

Meeting Called to Order at 4:34

Roll Taken

Senators Hall, Miller, Rivers, Bell, Didlake and Jones were absent. Senators Cain, Elliot, and Tate were late.

Motion to forego the reading of the minutes

Visitors

John Boss,

New Senators sworn in by Attorney General Emily Rose

Senators Bogle, Brown, Crabtree, Glenn, Hurton, Knight, Loso, Whitlock, and Williams

Officer Reports

New Business

Executive Vice President Haley Cobb turned the meeting over to pro tem Caleb Gray. Senator Hardman, Sponsor of SGA Resolution 1-14-S. A resolution to require the use of safety crossing arms and stop signs on all Middle Tennessee State University buses.

Senator Hardman read the resolution aloud.

Pro tem Caleb Gray asked Senator Hardman if he would like first debate.

Senator Hardman stated the resolution is strictly to enforce safety. Pricing and model of crossing arms would be determined by The Department of Parking and Transportation. No further discussion was raised.

A vote was taken on the Resolution. The Resolution passed.

Senator Jones, Sponsor of SGA Resolution 2-14-S A resolution to post "Watch for Pedestrian" signs on entrances to campus.

Senator Jones read the resolution aloud.

Senator Knight asked Senator Jones if he would yield to a series of questions.

Senator Jones yielded.

Senator Knight asked if an amendment could be made to insert "and cyclists" after pedestrian in "Watch for Pedestrian."

Senator Knight made the motion to amend the resolution.

A vote was taken on the Amendment. The Amendment passed.

Senator Martin asked if Senator Jones would yield to a question.

Senator Jones yielded.

Senator Martin questioned the usefulness of the signs.

Senator Jones responded that it would create more awareness.

Senator Johnson asked if an amendment could be made to add "s" to Pedestrian in "Watch for Pedestrian."

A vote was taken on the Amendment. Amendment passed.

A vote was taken on the Resolution. The Resolution passed.

Representative Keys, Sponsor of Resolution 2-14-S-FC A resolution to create a pathway in front of the McCallie Dining Hall.

Senator Keys read the resolution aloud.

Pro tem Caleb Gray asked if Representative Keys would like first debate.

Representative Keys said that the appearance of the mud in front of the dining hall was displeasing and runs off into the bike racks but with pathway the access would be easier for students.

Representative Keys made a motion for favorable passage.

Senator Helton asked Representative Keys if he would yield to questions.

Representative Keys yielded.

Senator Helton asked where the sidewalks were currently located.

Representative Keys stated there were sidewalks on either side of the dining hall but not the front entrance.

Senator Helton asked if the new pathway would connect the side entrance to the front entrance.

Representative Keys said yes.

Senator Cobb commended Representative Keys on writing this particular piece of legislation. No further discussion.

A vote was taken on the Resolution. The Resolution passed.

Senator Beasley, Sponsor of Resolution 1-14-S A resolution to make the Middle Tennessee State University Student Government a bicameral body of legislation.

Senator Beasley read resolution aloud.

Senator Beasley made a motion for favorable passage.

Pro tem Caleb Gray asked Senator Beasley if he would like first debate.

Senator Beasley stated that he did make some alterations from feedback for the prior meeting specifically in the area of qualifications. The Senate would be a more senior body and qualification would be to serve one semester in the House of Representative or be Junior, Senior, or Graduate in the terms of the university credit hours. The Freshman Council would remain under the direction of the Executive Vice and report to the Senate. Power of appointment would remain with the Senate. Direct legislation would go to the House of Representatives.

Representative Cassler asked if Senator Beasley would yield to a series of questions

Senator Beasley yielded.

Representative Cassler asked about section 4 in which a new position would be made for Speaker of House of Representative. Representative Cassler asked if this position would be paid for with scholarship.

Senator Beasley said yes it would and it would be an appropriation of scholarship funds.

Representative Cassler if someone with two semesters of Freshmen Council could equal qualifications for Senate.

Senator Beasley he would be open to make an amendment.

Representative Cassler asked why a two-thirds majority vote would be required for bills and resolutions and not fifty one percent.

Senator Beasley states that this was strictly procedure.

Senator Smith questioned what was the purpose of Freshmen Council if this resolution, if passed, would have Freshmen and Sophomores in the House of Representative.

Senator Beasley said that first semester freshmen could not be in the House of Representatives on the basis of electoral process so Freshmen Council would still serve as an outlet for the Freshmen body.

Senator Smith asked why divide the upper and lower classmen into the Senate and House of Representative, respectively.

Senator Beasley said the division would provide more equal representation of the student body as well as more accurately model our Constitution.

Senator Smith asked why not increase the size of the Senate

Senator Beasley said the purpose of this resolution would be to create more student involvement and the bicameral system would increase SGA service hours by 250 per semester.

Senator Parente stated that he was not in favor of the bill. Senator Parente said he did not like the idea the President could veto a bill. Senator Parente said if the goal is to increase student government participation then to increase the size of the current Senate body. Furthermore, this resolution would slow down legislation.

Senator Loso asked why student government would go to a bicameral system that would require would students when the current Senate could not fill vacate seats.

Senator Beasley stated the Student Government should always try to grow and continue to find better ways to the represent the student body.

Senator Walley asked if the House of Representatives would have the exclusive right to raise revenue as is true with the Federal House of Representatives and Senator Beasley stated in this resolution that the Federal branch was the ideal model.

Senator Beasley responds that Senate does not raise revenue; therefore, no.

Senator Knox asked how meetings would be conducted for the House of Representatives. Senator Beasley responded that meetings would be conducted in the same manner as the Senate. The meetings would be separate.

Senator Knox what meetings the Executive Board would be required to attend.

Senator Beasley stated the only the President is required to attend four meetings. Therefore, he would have to attend four each for both legislative bodies.

Senator Knox states that he was not in favor of the resolution. That it seems to divide the Student Government into separate powers. He recommends just expanding the current number of Senators.

Senator Cobb presented facts and numbers about the current state of Middle Tennessee State University Senate. Senator Cobb stated that nationwide the most successful collegiate Senates are unicameral. Furthermore, one piece of legislation would take four weeks to be passed if Senator Beasley's resolution passed.

Senator Hardman asked if Senator Beasley would yield to a series of questions.

Senator Beasley yield.

Senator Hardman asked if someone could run for both House of Representative and Senate.

Senator Beasley said no. They could not run for both.

Senator Jones made a motion for previous question; the motion was seconded, and voted passed with two-thirds majority vote.

A vote was taken on the Resolution. The Resolution did not pass

Announcements

Meeting Adjourned at 6:14