

Student Government Association

Meeting

11/08/21

Minutes

1. Call to Order
   1. President Cannon called the meeting to order at 3:30pm
2. Roll Call
   1. Justices Present: Abdulazeez, Price, Rice
   2. Justices Absent: None
   3. Justices Excused: Adams and Davis
   4. Senators Present: Abraham, Arango, Belcaitis, Boards, Burns, Coffey, Crespo, Gilpin, Hix, McCray, McCulloch, Myers, Omar, Pfalz, Renton, Siebenaler, Stokes, Terrell, Tolbert, Wright
   5. Senators Absent: None
   6. Senators Excused: None
   7. Executive Cabinet Present: Cannon, Day-Carter, Nguyen, Prince, Weis
   8. Executive Cabinet Absent: None
   9. Executive Cabinet Excused: None
3. Reading of Minutes
   1. Senator McCray motioned to accept the minutes as electronically distributed, Chairperson Renton submoved, and Senator Abraham seconded. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.
4. Open Session
   * 1. Swearing in of senators
        1. Ashton Davey introduced themselves and their involvement on campus such as Honors and Nuke Robotics. He wants to join SGA to help support students and advocate for them
        2. Ian Simpson – Education major, passion for policy making, wants to get his feet wet in the process of legislation, has no prior experience in student government but wants to learn and grow in this organization
        3. Senator Abraham asked what ideas they want to bring to SGA
           1. LLC interested Ashton as Chairperson Renton brought them up. Also, he is interested in academics and research on the STEM side of things
           2. Ian wants our campus to thrive as he has heard how people judge the campus as being dead for being a commuter school and has experienced campus not being as busy during the weekend. He wants to work on it and is passionate about it.
        4. President Cannon opened the floor up for discussion for 5 minutes
           1. Senator Abraham said that Ashton seemed very ambitious
           2. Senator Coffey spoke positively about Ian as she had a class with him and that he was outgoing and willing to communicate with the professor if he ever had questions
           3. Chairwoman Arango enjoyed the idea brought up by Ian
           4. Senator McCray motioned to approve the candidates. Senator Gilpin seconded.
           5. They were approved unanimously by a voice vote.
        5. Chief Justice Prince swore in Senator Davey and Senator Simpson
        6. Senator McCray motioned to have a 45 minute open discussion voted on a roll call vote
           1. With unanimous I’s, the motion passed
           2. Senator McCray voiced that there is a lack of communication and that there is no transparency. There are certain things not being shared to the general body from within the Executive Board out of fear of division. He is not happy with how SGA is being ran. His example was he has never spoken with any of the justices and that it has been a waste of time.
           3. Sarah stated that we cannot do any business because we are not at quorum yet
           4. Senator Abraham said that other people such as advisors have not recruited people either and that it is not the job of the senators to promote and recruit for people.
           5. Dr. Howard stated we are here on a delegated authority and that we are operating the way we should. We cannot address business unless we are at quorum which is in our constitution. Once we reach quorum, we can operate however we want. As advisors, it is not their job to develop and recruit new members. There is a certain way to operate and the body must follow the process. The Roberts Rules of Order don’t apply to the advisors. When we pass resolution, it is our suggestion to the administration on how to improve NKU. The job of the body is to reach out and find out what the students want and bring it back to our elected candidate, President Cannon.
           6. Senator Gilpin asked Chief Justice Prince to read the definition of quorum within our constitution.
           7. Sarah said we need a minimum of 25 senators within SGA
           8. Senator Myers stated that it is easy to speak with the justices and that he has already spoken with Chief Justice Prince. Then, towards Senator Abraham he defended the advisors as they already have their own jobs and are here voluntarily where as we are here as students that can easily reach out to other students and recruit. He agrees that the senators don’t speak with the justices as often which is odd and wants better relationships within SGA. He just wants us to be aware of our relationships and to be more intentional.
           9. Chairperson Renton asked for 3 minutes to be added back to the time for the time that Dr. Howard spoke for. They stated that this discussion should not be volatile and is just a time for an open discussion. He believes it was rude for Dr. Howard to interrupt Senator Abraham.
           10. Dr. Howard said he stood up because he felt as though that the comments being made towards the advisors were disrespectful. Their goal is to guide and improvise the body as advisors. He knows how much time they spend with SGA and doesn’t want the members to disrespect the advisors.
           11. Chairperson Renton said the presentations have been valuable but taking time out to speak more about the issues on campus would also be important. It would be great to take some time out during the open session to bring up different issues to start on at least some initiatives as we don’t need quorum for initiatives.
           12. President Cannon will consider the suggestion given from Chairperson Renton.
           13. Senator Abraham said that recruiting is not his top priority. He asked besides the three chairs, what does the Executive Board know what the senators are working on? It would be a tremendous help if the Executive Board reached out more to be able to be more of an assistance. He also said that the transparency is not there. He said that transparency was one of President Cannon’s running pillars but is not staying true to it.

President Cannon asked for an example.

He said that after the rocl incident, President Cannon seemed to have just taken charge on the issue and not ask for the input from the body. If there is no transparency within SGA, then there will be no transparency or trust from the student body.

President Cannon informed him of the Zoom meeting that occurred on Oct 31 that included Senator Gilpin, Chairman Omar, and Chairperson Renton. Chairperson Renton wanted there to be allyship and President Cannon asked for Chairperson Renton to communicate with the LGBTQIA+ student orgs to get their input. $125,000 for 80 more cameras and work on the lighting. President Cannon is trying to be transparent as much as possible however she is under contract to maintain confidentiality.

Senator Abraham asked if anyone has reached out to people or students in the queer community.

President Cannon stated that Chairperson Renton would be handling it as she didn’t want to overstep.

Chairperson Renton thanks President Cannon for bringing up the conversations to Dr. Howard, Arnie, and Sarah and believes that President Cannon has broken confidentiality.

Senator Abraham said the timing was off and disagrees with Chairperson that it wasn’t a breach of confidentiality.

Chairman Omar thanked everyone that spoke up today. There have been many times that he has been lied on and disrespected. He has tried to be respectful but has been disrespected by the SGA President, President Cannon. He was also spoken to disrespectfully on the phone the night prior.

President Cannon asked for members to show their hands if Chairman Omar asked them to vote in favor of whatever he was asking for.

Senator Gilpin stated that they were there for the phone call with Chairman Omar and asked if she would talk that way to Arnie, Sarah, and Dr. Howard

Senator Abraham wants us to not beat around the bush and

Secretary Day-Carter said that people spoke to the advisors disrespectfully and don’t know what they’re talking about.

Chairman Omar said that everyone said each of their feelings are valid and important. He encouraged everyone to use their voice and to not be scared.

Chairwoman Arango asked how many people are here to represent the student body. Then, she asked how many people are here to represent the regents.

Senator Gilpin asked how can we recruit anyone when there are other members that don’t believe that other members are worthy to be here.

Christopher said that Secretary Day-Carter was out of order.

Senator Pfalz doesn’t know what they’re doing as a senator. They don’t know because of all the presentations during the meetings. They don’t think they can recruit very well as we watch presentations during meeting.

Dr. Howard said that each senator should be in a committee and the committee chair should teach the senators on what to do and what they are supposed to do.

Secretary Duncan spoke about how when people’s feelings are hurt that it is something you will experience in any workspace as she has had several other employments. She stated that who cares what other people think about you when you should just focus on yourself. There were no solutions made and just complaints, so she will make a complaint form to keep transparency.

Senator McCray said that this discussion was not planned. He also thinks that Senator Abraham’s response was appropriate while Senator Day-Carter’s response was highly inappropriate. He just wants everyone to discuss everything in the open.

Dr. Howard wants SGA to figure out what the issues are, get to the root of the problem, and find the solutions to the problems,

President Cannon said that Senator McCray has always been welcomed into her office and that everyone is welcomed to talk to her.

Dr. Arnie Slaughter wants everyone to reflect on why everyone has joined SGA. If you joined to make a change, then we need to work on the problems. If you do not want to move on, then SGA is not the organization for you as there are over 14,000 students to help and represent.

President Cannon asked if anyone that does not want to be here in SGA then they can leave the room.

Chairperson Renton asked for a five-minute break to have a moment to breathe.

Chief Justice stated he was very confused last year as well as he was new, but he asked for a transition packet which helped him know exactly what to do and his duties. If we continue in our ways, we will go down the same path as last year. He even has assigned a justice to each committee and asked if anyone from the committees have reached out to the justices.

Deputy Justice Price said that each justice is in a committee now as a representative. He stated the justices are always working together to bounce ideas off each other when any questions are brought to them and then they bring it up to Chief Justice Prince. Also, anyone can attend the judicial council meetings according to the Bylaws. If anyone wants to ever follow the process, you can always ask one of the justices to help.

Chairman Omar motioned for a 5 minute recess, Senator Pfalz seconded, and it passed unanimously.

1. Liaison Reports
   1. No report
2. Executive Board Reports
   1. Secretary of Public Relations
      1. No report
   2. Secretary of Student Involvement
      1. No report
   3. Secretary of Administration
      1. No report
   4. Vice President
      1. No report
   5. President
      1. No report
3. Committee Reports
   1. Student Advocacy
      1. No report
   2. Academic Excellence
      1. No report
   3. University Improvements
      1. No report
4. Ex-Officio Reports
   1. Chief Justice
      1. No report
   2. Chief of Staff
      1. No report
5. Advisors Reports
   1. No report
6. Old Business
   1. No old business
7. New Business
   1. No new business
8. Announcements
   1. No announcements
9. Adjournment
   1. Chairman Omar entertained a motion to adjourn. Senator Gilpin sub moved and

Chairwoman Arango seconded. The motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:05pm