



Committee Name: Administrative and Financial Affairs

Chair: McKenna Bates

Vice-Chair: Cassidy Whitehurst

Minutes: Cassidy Whitehurst

Date: February 19th, 2019

Name: (Senate)	Attendance	Pagan, Joseph	Bill #34	Bill #35	Bill #36	Bill #37	Bill #38	Bill #39	Bill #40
McKenna Bates	P	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cassidy Whitehurst	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Amanda Attiya	EX								
Monet Ballard	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Summer Brown	P	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y		
Dustin Cone	P	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N
Sean Diment	P	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Leah Hoffman	P	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erica Kelly	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mackenzie Nelson	P	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y
Madeline Portnoy	EX								
Total	10 Present 2 Absent	8 Yes 1 No 1 Abstain	9 Yes 1 No 0 Abstain	10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain	3 Yes 2 No 5 Abstain	10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain	10 yes 0 No 0 Abstain	9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain	8 Yes 1 No 0 Abstain

Also in Attendance:

Cedric Price, Ben Endres, Eric Neilson, Patrick Grady, Asha McClendon, Nicolo Allado, Zachary Wolfson, Shelby Adams, Domonique Dowling, Connor Barth, Joseph Fernando, Samantha Gibbs

I. Meeting Commenced

A. Time- 3:15pm

II. In Attendance:

A. 10 Present, 2 Absent

III. Chair Report:

A. Hello, everyone. We have a busy meeting today, so please be aware and conscientious of time constraints. Today we have one potential appointee coming in for an interview and seven code bill amendments. We also will be working on setting up the Town Hall for the constitution amendment, but as today's meeting will have a full agenda, we will focus on planning the Town Hall next week. Ben has already booked Merten 1201 from 12-2pm on March 1st, so we already have a place set up. We'll discuss that more next week. For now, please focus on the bills and the appointee. We also have a member of the EDC here to answer any questions you have about some of the Code Bill amendments.

IV. Vice-Chair Report:

A. None

V. Business

A. Appointment: Joseph Pagan

1. See Appointment Document
2. Discussion and Debate-

a) Cone:

(1) His weakness said he takes a while to get into the groove of things. We have only a few meetings left so how long is it going to take him to adapt? I don't think this weakness works with our timeline.

b) Brown:

(1) He did run in the fall elections and didn't get in. He is highly dedicated and highly motivated. He learns quickly in my opinion. He constantly approaches me about student government and asks what goes on. I think he's dedicated.

c) Fernando

(1) He is dedicated. His resume showed he is dedicated with his service hours.

d) Diment

(1) I like his diligence and hardworkingness. Any organization can use those traits. Im willing to give him a chance. I agree with chairman Cone but I am willing to give him a chance. Working in medical centers is no easy task. He seems passionate.

e) Price

(1) Was he informed about the commitment student senate requires?

(a) Bates - Yes

3. Voting Procedures-

a) Passes: 8 – 1 – 1

B. Bill #34

1. Author's Report-

a) Kelly: As you remember when we had to confirm our secretary university services, we didn't know what vote was needed to confirm. This will fix the hole

in our code for appointments of executive cabinets. The reason I chose 2/3 is because it's the same threshold senators are held to in appointments.

2. Discussion and Debate-
 - a) None
 3. Voting Procedures
 - a) Passes: 9 – 1 – 0
- C. Bill #35**
1. Author's Report-
 - a) Whitehurst: This is Attiya's report. When I went to submit my first piece of legislation after becoming Clerk, it was unclear whether I had to submit it to someone or not, so I wanted to make this process more defined. As well, the second part I changed is mostly to accommodate what we already do in Senate. I feel this is relatively straight forward, but I am open to any amendments or suggestions you all make because I trust you all as a committee.
 2. Discussion and Debate-
 - a) Cone: I don't agree with the last section, it's not sustainable. We waste a lot of paper. I suggest if you want a copy you ask the clerk if she could print out a copy. I don't agree with first section. The speaker is CC'd on emails anyways.
 - b) Kelly: She would be fine with the wording being changed to those who request a copy. Secondly, I think the second part is necessary because there's a hole in the code, the purpose of it being shown to the speaker is so someone else is looking over legislation and double checking it.
 - c) Brown: I think it's because of the double checking
 - d) Bates: When I was acting clerk for a day, it was difficult because a lot of people submit unfinished bills. The speaker would be a good second pair of eyes.
 - e) Hoffman: I motion to strike from hard copies all the way to the end. I don't think it's necessary to print out hard copies at all because it will encourage people to read the journal. I don't think we all need them, its on the screen in front of us.
 - (1) Cone: I can't see the screen because of my seat placement, I like having physical copies. Its hard for me to remember everything I read the night before. I think we should have to request copies.
 - (2) Price: I don't agree with it. Copies should be available because not everyone can see the screen. I like to see in front of me what's going to be happening next. We could have copies for leadership and have people request copies.
 - (3) Ballard: There's also times when we have technology problems. More than just leadership should have copies.
 - (4) Brown: The first meeting we had I had to ask for a copy because I couldn't see the screen. I think we should have people request for copies.
 - (5) Kelly: I think we should vote down this amendment and make a new amendment.
 - (6) Dowling: Why don't we just add request copies to this amendment?
 - (7) Voting Procedures
 - (a) Amendment fails

f) Cone: I motion to amend “hard copies are to be printed for all members who previously requested it from the clerk prior to the meeting with a few additional copies for those seated in the gallery.” I think we all agree. I don’t think we should say just leadership.

(1) Kelly: This is a good amendment.

(2) Voting Procedures

(a) Amendment passes

3. Voting Procedures

a) Passes: 10 – 0 – 0

D. **Bill #36**

1. Author’s Report-

a) Whitehurst: This is Attiya’s report. This set of amendments is, for one, to make the code more uniform, as well as to match it with what we do in senate. This section of the code is about Lead Team elections at the beginning of a new senate. After speaking with members of senate which have been here longer than I have, the past Clerk serves as Clerk until a new one is elected, but this is not outlined in the code. As well, for pro-temp elections, it does not make sense for the Clerk to administer the election when we have already elected a speaker. Once again, I am open to suggestions and amendments.

2. Discussion and Debate-

a) Cone: I agree that the clerk shouldn’t do speaker pro-temp elections. However, I don’t think a lot of this bill is needed, we have always done it the way we have with no issue. I will not be supporting this bill.

b) Kelly: we need to add clarification in the code. This is just in case we have an issue in the future. I think this is good for someone to go back to.

c) Cone: I think we shouldn’t be adding stuff just because we’re scared of what happens in the future. We’ve functioned well these past 39 years. If its not broken why fix it?

3. Voting Procedures

a) Fails: 3 – 2 – 5

E. **Bill #37**

1. Author’s Report-

a) Whitehurst: This is Attiya’s report. I know this bill is super long, but I promise it is only changing all of the pronouns to be gender neutral. The only major difference is Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 204, in which I outline that the code is to be gender neutral. The reason I wrote this amendment is because there is an apparent push for this among other Senators; I drew inspiration from Vice Chair Diment’s code bill amendments last semester. As a result of these amendments, however, the code has been left an inconsistent hodge podge of different pronoun usages. If you read the code, you can find “he”, “he or she”, and “he/she”, among other inconsistencies. We could change everything back to the masculine gender as the current code denotes, but I believe this will simply become an issue again a few years later. This bill is not solely taking a stance on gender inclusivity, though as a result it does reach to these communities. It is simply targeting

inconsistencies in the code at its source. I spent a lot of time working through the code, so I do hope you all believe it is worth going to the floor on Thursday.

2. Discussion and Debate-

a) Cone: She did a lot of work on this. Does this just apply to the code?

(1) Kelly: Yes, but this could change the norm in calling each other chairwoman/chairman instead of just chair.

b) Diment: She came to me about this and she wanted to do it. It seems silly to refer to everyone as masculine.

c) Fernando: I like it, we just have a clerical error.

3. Voting Procedures

a) Passes: 10 – 0 – 0

F. Bill #38

1. Author's Report-

a) Ballard: This takes out the cap for how many members sit on the parking appeal board. Having three minimum and five maximum is hard to work around. This gives it more people so you can have more discussion and debate over the appeals.

2. Discussion and Debate-

a) Hoffman: I don't agree, I think there should be a cap. We should change it to having up to eight people on the board and four is quorum.

b) Ballard: I believe that eight makes an even number, it has to be an odd number.

c) Cone: I think it should be nine.

d) Hoffman: I motion to amend "up to nine members may be appointed to the board and three will be quorum."

(1) Brown: Point of information- does that get rid of the minimum issue?

(a) Hoffman: Yes, quorum.

(2) Cone: Is it going to be harder to work with five different schedules?

(3) Kelly: It would be nine members plus the chair. I motion to amend the amendment "up to eight members may be appointed to the board and three will be quorum."

(a) Ballard: I sat on Parking Appeals before and Chris would be the tie breaking vote.

(b) Price: Is the Parking Appeals Board okay with this?

(i) Ballard: Yes

(c) Kelly: I understand the way it is written right now would technically mean that it should have six members as it stands, this would clearly state the undersecretary.

(d) Voting Procedures

(i) Amendment passes

(4) Hoffoman: I motion to add "This will make for a total of nine official members on the board."

(a) Kelly: Can we do unanimous consent?

(b) Voting Procedures

(i) Amendment passes

3. Voting Procedures

a) Passes: 10 – 0 – 0

G. **Ben Endres:** Clarification on absentions.

H. **Bill #39**

1. Author's Report-

a) Price refers to Grady: This code bill amendment cleans up the language and in the next bill we are reintroducing everything.

2. Discussion and Debate-

a) none

3. Voting Procedures

a) Passes: 9 – 0 – 0

I. **Bill #40**

1. Author's Report-

a) Price refers to Grady: This code bill amendment outlines how we function as a body. Past EDC chairs and our advisors suggested that we addressed these issues. It removes redundant sections, models ourselves after the supreme court in the aspect of discretion on ability to hear cases, and gives ourselves a vehicle to remove incompetent members but also due process for them so they can appeal that.

2. Discussion and Debate-

a) Cone: For section 2.203, what would fall outside of the boundary of your purpose?

(1) Grady: In case of an election there are many disputes. Not all are related to our scope of authority. This gives us more discretion in hearings.

b) Cone: For the grounds of first appeal, what would be other agencies you would refer to on cases of bias?

(1) Nielson: The disputes board, which would form in the case of deciding an institutional matter or the election judicial board.

c) Cone: Aren't those the same people?

(1) Nielson: Those boards don't form until a specific dispute calls for it.

d) Cone: Since the EDC has 9 members, the bias section doesn't make sense because same people who are accused of bias could still be judging you.

(1) Nielson: We have procedures in place. The appealed case is decided by the entire board, all nine people.

e) Kelly: I think they've done a good job at preventing concerns chairman Cone was asking about. I support.

f) Price: Everything that's being considered is needed. They know what they're doing and I would trust them.

g) Cone: I don't think we should 100% trust them, we should be considering things equally to the same standards.. If you genuinely don't know everything in it then you can vote yes but ask questions during the senate. We shouldn't just vote in good faith.

h) Price: If you don't feel comfortable then vote how you feel. They know more about this subject, but I'm not trying to sway you all because they submitted it.

i) Kelly: If we vote this down then we'll have to wait until next semester with a new senate.

3. Voting Procedures

a) Passes: 8 – 1 – 0

VI. Announcements:

A. Bates- My computer broke for real this time and I'm currently looking at some replacements. As such, please be patient with my response times and such. Sorry for abstentions information.

B. Fernando- Ad hoc will be on Thursdays from 3-4 now.

VII. Adjournment

A. Time- 4:33pm

39th Student Senate
2nd Session
Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee

Name: Joseph Pagan

Date: February 19th, 2019

Time: 3:17

Year: Freshman

Resides: On Campus

Minutes: Cassidy Whitehurst

Minutes/Notes on Candidate Statement and/or Presentation:

Candidate Statement: I'm a government and international politics major, my main passion is to serve the community through government work or international organizations. I like government a lot and want to be a part of something bigger than myself. I want to be a great influence on this community.

Guided Questions:

1. What unique quality do you have that you will bring to Student Government?
 - a. I am diligent, work efficiently, and I have an awareness of diversity at GMU. As a government major, I can see many issues in the community and I'd like to do what I can to change the negative aspects. I want to work hard for the GMU students here.
2. What do you hope to get out of Student Government?
 - a. I'd like to gain the experience and the knowledge of working with the student body. I want to work in politics one day so this will give me the experience to do that.
3. What are some issues you have noticed around campus Student Government should be addressing?
 - a. From my experience, the dining halls and the health and safety of students. My top priority are the students here at GMU. It's important to have a good learning environment for students.
4. How would you improve outreach for Student Government and how would you make Student Government more approachable?
 - a. I think putting on small and/or major events will make people more aware of Student Government. I think video analysis of the actual sessions so people can see what's going on in Student Government would also be a good idea.
5. Are there any particular committees you are interested in and why?
 - a. Government and Community Relations. I am very flexible and can go into any position.
6. Strengths and Weaknesses?
 - a. Strength- I am very diligent and work hard.
 - b. Weakness- It takes time for me to adjust to new settings.
7. Describe a conflict you had with a colleague and how it was resolved?
 - a. In high school I had a report on social issues, the conflict was how to present it to audience. My partner and I disagreed on how to present it. I followed through with his idea and compromised. I learned to trust others and don't think anything is impossible.

Additional Questions:

1. Hoffman: What would you say is your most profound personality trait?

- a. Motivated to work hard and show others I can work with other people, I am very flexible. I like to look at other perspectives.
- 2. Cone: what is your schedule like?
 - a. I have very flexible class time. I might be late to a few sessions but I am dedicated.
- 3. Fernando: What pressing issue are you most passionate about in GCR?
 - a. I would like to start at a local level because it has a bigger impact on the community around me.
- 4. Kelly: Are you involved in other organization, if so how will that influence how you represent students?
 - a. I am involved in a church group. We reach out to different members of the community and help out. Grace point church is the name. I like to help out with stuff I believe in.

Discussion and Debate:

- 5. Cone:
 - a. His weakness said he takes a while to get into the groove of things. We have only a few meetings left so how long is it going to take him to adapt? I don't think this weakness works with our timeline.
- 6. Brown:
 - a. He did run in the fall elections and didn't get in. He is highly dedicated and highly motivated. He learns quickly in my opinion. He constantly approaches me about student government and asks what goes on. I think he's dedicated.
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 - a. He is dedicated. His resume showed he is dedicated with his service hours.
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 - a. I like his diligence and hardworkingness. Any organization can use those traits. Im willing to give him a chance. I agree with chairman Cone but I am willing to give him a chance. Working in medical centers is no easy task. He seems passionate.
- 9. Price
 - a. Was he informed about the commitment student senate requires?
 - i. Bates - Yes