy tickets she will send them the link. Another fundraiser on March 3rd at Classic Lanes bowling alley \$21, 7-\$10 and lots of fun stuff going on throughout the evening
- iii. Legislator R. Fox wished everyone a safe and fun spring break.
- iv. Mr. George shared an even tomorrow at 12-1 held by the Model UN about Outer Space. There will be chicken tenders!!
- v. Mr. Engnell shared that Dr. Graham Harper announced Feb 28th 11-12pm there is an international meet and greet

M. Adjournment 5:17 PM