

Minutes 2nd Half April 2nd

White- Point of information, only one of the President's appointees is a Senator. I would like to motion to suspend Robert's Rules and go into Open Forum.

Bourgeois- Second.

Ballard- Wait, are we moving to Open Forum in order to come back to this later? Are we moving to real open forum or we just trying to discuss this matter later?

White- Real Open Forum, but we can discuss this matter in real Open Forum, correct?

Ballard- We have to do something with the motion on the table. What are we doing with the Election Commission?

White- Come back to it after Open Forum.

Ballard- So, that is Cognevich's motion?

White- Yes. I am seconding.

Clerk- Would you like me to text Lauren to come here?

Ballard- Yes.

Amina- Until then, we will do a hand vote to move into Open Forum and postpone the Nomination Commission till after Open Forum. Who wants to move forward? (HAND VOTE) That is the majority. Now, we will move onto Open Forum.

X. Open Forum

1. White- I agree this meeting has been a little weird. Just for the future, I would like to suggest to motion to discussion before we start discussing. We voted on almost four things with absolutely no discussion. Usually, you would have to go through the process.

2. Amina- I would like to apologize for the confusion that was happening.

3. Bourgeois- As senators, we are all responsible for knowing the constitution. I think some of us still are confused of how meetings are supposed to run, including myself. We are all busy. However, it is our responsibility as people in the Senate to read that constitution to avoid meetings like this. So, things could go a little smoother.

4. Cognevich- I think we should probably start at noon. That is what we are supposed to do. I strongly feel like votes like the Election Commission, which had to be voted on by this meeting, and it didn't even make it to the agenda until this meeting? I think that is far out of line. We should've been talking about this a month or even two months ago. Anything that is as important as an Election Commission should be talked about in advance. Proactive not reactive basically.

5. Bourgeois- And just to shed a little positivity, we can just remember to learn from our mistakes.

6. Pitalo- Trump, yesterday, basically said that Datka is over. So, we have more reason to all over that bill. We should be a little more speedy about it. I would volunteer to get together with some folks and perhaps we can talk about that immediately after.

7. Batiste- The president actually mentioned it as we were leaving the office. He basically wanted to know what the Senate's progress was. If it was not where it needed to be, he was going to move forward as an executive.

8. Pitalo- If he were to do that, we would just sign on to that.

9. White- No, we would then vote.

10. Ballard- He can write it on his own. However, it does not require a response, unless there is a compound resolution. So, it is far better.

11. Kyser- So, I have all the faculty's Senate letter and other schools bills. I haven't written anything. But I do agree that it should be the role of the Senate to vote on something like that, not the executive because we are all supposed to be a skilled legislature. I put out that email about a week ago and haven't heard back from anybody yet. I would still like to write that, so if you want to help out meet me after the meeting. To be honest, I got wrapped up with silly Service stuff and didn't really have anybody hop on it. So, I kind of forgot about it.

12. Ballard- Anything in Open Forum should be directly related to Student Government business.

13. White- I would like to motion to end Open Forum early and move back to discussion on Election Commission.

Ray- Second

a. Election Commission

1. Lauren Lane- So, for the election commission that I am nominating is Jenny Brison, Kelsey Gooch, Grant Welt, Victoria Hopper, and Alex Dwyer. Can I speak about them?
2. Batiste- Yes, speak on their behalf.
3. Lane- I find that these people are leaders around campus and have school spirit. They are hard workers and want to make our community a better place. I find that they embody perfect qualities of Privateer and that they would treat this position with respect.

b. QUESTIONS

1. White- How many of the appointments are in Greek Life?
2. Lane- All of them
3. White- Are any of them from the same Greek organization?
4. Lane- Yes
5. White- Which ones?
6. Lane- Two are from Lambda Chi Alpha and the others are from Alpha Xi Delta. I did reach out to other people, but they denied my nomination. These are the ones that did accept.
7. Cognevich- Did you only reach out to people in Greek life?
8. Lane- No.
9. Cognevich- What percentage would you say you reached out to Greek life vs Non-Greek life?
10. Lane- Most were from Greek Life because most of them are very involved in other organizations.
11. Cognevich- Do you feel that there could be a conflict of interest if people who run for positions where some are Greek and others aren't?
12. Lane- I see where you are coming from. The people that I did choose, I feel are very non-biased. The people I reached out to were the people I could trust, but some did say no. I can redo it, if yall have some nominations. I am totally for it.
13. Hills- How many people did you inquire outside of Greek life?
14. Lane- Two or Three.
15. Hills- How many did you inquire in Greek life?
16. Lane- 5 or 6
17. Cognevich- How many people are on the board? 5?

18. Lane- Yes.
19. Hills- How many are in Lambda Chi?
20. Lane- Two
21. Hills- How many are in Alpha Xi Delta?
22. Lane- Three.
23. Bourgeois- Are you aware of who is running right now or is that not out yet?
24. Ballard- She knows. You can't know.
25. Bourgeois- You reached out to these people before you knew who was running?
26. Lane- Yes this was way before I knew.
27. Cognevich- If it was weeks before, how come we didn't get the nominations until today?
28. Batiste- That is my fault. It was in my email, but it kind of got swept under all the other paperwork. I apologize.
29. Cognevich- So, you got the appointments...when?
30. Batiste- My email has been kind of buggy, but roughly a month ago. I had issues with John Michael's appointments as well. I really do apologize.
31. Cognevich- Once you found out who was running, did you check to make sure that the people running were not in the same fraternity or sorority as the people on the election board?
32. Lane- No because there are only two people that could have some type of conflict. If yall have any suggestions on who I can reach out to let me know. I am open to them. These are just my suggestions.
33. Mariano- Can you say how many of the candidates are undergraduates?
34. Lane- All except for two I think.
35. Mariano- How many of your commission are undergraduates?
36. Lane- All
37. White- Time
38. Ray- Motion to extend time
39. Hills- Second
40. Cognevich- If there is fraud and it does seem like a conflict of interest, so we have any recourse to replace people on the Election Commission?
41. Batiste- In the case of fraud, the Supreme Court will get involved.
42. Ballard- No, you cannot replace the election commission.
43. Cognevich- What do they actually do?
44. Lane- We have the election code, and we just make sure that everyone is following by the election code. They will send it to me. I will go over it with Joy and then I will meet with election commission. They will then go over the rules. Making sure posters are hung in the right place.
45. Cognevich- How much work would you say they have to do, like historically? Like do they actually have to do anything? Like zero hours?
46. Lane- Yes, I was on Election Commission last year.
47. Batiste- As long as elections run smoothly and no one tries to cheat, the commission doesn't have to be involved. As long as nothing goes wrong. Like someone using a helicopter.
48. Vu- What is method to voting for election?

49. Batiste- It is online. Students are given specific link.
50. Hills- What is your percentage that these people are going to be respectful to this position?
51. Lane- 90%. I have worked with most of them on an executive level and they have not shown any bias in situations. 1:00:44

c. IN SUPPORT

1. Bourgeois- Since I was one of the first ones who had questions about this slate, after hearing what she had to say, my biggest question was if she felt if they would be biased. She was also asked by Hills what her personal opinion was on the Slate. I believe that we voted on her because she is trustworthy, and she has been in this position before. She seems very sure that these people are trustworthy. So, I am supporting it.

d. IN OBJECTION

1. Cognevich- You're in a sorority?
2. Lane- Yes
3. Cognevich- You only asked two people out of Greek Life, and several of the candidates are in the same sorority and fraternity. I believe that the potential for corruption is entirely too high. One of the reasons you said you thought these people were good candidates was because they had school spirit. I don't think that that is a good reason to put someone on a nomination board. I am pretty sure that 89% of campus is involved in Greek Life and the other 11% is not. That's the percentage you went by. I think it is unconscionable for us to vote on this.

e. FINAL DEBATE

1. Bourgeois- UNO is growing really quickly. The people who are the most active. I do not have the statistics in front of me, but I can very confidently say Greeks are very involved. I was in a sorority, I am not anymore, so I am not biased. It is all the same people majority wise. It is very hard to find people who aren't in Greek Life that aren't all in the same organization.
2. Hills- I think that this is a difficult decision. If we don't vote today, could she possibly find another group?
3. Batiste- No. We could always do a special session. 48 hours before it happens. But it may cause conflict with the time of election.
4. Ballard- It would basically push it back two weeks.
5. Cognevich- To say that people in Greek Life are the most active, doesn't mean we should reach out to the same people over and over again. There's no variety. That will have a very small chance of different people coming in. It just doesn't balance.
6. Lane- I definitely see where you are coming from. And whenever I chose these people, I didn't look at them like they were in Greek life. I am involved in a lot of different organizations. So, I just picked from all of those organizations. But I completely understand. And I'm completely not sold on this group of people. And I definitely hear all of yalls very valid responses.
7. Ashby- I'm wondering if we could move forward from this for next year. So, that future Election Commissions are balanced: Greek Life-Non Greek Life.

8. Bourgeois- Just to clarify what I said before, I didn't mean to say we should only reach out to Greek Life. We should reach out to other people not in that circle. I was just trying to say the same people keep doing the same things.
 9. Mariano- If we do vote no, I would like to reiterate that the commissioner asked for suggestions. So, if you do vote no, don't just leave her hanging. We do have a large number of unofficial clubs that just don't have the funding they need. Greek life has the numbers to get more involved.
 10. Hills- She was trying to get suggestions, but we didn't get any emails in time. I don't think that its Lauren's fault. Just go forth with it today so we don't have to push back elections.
 11. Kyser- I think the main question is whether or not Greek life people are the most involved. I don't think that there's some conspiracy that Greek life is trying to plan. I just think it just so happens that people are involved happen to be in Greek organizations. I am in support of it.
 12. White- My issue is that their all in the same sorority or fraternity. I don't think it's a problem with Greek Life as a whole. I don't think there's going to be blind support just for overall Greek life. I could see that blind support happening more for people who are in the same Greek organization.
 13. Cognevich- I agree with White. I do not think we should vote on them just because this is what we have. This is definitely not your fault. But it is your fault that you only reached out to a certain number of people. I think claiming that Greeks are the only people involved is what keeps other people from wanting to join things.
 14. Poche- What would be an example of an advantage?
 15. Ballard- If the presidential candidate were between two people, one was an AXID, the other not, the AXID could commit fraud and the election commission could vote not to do anything about it.
 16. Cognevich- Just because someone probably won't commit fraud, is it a good excuse to just vote them in anyway?
 17. Ballard- It only goes to the Supreme Court if the Election Commission chooses to send it there.
 18. White- To of the members are in the same fraternity as our current president. If he was to go for re-election, that could be a conflict of interest.
- f. Roll Call Vote
- i. 8 Yes, 7 No, 7 Abstained. Commission passes.