

# WKU Student Government Association

Meeting Minutes

March 3rd

## Opening

The regular meeting of the WKU Student Government Association was called to order at 5:00pm on March 3rd in Downing Student Union by Speaker of the Senate Nathan Terrell.

## Present

20 Senators were present when the Senate was called to order.

## Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

## Officer Reports

President Will Harris:

- Thanks for attending the rally today in Frankfort!

Executive Vice President Garrett Edmonds:

- Thanks for attending the rally today in Frankfort! Great job to President Will Harris for his outreach to students outside of SGA to attend.

Administrative Vice President Kenan Mujkanovic

Chief of Staff Aubrey Kelley

- The legislation has been sent to LRC regarding free parking for the counseling and testing center

Public Relations Ashlynn Evans

DAC Abby Norvell

- Scholarships are due this Friday!

IT Director Paul Brosky

Speaker of the Senate Nathan Terrell

Secretary of the Senate Brenna Mathews

- We had only 5 senators not complete their office hours. Please do your office hour or send an excuse into the excuse email!

## **Unfinished Business**

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Head Matthew Johnson

Campus Improvements Committee Head Matt Barr

LRC Committee Head Josh Zaczek

- Doing a great job with legislation!

Public Relations Committee Head Brigid Stakelum

- No more tabling in DSU because it is difficult for SGA to get a table.
- No meeting tonight after SGA dismisses

Diversity and Inclusion Committee Head Symone Whalin

- Meeting after SGA dismisses

Sustainability Committee Head Jamison Moorehead

- Meeting after SGA dismisses

SAVES Committee Head Kat Howard

## **Special Reports**

University Committee Reports

Judicial Council Reports

Guest/Student Speakers

- Jay Wells spoke about a bill funding a \$1,000 LGBTQ+ scholarship. Jay spoke in support of the bill and is asking senators to continue the work on the legislation.

## **Unfinished Business**

Bill 3-20-S. To allocate the special projects fund of \$5,000 to Facilities Management to start the hammock initiative on campus.

- President Will Harris, EVP Garrett Edmonds, AVP Kenan Mujkanovic and Campus Improvements Committee Chairman Barr spoke in favor of the bill as sponsors. Brian Kuster spoke in favor of the bill as the head of student life and enrollment experience. He spoke of his concerns of tree damage as student hammock in areas on campus. President of the Residence Hall Association, Emily, spoke in favor of the bill. Emily sees this bill as an opportunity for students to hammock safely on campus and advocate for the students. Amended by EVP Edmonds to add a whereas clause.
  - Question from Senator Hard: will hammocks be provided?
    - Harris responded that they are looking at quotes that include hammocks.
  - Questions from Senator Hard: the wifi doesn't work as well outside of Zacharias, would improvements be made to adjust the wifi?
    - Harris responded that this is the feedback that they've wanted to receive on the project.
  - Question from Senator Zaczek: Is there a timeline for this project?
    - Brian Kuster responded that there is no cost to go through the estimating phase, which will begin shortly after the passing of this bill.
  - Question from Senator Zaczek: is there anywhere else the money is coming from?
    - Kuster replied that the funding is solely coming from SGA.
  - Question from Survance: is this going to a continuous SGA fund?
    - Harris said this will be a one-time only funding project from SGA
  - Question from Mayo: would it have been possible to have quotes prior to the writing of this bill?
    - Kuster replied that there is no loss for the legislative body to allow the funds to be considered for this project
  - Question from Hounshell: legislation will be voted on again to actually use the funds?
    - Edmonds replied that Matt Barr will serve as the liaison and be utilized to continually update the body
  - Question from Hounshell: has any tabling been done for this project?
    - Edmonds replied that outside students are actively hammocking right now
  - Question from Survance: how many trees have been lost due to hammocking?
    - Brian Kuster replied that the bark on a tree is damaged when students hang hammocks. There is no data for the damage hammocks have done.

- Moved out of questions.
- Survance spoke against the bill. The \$5,000 could be better utilized at the food site within SGA office
- Zaczek spoke against the bill. The bill has been without information such as a timeline and the budget. The bill as is needs more information.
- Merdian spoke in favor of the bill. This initiative is a great way for SGA to get its name out on campus and the money is not coming from the scholarships but mostly from food and executive discretionary budget.
- Johnson spoke in favor of the bill. The Tree Campus USA is a pristine designation that WKU has earned for 10 years in a row. Hammocking on trees is damaging and this bill starts an initiative that will be sustainable.
- Hard spoke against the bill. Not sure about the PR standpoint of the project.
- Stakelum spoke in favor of the bill. She sees that the process without data is simply how the process works. She sees the importance of community spaces on campus for the overall health of students and realizes that the collaboration with RHA would be beneficial. Also notices the sustainability benefits.
- Motion made by Zaczek to limit debate to 30 seconds per senator.
  - Burks spoke against the motion.
  - Friendly amendment from Whalin to limit debate to 90 seconds
  - Accepted
- Motion passed as amended 13-0-4
- Baum spoke in favor of the bill. This is money is not going to be spent until the project is completely planned.
- Burks spoke in favor of the bill. Tabling is not good enough for Public Relations. These hammocks being sponsored by SGA will be better. Previous question was called and seconded by Survance.
  - Previous question called and passed 13-2-0-2
- Moved into voice voting. Bill passed 23-6.

Bill 4-20-S. Organizational Aid Funding for Western Kentucky University KY Public Health Association, Student National Association Teachers Society, Phi Sigma Pi – Beta Phi, American Society of Civil Engineers, WKU Food Recovery, Korean Pop Culture Club, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc., and WKU HOLAS.

- EVP Kenan Mujkanovic spoke in favor of the bill as sponsor. These organizations discussed the need for money.
  - moved into voting
  - Bill passes 15-0-0-2

#### Bill 5-20-S. Funding for the Healthy Days Fair

- DASA Abbey Norvell spoke in favor of the bill as sponsor.
  - o MJ Mayo asked of th location of the Healthy Days Fair. It is in Preston Health and Activities Center.
- Moved into voting
- Bill passes 15-0-0-2

#### **New Business**

Bill 6-20-S. A Bill to Establish an Honor Society Membership Reimbursement Fund

Bill 7-20-S. Funding for the Addressing Educational Disparities Scholarship.

#### **Announcements**

Brigid Stakelum: the student research conference will be looking for student volunteers soon.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:21 by Speaker of the Senate Nathan Terrell.



WKU STUDENT ACTIVITIES INVITES YOU TO...

April 4th, 2020  
10:00am-3:00pm  
Registration @  
9:30am

# THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

LEAD BY EXAMPLE!!!

SCAN TO REGISTER!  
REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 30TH

QUESTIONS? CONTACT  
ALISSA.BELTON561@TOPPER.WKU.EDU  
OR  
BRAXTON.WHITNEY765@TOPPER.WKU.EDU

