



STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

9/19/2016

Minutes

I. Call to order

President Will Weber called to order the regular meeting of the NKU Student Government Association at 3:35 pm on 9/19/2016 in Governance Room (SU 104).

II. Roll call

Secretary of Administration Taylor Gagne conducted a roll call.

Executive Team Present: Chase Britt, Sami Dada, Miriam Davis, Taylor Gagne, Ethan Losier, Cindy Mentrup, Amanda Rogers, Emma Vincent, Will Weber, and Ellen Wilshire

Executive Members Absent:

Senators Present: Ben Anderson, Bradie Anderson, Tyler Andre, Iain Applebee, Michael Bailey, Dasia Bartlett, Ethan Bechtol, Evan Berkemeyer, Isaac Dailey, Hannah Edelen, Patrick Edwards, Ryan Gray, Becca Hepner, Mikaela Mustaine, Onyi Okorie, Dejah Rawlings, Molly Rector, Benjamin Sanning, Kaitlyn Schaefer, Hope Sherman, Maggie Smith, Jachelle Sologuren, Austin Stevenson, Spencer Sutton, Madison Vaughn, Jordan White, and Caroline Winstel

Senators Absent:

Justices Present: Jacob Englert, Gabe Kirk, Haley Madden, and Walker Mettens

Justices Absent:

Guests Present: Mackenzie Manley (Northerner), Sierra Longmire, Sierra Newton, Tya Maine, Kelly Turner, Brooklyn Butler, Dewane Blount, James Johnson, D.J. Sherman, Dezel Brown, Lourdes White, Trayonna Barnes, Trey Lindenwood, Mekkah Moore, Brian Hare, Marquis McClendon, Amber Lamb, Donald Taylor, Jimmy Lemus, Briana Lee, Tyler White, Tiara Atwater, Courtney Cook, Israel Carroll, Lindon Sims, Irakoze Dieudone, Christopher Maddox, Matthew White, Kiara Gray, Kylie Gray, and Jannah Miller

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Reading of Minutes

- A. President Will Weber entertained a motion for the minutes to be approved. Senator Becca Hepner sub-moves the motion and Senator Benjamin Sanning seconds. Vote taken, passes unanimously.

Minutes compiled by: Secretary of Administration Taylor Gagne

V. Open Session

A. Dr. Kathleen Roberts, Senior Advisor for Inclusive Excellence

- Job is to include equity and inclusion in all aspects of the University
- It is important to make sure everyone has an equal opportunity
- We are in the process of developing a new Inclusive Excellence plan for the University. 70 faculty and staff have expressed interest in being included in the process. 80 students responded to serve on sub-committees.

Guest Donald Taylor states that African-American Programs and Services do not have proper funding and that we do not have enough diverse faculty and staff. Additionally, what is happening to help improve retention and graduation rates for minority students

- Slowly, but very successfully, improving the way we look for diverse faculty
- AAP&S has funding, please talk to someone about that amount of money
- We all have different experiences on campus. It is important to figure out what the differences are and how to make improvements. These are discussions they have at CPE.

Guest James Johnson asks, "What the purpose of this discussion is today?" James also states that there were not any non-minority students who spoke on what diversity is.

- I come to SGA every year to speak about what Inclusive Excellence is.

Unnamed guest asks, "How diverse are the inclusive excellence committees?"

- We have 25 diverse students included

Unnamed guest states that she is on the committee and that the group is very diverse. Attests that Dr. Roberts is trying very hard to make our University as inclusive as it can possibly be.

- Office is in the Administrative Building on the 8th floor.

VI. Executive Board Reports

A. Secretary of Public Relations, Sami Dada

- Sign-Ups for Fall Fest Sept 28th, still need 2 more volunteers for 1-2pm. Kickball tournament this Friday.
- New Logo reveal

B. Secretary of Student Involvement, Miriam Davis

- Legacy fund starts this week

C. Secretary of Administration, Taylor Gagne

- We have been working on getting in contact with printing services to get name plates printed.
- New logo is up on the website

D. Vice President, Ellen Wilshire

- Sign-Ups for Committees
- E. President, Will Weber
 - Big crowd today

VII. Committee Reports

- A. Student Rights Committee, Emma Vincent
 - Committee is rocking and rolling
- B. University Improvements Committee, Chase Britt
 - Stay tuned, committee meeting if time allows
- C. Academic Affairs Committee, Cindy Mentrup
 - No report

VIII. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Chief of Staff, Amanda Rogers
 - Need to see 8 people after meeting
- B. Chief Justice, Ethan Losier
 - Need to meet with J-Council after meeting

IX. Advisors Reports

- A. Head Advisor, Sarah Aikman
 - No report
- B. Advisor, Ann James
 - No report
- C. Advisor, Dannie Moore

X. Liaison Reports

- A. ACR Liaison, Dana Jetter
 - Spirit Rock is available for reservations
 - Callahan Haunted House is on Oct 22nd
 - Getting ready for SACCURH
- B. VSR Liaison, Holly Smith
 - Purple Heart Parking for veterans

XI. Old Business

- A. Tabled Discussion
 - 1. Tabled topic is motion by Benjamin Sanning to add a third town hall specifically on racial and cultural diversity and inclusiveness.
 - President Will Weber states that he believes the topic would be much more effective if we get every office on campus involved in this discussion. We have developed an idea for an event called, NKUnity. We are planning to get all of the offices on the 3rd floor of the SU to get involved in this planning.
 - Senator Iain Applebee states that he has heard of a mixer between IFC and NPHC organizations. Is this different? President Will Weber says yes.
- B. NKUnity, presented by Student Rights Committee Chair Emma Vincent

- Town halls aren't typically effective; therefore, we have developed a bigger plan.
- All offices on the third floor will be included.

Guest James Johnson agrees that town halls are not typically the most popular events. This is a fight that needs to be fought from every end. I believe that this could be a successful event. I do not want this to be the one thing to happen and then nothing else happen after that.

Head Advisor Sarah Aikman states that we are not a programming board. Andre Ward is interested in facilitating this event. The idea is for him to sit down with 4-5 students from diverse backgrounds to help create an agenda.

Senator Dejah Rawlings asks, "Will students in the room have choice on NKUnity? Who says the other organization will be invested?"

President Will Weber states that every organization has been contacted and we have been in discussions with everyone.

Senator Benjamin Sanning asks if we have ever done a town hall on one topic. Head advisor Sarah Aikman says yes, last year and we had five students. Senator Benjamin Sanning states that we want to make sure that we make sure these needs are met.

Chief of Staff Amanda Rogers adds a point of clarification of how a Town Hall is formatted.

Guest Donald Taylor states that we are getting a Steak N' Shake next year. Taylor shares a story from when NKU was looking at getting a Chic-Fil-A on campus and how the town hall went that year. Taylor also states that the SGA cannot tell us what are problems are or aren't. We cannot be considered inclusive from one event.

President Will Weber states that this is not an attempt to create a solution and push everything under the wrong. President Will Weber states that the community of students in the room that need to be met won't necessarily be in attendance during a town hall.

Student Rights Committee Chair Emma Vincent shares the resolution written by Patrick Reagan on what a town hall is.

Guest Matthew White states that issues are usually avoided. The guests in the room would like to have both events.

Guest Mekkah Moore asks for clarification on whether town hall would have a healthy environment to discuss. What will SGA do after the fact to help continue these discussions.

Senator Dejah Rawlings states that it would be hard to get all the offices on the same page. She believes that we do need to have both events.

University Improvements Chair Chase Britt motions to call original motion to question. The motion is seconded by Senator Ben Anderson. Vote taken, passes. (28 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention)

XII. New Business

A. NKU Unity Discussion Continued

Guest James Johnson asks that we can give the guests in the room to articulate their questions and thoughts.

Unnamed guest states that we are together as one, working together. It may be good to look at resolutions to require some aspect of inclusive excellence in organizational by-laws.

Senator Kaitlyn Schaefer states that we represent all students of the University, not just certain people.

Senator Benjamin Sanning asks if the town hall can be set as students talking to SGA. Chief of Staff Amanda Rogers states that it may be counter-productive if we remove the faculty and staff aspect.

ACR Liaison Dana Jetter states that ACR is a programming organization and is willing to help with NKUnity.

Guest Matthew White asks if there is a structure set for the proposed town hall. Seeking clarification on the topic – the topic is on racial and cultural diversity and inclusiveness.

Guest Donald Taylor states that a plan of action would need to be developed on how to go forward after these events happen.

Guest James Johnson states that we are over-analyzing and need to move forward with NKUnity.

Unnamed guest asks if senators would be required to attend NKUnity and town hall. President Will Weber clarifies that the body is only required to go to town halls, but strongly considered to go to both.

Head Advisor Sarah Aikman asks which order do the events need to happen in.

Guest James Johnson says it doesn't matter which order they happen in

Head Advisor Sarah Aikman ask who are the head people in the university that need to be in these meetings.

Unnamed guest states that we need all administration at the event.

Guest Matthew White asks for upper-level faculty (tenured and non-tenured), Nadler, Ott Rowlands, and President Mearns

Guest Barnes asks who is planning this event.

Head Advisor Sarah Aikman states that students interested in being on the being on the

Student Rights Committee Chair Emma Vincent motions to create an ad-hoc committee consisting of students and senators planning committee for town hall and NKU Unity. Motion seconded by Senator Becca Hepner. Floor opened for discussion. Unnamed guest states her desire for the group to be diversity. President Will Weber assures guest that his appointments to the committee will be a diverse group. Vote taken, passes unanimously.

XIII. Announcements

1. Senator Ryan Gray states that the application for orientation leader is open and closes on October 7th.
2. Alpha Phi Alpha is having an informational on Thursday at 6:15 pm in Otto Buding. Their scholarship pageant is at 7 pm.

XIV. Adjournment

Senator Ben Anderson motions to adjourn and has a second from Senator Becca Hepner. Vote taken, passes unanimously. Meeting is adjourned at 5:17 pm.

Minutes compiled by: Secretary of Administration Taylor Gagne