

The Minutes of the Senate



Of the 317th Student Assembly of the College of William and Mary,
Meeting in Tyler 301 at 7:00pm on
October 6, 2009

Presided by Ryan Ruzic, Vice President of the Student Assembly;
Chaired by Ben Brown of the Class of 2011,
with Minutes Recorded by Secretary Betty Jeanne Manning of the Class of 2012

- I. Call to order (Vice President Ruzic)
- II. Attendance
 - a. Roll Call (Secretary Manning)
- III. Reading and approval of minutes
 - a. Tuesday September 29, 2009: APPROVED by unanimous consent
- IV. Public Comment
 - a. Will Perkins: The transcript of his speech will be attached along with the minutes.
 - b. Steven Nelson: Moved by unanimous consent to suspend the rules to address Perkins' point. It's disappointing to hear that the Honor Council views this vote as invalid, especially considering the vast turn-out, with 900-1000 voters voted in the past referendum. I think most of us would probably agree that the Honor Council should consider the referenda results.
- V. Special Business: Fall 2009 Elections Presentation
 - a. Report by Elections Commission Chair Jazmine Pina: Fair election, very few infractions, record turn-out.
 - b. Presentation of Class of 2013 and Special Elections results
 - c. Report by Elections Commissioner Brown on eBallot performance: We had to switch because SIN was down, originally we thought that they'd be able to authenticate the WM passwords via our public LDAP; however, that cost \$2,000 extra through blackboard integration. IT said there was a way they could get it worked out. They took care of all the specifics and talked to vote-net solutions, a week before the election. The elections

commission decided on randomly generated numbers emailed out the day before elections because using ID numbers raised the potential for voter fraud. Elections commission sent out an email from 1:15-2:15am on October 1st. At 8:30am, the commission realized the Class of 2010 had not received an email. By 9am, the commission confirmed that members of the Class of 2011 and 2012 had not received emails either. By 11:30am, we re-sent all the emails and IT confirmed they had an email outage on Election Day. Voting hours were extended an additional two hours to compensate for the few students that did not receive their original email. All students that contacted the Commission with problems were able to vote. The randomly generated numbers as passwords are secure but unreliable.

- d. Swearing in of new senators by Chairman of the Review Board Bradley Mainguy
- e. Swearing in of Curt Mills by Chairman of the Review Board Bradley Mainguy

VI. Committee Updates

- a. Finance and Budget (Sen. Fallon, Chair): We went over appropriations and discussed changes to the Finance Code that is about to expire. I will be introducing a bill as new business.
- b. Public Affairs (Sen. Gillingham, Chair): We met for ten minutes before this morning, as Busch Gardens day interrupted our normal meeting time to be fair. We went over what we liked and didn't like about our Voter Reg outreach. Get Van certified! We're meeting at 3:30pm Wednesday (tomorrow) to go to the planning commission meeting at 4pm tomorrow.
- c. Student Life (Sen. Manning, Chair): We talked about individual initiatives: parking, tailgating, date rape drug testing coasters.
- d. Policy (Sen. Felitto, Chair): Everyone was really excited to be there, it was on Election's night. We did actually have a discussion about the handbook and possible changes we'd like to see.
- e. Outreach (Sen. Olszewski, Chair): We met Monday. The blog is live! <http://www.wm.edu/blogs/studentblogs/studentassembly/index.php> Outreach now has a Google calendar. There will be special business. The Student Ambassador Application went out.

VII. Executive Updates (Vice President Ruzic)

- a. Departmental/General Updates: Some of the policy changes involve lots of work with administration. The EAC and Ambassador applications are out. The Secretary for Student Rights will be appointed soon. Our health department is having a free yoga class this month.
- b. Review of Signed/Vetoed Legislation
 - i. SB 317-028 The Student Health Act: Starting tomorrow.
 - ii. SB 317-029 The Welcome Home Repayment Act SIGNED
 - iii. SB 317-030 The Honor Council Nominating Referendum Act SIGNED
 - iv. SB 317-031 The Executive Summer Spending Act SIGNED

VIII. Past and Passed Legislation Updates

- a. SB 317-011 The HC-SCC KYR Act (Sen. Brown, Felitto): The order was placed. I have not received an email letting me know they've been shipped.
- b. SB 317-025 The Ping Pong Provision for Purposeful Playing Act II (Sens. Brown, et al): Got billing number from Ann. Scheduling meeting with Facilities management after fall break.
- c. SB 317-028 The Student Health Act: Starting tomorrow, they want us to advertise and have a poster. Ruzic: I think the idea of Reveley getting an STI test MAY be a bad idea; however, it's something I am willing to explore.
- d. SB 317-029 The Welcome Home Repayment Act: Need a receipt and an invoice so that should be finished soon.
- e. SB 317-030 The Honor Council Nominating Referendum Act: It was a resounding success. It solicited student opinion and demanded reform.
- f. SB 317-031 The Executive Summer Spending Act: Receipt and invoice.
- g. SB 317-032 The Communal Bike Act: Working on this over the Fall Break.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

- a. SB 317-034 The Virginia Gazette Act II (Sen. Brown) This is something we worked on last year to deliver the papers here to promote community

awareness. We allocated \$700 for 600 issues a week. For the price, it was a pretty good deal and the papers were gone every week. They said they'd reimburse us for any issues not bought by students. May make it sustainable later.

- b. SB 317-035 The Swem Snack Act (Brown) Motion to hear this as New Business by unanimous consent. PASSED. A student asked if we could get a microwave in Swem. I spoke to the director of Swem so it's not allowed in Swem but it is allowed in MEWS. Dining services said we could have a microwave if we provided it. This bill will go to finance. If we provide it, they will install and maintain it for students to use.
- c. SB 317-XXX Homecoming Button Act (Olszewski and Nelson) Motion to hear the Homecoming Button Act as New Business by unanimous consent. PASSED.
 1. Introduction (Nelson and Olszewski): Outreach encompasses outreach to alumni and current students. We think it's a good way to say "thank you" and welcome home to alumni from students. We decided we should do buttons because "they're kind of a big deal, you get your class button." Nelson: Anyone who has been in Senate for longer than a day knows that this is not the type of thing I typically try to push through. My years from phone-a-thon have taught me that it's important to maintain a relationship with Alumni. I think that SA members should pass them out to students and alumni. Move to hear this bill as Old Business by unanimous consent. DENIED. We're doing this now because we don't have time due to Fall Break. Motion withdrawn. PASSED to hear as Old Business.
 2. Senator Discussion:
 1. Felitto: Who does this go to? Olszewski: It goes to both alumni and students. It shows how students and alumni are glad to be back and united. It is a very simple and inexpensive way to recognize the efforts of alumni. 5000 is a lot of buttons, we'd give them mostly to alumni but the leftover we could give to students.
 2. Felitto: I'm opposed to the idea of using student money to buy buttons for alumni instead of students. Have you considered taking the money out of off-campus instead of Consolidated? Nelson: There's a precedent for using Consolidated Reserve money for people other than students. It's mutually beneficial to students, especially considering the money. Olszewski: The point of Outreach is to "reach out." That's why we plug, that's why we're redoing the organization pamphlet, that's why we do what we do. I hate to say this, but

you have to be willing to release some funds to Outreach because we're utilizing every outlet we can that doesn't involve money but at some point, you need to spend money. This is an easy, inexpensive way to promote better relations. Nelson: It's a lot of bang for the buck.

3. Brown: I have no problem reaching out to alumni and establishing a connection with them and I think homecoming does a good job of that. I don't think buttons necessarily do that. I don't wear buttons. I don't think other students would either. I don't have a problem spending money on buttons for alumni. I have an issue spending student money on buttons for alumni. The alumni have the Association which has tons of money. I don't have a problem taking it from the Off-Campus, I have a problem taking it from the Consolidated Reserve.
4. Gemino: I mainly support the initiative. I have the benefit of being on numerous committees with Karen of the Alumni Association, who believes there is a waning inflow of money coming from Alumni in this school. This is an investment on the students' part to have alumni feel somewhat more engaged. You want to be able to go home and not feel like an outsider from where you came from. I do think this small gift, I support if you guys would promise that anybody who did volunteer to give out buttons that day gave a thank you speech.
5. Manning: Move to take the money from Off-Campus rather than Consolidated by Roll Call vote. PASSED. Move to call the question: objection.
6. Houser: I want the assurance that all 5000 will be distributed over homecoming weekend. Olszewski: I have people willing to distribute them, along with Ryan Eickel, I give you my word that I will forgo activities to insure that this happens. Schofield: I do appreciate and understand the importance of alumni relationships. It should be passed.
7. Gillingham: My concern is the market for it. Nelson: There's a market. If they'll wear feathers, they'll wear buttons. Gillingham: Distribute them with tickets. Olszewski: Number of buttons vs. design.
8. Dunleavy: it has no business being in the off campus account which is why I'm voting no.
9. Fallon: I'm not a fan of buttons coming from other account for various reasons. I think stickers and buttons are both a

waste of money and they're a superficial token that's not going to be permanent. Olszewski: I think you need to look at this as being an Outreach initiative and look at it as a "little thing."

10. Karl: Have you considered using this as a fundraiser?

Olszewski: this goes against the whole spirit of the bill. Karl: A quarter for an alumni is really not that much. I'm thinking as a fincom person recoup that cost.

11. Felitto: I don't mean to grandstand but this brings up a lot of interpretive issues. This is getting defensive and it shouldn't be. A couple things: The main problem with the Reserve was using student money. I don't think it's a matter of not giving Outreach money; it's a matter of using student money for Alumni.

12. Scalzo: Two things: There's nothing on here that says from the students. Barring. Move to change the dash by unanimous consent. Move to call the question by unanimous consent. Objection.

13. Curt Mills: I'm a freshman. A lot of people already wear that class buttons to homecoming and they are normally the most spirited, wouldn't two buttons be awkward. Scalzo: Point of information "you can never have too much flair." Olszewski: It's a permanent reminder, not just that day. Schofield: I'm giving them back to students as well.

14. Brown: I mentioned that you were doing the buttons. Laura Nelson wants to know if you talked to Chase Hathaway about it yet. Evidently Undergrad is currently sponsoring some sort of buttons along with Tribal Fever.

15. Dunleavey: Move to pass by roll call vote. PASSED.

d. SB 317-XXX Updated Finance Code Act (Fallon)

1. Introduction by Fallon: We are clarifying executive summer spending or restrictions on the account and we're also changing it to have a new expiration date a year from now.

XI. Reminders / Announcements / Comments

a. Announcements from Chairman Brown and Vice President Ruzic

1. Brown: I met briefly with the chairs of each committee on Sunday to work on institutionalization. We need to make sure we're keeping records so that students in this organization can continue this institution once we're gone. I have to bother Walter, Beato, and

Valerie constantly. We'll be sending out forms requesting three goals from each committee that you'll be expected to accomplish by the end of the session. Try and keep them attainable. Make sure you're working on them and you're doing the best you possibly can. I'll be sending out committee to-do lists either tonight or tomorrow.

2. Ruzic: Please solicit people to apply for Student Ambassadors or EAC or Review Board.

b. General Announcements: If you're going to be late, email me.

1. Olszewski: Sign up for Senator Office Hours and I will be doing the bulletin board on Wednesday after my exam. We will be discussing the buttons in Outreach Thursday at 5pm.
2. Felitto: Not to plug an organization that I'm also in, but I'm going to, the WM Model Congress Club. We're looking for people with knowledge of Parli Pro and bill-writing to do an afterschool program with middle schoolers. If you're interested, talk to me.
3. Manning: If you're going to be late or absent please email me.

XII. Comments from the Public

XIII. Adjourn: Gemino Move to adjourn by unanimous consent. PASSED.