

Senate Meeting Minutes
February 6th, 2017

Call to Order: 7:02pm
Pledge: Senator Shrade

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:04pm-
Any motions to the order of the day? Seconded by Garza, Any other amendments? None.
Moving onto item 5, approval of the minutes, Senator Shrade. Moving onto Item 6.

President Andrew Homann 7:05pm-
As many of you know current campaigns under student senators and presidents is well under way. Student government debate is coming up and you can find more information on our website. Round table is in March and it will address any concerns to the administration. The student government scholarships are open March 3rd and available to all of student government. Philosophy department has a sexual violence dialogue happening and will have a panel on february 16th. New senators need to be put on a commission. Keep those in mind.
End of Report

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:08pm-
Item 7 presentation on the event center.

Mr. Algoe 7:08pm-
Responsible for all the human resources on the facilities. University event center we need to expand this because we are out of space in jowers and a big part of that building is occupied by athletic coaches and we are out of room for graduation at this point. So we decided we needed to increase the seating. What we want to do is fill in the bite that is shown on the presentation. We want to fill that in with about 82,000 square feet of new space, a new entry plaza etc., and will go through a transformation. The commuter parking lot will now be a bus stop and where you see the big star at the plaza it will be the primary pickup and drop off pick up point. It will be a large lobby with food in there and a hang out place. We want people to come in and utilize the facility. This is the first impression of Texas State which is not the first impression we want to send. We want that big star plaza in the floor ground and it will be similar to the arch in the UAC and will be roughly the scale of it. You will also see the tower element. This is what we want as a first impression. There is real needs to do it not just to show off. The overpass will be directly aimed at the view of the building. You will notice a row of windows in the middle that will be a multi purpose room and we want seated lunch ins, meetings, dinners, etc., There will be a new scoreboard and jumbotron board. There will be a lot of indoor and outdoor seating available. There will be new locker rooms as well. The lobby that you walk straight into you will be able to see the arena and the dining services will be to the right and up the stairs will be where we are centralizing all the offices. We can sit about 100 people in that facility but if we open the wall up we can possibly fit up to 120-150 in there. We want a student lounge space and a student study area that is open to all of them. On that entry level if you go down that is where we will have the locker rooms of basketball. The bi room in yellow will be the training facility including the medical staff etc., Each coach was able to customize their own locker room. Any questions?

Student 7:23pm-
I live over there and the parking went horrible to worse. What are we going to do about parking situations? You said that this situation will get worse.

Mr. Algoe 7:23pm-

Today we are actually in the worse part of the project where there is less parking spaces. We will be going back to 130 parking spaces so we do add a significantly large amount of parking spaces than we do now. The bus doesn't pick up in the student tailgate lot so having the busses pick up from there and encourage students to go there.

Student 7:26pm-

The remaining of the building.. I love the idea of the building but what will happen with Jowers?

Mr. Algoe 7:27pm-

For one the colosseum itself will be along with the university expansion. We will redo the floors and the lighting so that when you go inside you won't even notice but it's all in the building. Jowers is another story. So we have set aside an immediate project of the reconfiguration of this building and do a renovation of jowers after this project is done.

Student 7:28pm-

How will the plan structure with this effect move ins? What about the thousands of incoming freshman?

Mr. Algoe 7:29pm-

The facility has to be used for multiple reasons and all those things will continue. They will all stay there until the wall comes down towards the end of the project. You will still be able to use the arena.

Senator Merritt 7:30pm-

With a lot of dance majors and exercise sports science in jowers what will be done for that area? What is claimed for growth with studios and all that?

Mr. Algoe 7:31pm-

Unfortunately I cannot disclose that just yet since we are just now getting the details and still being discussed. Those sort of facilities are exactly what they need but we donot have hte details today

Senator Miller 7:31pm-

How much does this cost and should tuition increase because of this?

Mr. Algoe 7:31pm-

Athletics is actually funding 60% of this project and no this will not be tuition dollars used to fund this. 60 million dollars will be the cost.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:32pm-

Moving onto our next item VP report. Stop by the freshman council meeting and poli workshop and the new senators will be notified on workshops. There is a game one at 2 oclock and one at 4 oclock, so go support your athletes. One home game monday the 13th which is the same day as the student government debate. Cabinet members have new offices now and where we should place them. Also I uploaded some sources to tracs if you have not been added please let me know. Announce we are about to move into public forum each person is allowed 2 minutes to speak so one person at a time. You can state something ask a question but we cannot answer it. Further down the agenda we will be having a debate. Debate and discussion is only

opened to senators if you are not in it you will only be allowed to speak in public forum. Moving onto public forum. Emphasize that this is only civil conversations

Williams, sophomore 7:36pm-

Safe space span are absolutely violent and college is a chance for all students to have different views. Minority and majority groups should have the chance to speak freely without any pressure and learning new ideas and challenging viewpoints. A safe space ban is a potentially detrimental

Junior 7:38pm-

I did want to talk about the safe space span because there is no real definition of a safe space ban. There can't be a private safe space and attempting to ban will be too lose all. Governor Abbott proposed a hiring to tour public university. I wanted to ask the board to write a letter to governor Abbott to being able to hire and fill positions that are currently vacant. The past tuesday he brought up that we should live within our means and address the essential needs and eliminate the wants as soon as possible.

Ben 7:40pm-

Also here to oppose this safe space ban that there is no way to determine what is and isn't a safe space span. Whatever you consider to be a safe span will be in jeopardy. You are not speaking for me or a lot of people here. You are talking about certain issues and not working on better prioritizations.

Monica junior 7:42pm-

We are a safe space and so we believe students should succeed whether they bring their whole selves. The message that you are sending to our community is that we are not welcomed to speak freely.

Prewitt 7:43pm-

The name has a connection to what we are talking about, president Johnson's treatment will really violate their safe space but also their personal space. That argument is counterproductive. Safe spaces allow special criticisms and debate and allow events like this and Johnson would example George Wallis came out and he was covered in sweat and president Johnson went into his safe space and safe spaces would prevent that kind of dialogue.

Emony 7:45pm-

Safe space will be an area to speak freely and essentially an environment that others can speak freely it does not supply full mean of implementation. Free speech is important and when I came to Texas State I came here for education but if we are going to consider this level of comfort and reach another. So I challenge everyone here to challenge this and unique challenges. Are we going to deny our veterans and are we going to take this legislation seriously? We should state that this is addressing everyone not just a group.

Sophomore 7:47pm-

A safe space is a place or environment where people can speak freely and allow discrimination and harm. We don't want discrimination and harassment and we do not want to allow that. Alternatively, create spaces that actively go to speak and liberal and besides that whereas points number 3. It says that students want to escape so that you are not allowed to escape and it has become a nationwide trend for student to escape from hate speech itself.

Camille 7:49pm-

Experience: I was born in the states and american and within those years it was not ok to be gay. To ban safe spaces will deny me the right to be. It does not matter where we come from. And I look to all the senators and talk to the individuals have you talked to the charters and the groups in the quad? Have you asked them how they feel? What does it mean to be american? It means to be able to grow and that we would love to marginalize minority groups.

DJ 7:51pm-

With yalls safe space ban will I am disabled, a black person, and this affects me. You are going against this department and we love our members and protect our members. We say we are not partisan but we sure act like that. I need a safe space to let people know who I am and listen to what I have to say and I will bring the dean of students into this.

Goyle 7:53pm-

The personal is political and is a lot with what we are going on. What I will like to put out there is that my personal is political because of the people identifying me. I did not decide to grow up to be who I am I did not grow up to write legislation about me. I am being forced. I think that this is something that is not being talked about. We need places to live and be apart of something that we are not trying to run away and hide and with the people who are putting up theses laws y'all are hiding. We are not forcing our views.

Merchin 7:55pm-

Chicago had banned safe spaces. So I did a research and found an article. We do not invite intellectual speakers that may offend these policies go to exchange the safe ideas. The debate over whether safe spaces or triggers they encourage civility and respect given the reaction to the letter.

Andrea 7:57pm-

Texas State should be a place where everyone can come together. We are going to meet people with all backgrounds and we are still labeling people and until they can be completely stopped it will be ongoing. My identity is not up to debate. We can talk about politics and you can catch me outside.

Ben 7:58pm-

I see that people are trying to appeal to your human side. Just know that we have the votes and Texas state, will lose their seats.

Student 7:59pm-

I am outspoken and I am ashamed of being here. I hope you realize that you do not have many faculty or students behind you. That your president has talked about in meetings. We want everyone to have a space discourse. If you ban this then you ban this meeting and you will affect all minorities. I think that you guys should open up your ears and eyes. I am not from here and I did not grow up seeing all of this discrimination and its hard to see you guys don't have support.

Tyler 8:01pm-

I work as an RA for 2 ½ years and have come across people with many backgrounds and in that position that fire is what I fight for. What I think is wrong with safe spaces is that we are teaching that they cannot talk to people or listen or understand or learn from other people from different

backgrounds. But for those who are coming into this university who are coming into something that they have no people behind them. This should matter.

McCoy 8:02pm-

I'll be reading on behalf of the department as a Texas State student who has been diagnosed with PTSD and it is something that is helping. Trigger warnings are available at safe spaces you wouldn't ban wheelchair access on campus and this is the same thing. I fully support free speech, banning safe spaces is shutting down voices. If we really value academic freedom we must express that through our actions.

Martin 8:06pm-

Bobcat pride president and one of the things we offer is a safe space. You can go to this without being judged. When you take away these safe spaces you take away the ability to express themselves and there are some frat students on the down low and others because there is no support anywhere else. You are hurting us.

Moly 8:07pm-

I am from a small town and I thought coming to Texas State was good because of the diversity. Safe space is a label and it's not going to take away who you are or taking away your rights.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:08pm-

I understand that there is a lot of outside guest. The constitution can be found on the website and the sponsor of each draft is found there as well. I want to remind people are like minded and if you have any questions to reach out to your senators and we are here for representations. Cabinet reports.

Senator Shull 8:09pm-

We have important elections on May 6th and early voting will start at the end of April and polling will start soon. Final announcements. The event that I talked about a lot Monday we have a lot of spots available. Text me or come to me after meeting. End of report.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:10pm-

Any other cabinet members? None. Moving onto old business 2016-17.13 and have the author come forward and Senator Shull and seconded by Senator Shrade.

Senator Mason 8:11pm-

Opening discourse I believe that it is very much necessary we will as college students. We are open to new ideas that are different than our own and I wholeheartedly believe that we have polite discourse. We should tailgate facts logic and reason. We cannot ban discourse and I'm pleading that the kind like and debating of each other. A university that is not fully committed to. A safe space has no rule on intellectual diversity. Thank you. Questions?

Senator Shull 8:14pm-

How will this ban be enforced

Senator Mason 8:14pm-

University funding will be used for the safe space and I think they should allow people to come to the meetings and that both parties will do that.

Senator Shull 8:14pm-

The funding will go towards dpd?

Senator Mason 8:15pm-
No they will have strict funding but not all funding.

Senator Sikazwe 8:15pm-
What research was done to determine what safe spaces are? Did you speak to students or faculty members at all?

Senator Mason 8:15pm-
This is an opinion as a resolution. I know that the definition is very.,, Safe space will be open to diversity and debate.

Senator Sikazwe 8:16pm-
The public opinion is what drove this? So the students here are for this? What specifically happened here at texas state that made you think that this was academically approved?

Senator Mason 8:17pm-
One particular issue and I was speaking with some people.

Senator Sikazwe 8:18pm-
I think that the university official safe space like the counseling center will be affected?

Senator Mason 8:18pm-
I wasn't thinking about the counseling center. I do encourage anyone to go who needs to though.

Senator Sikazwe 8:18pm-
Would you ban health centers?

Senator Mason 8:18pm-
No.

Senator Shull 8:19pm-
What defines safe space to you?

Senator Mason 8:19pm-
The classroom should not regulate freedom of intellection or debate.

Senator Shull 8:19pm-
So you're saying that your definition is what bans other people to thinking?

Senator Mason 8:20pm-
I believe we have different views and be open.

Senator Reagan 8:20pm-
I think that a lot of us forget that we are here to represent the body. Initially I was for it but after hearing everyone speak upon it I have switched views. The word safe space has been used vaguely. So I do not think that we should amend this piece.

Senator Peterson 8:21pm-

My question is that I am with ods and is your intention here to cause harm to me?

Senator Mason 8:21pm-

I am deeply sorry. I do want everyone to be welcomed on campus and I heard nothing but great things about these groups.

Senator Mares 8:22pm-

Is there a reason why there is not a definition as to what a safe space is in the resolution?

Senator Mason 8:22pm-

My safe space definition may be totally different from yours.

Senator Mares 8:24pm-

It wasn't your intention to leave that sort of vagueness. So given the vagueness of safe spae how will that be enforced?

Senator Mason 8:24pm-

If you don't like something change it.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:24pm-

Moving onto adopt. Move to amend by Senator Duncan seconded by Senator Gonzalez

Senator Duncan 8:25pm-

I have an amendment and move to amend seconded by Senator Raegann. Read through and go through. A prohibition of the university whereas safe spaces can be defined to where a group of people can go towards, where as the safe spaces prohibit certain speech and by any university that should be protected in highly revered and allow people to express promote guaranteeing a right of individuals to and that these rights are. Where as a campus wide policy may ban a collected group of individuals which wish to peacefully challenge viewpoints and ideas, encouraging suspension of speech and funding endorsements should extend to programs and policies and measures taken to be counterproductive. Be it resolved that the Texas State university and right of individuals to assemble on their own should not be affected by this policy and be open to speak and notify the student administration by email and issuing a press release upon. I noticed that many people did not stand during the pledge and although I may disagree with it I love that you are able to do it and I respect it. I want us to come and protect the right of the individual and come upon that a group of individuals have every right it takes elective rights and individual rights .

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:34pm-

Period of questions

Senator 8:34pm-

How many characters were added?

Senator Duncan 8:34pm-

I do not know.

Senator 8:35pm-

Since there is so many revises its a totally different piece now. How much of a difference is there?

Senator Duncan 8:35pm-
80-90% is adding substance and background. Its regarding underwriting of sponsorship and funding.

Senator 8:35pm-
I think if you go to the original document you can see how many words it is.

Senator Martin 8:36pm-
Does this have anything to do with faculty and students? Does this affect the alias?

Senator Duncan 8:36pm-
No the freedom of both faculty and students

Senator Molinas 8:36pm-
Would you defund pace?..

Senator Duncan 8:37pm-
I do not know where I mentioned defunding. We are a very diverse university. Where we have a speaker come in and they have destructed dialogue. I will advocate the right to assemble.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:38pm-
Debate and discussion pertaining to the amendment.

Senator Shrade 8:38pm-
I want to point out that theres is only 3 people of the bill that supported it and there are over 30 senators. So I just wanted to point that out. I don't think that anyone tonight. We would not be doing our jobs well if we let this amendment pass and fail the original amendment and start with a new piece

Senator 8:42pm-
This bill should be allowed to fail because it has too many stigma to it. Responsible student government is not advocating regularly. We should come up with actual legislation not garbage political theater which is what this legislation is.

Senator Miller 8:45pm-
50% is minority so we need to make sure that we are here for these minorities and if a safe space is what they need then that is what we need to think about and represent those people.

Senator Sikazwe 8:46pm-
First problem is that is was poorly written and that he said that I have a definition of what a safe space is and it doesn't make sense that we made a legislation that did not think about all views. I believe that we've made very large strides including with bobcats united. I want to see more progressive pieces and I will never vote I for this piece.

Senator Gonzalez 8:47pm-
Criticizing the definition that is the problem with the route of this legislation. I believe that senator Mckie was trying to with good intentions. We have to look at the proper and legitimate

and effective but we have here are neither. This body is not a discriminatory body and we are not aiming anything at anyone and that we need a better way this is not a way we need to fight for free speech not safety. We are all about open, and I encourage all to vote no.

Senator Merritt 8:49pm-

While I am not in favor for the original bill it could be different and that there needs to be some revisions. The concerns of robbing students of safe spaces. A safe space though we cannot define it, it should embody freedom of speech but it also makes and deems these marginalized and accepted to be said outside of these safe spaces. This piece is too brief but there is room for improvement and I do want to apologize and it is extremely. This quote from @kkkuntpuncher- "these bunch of hoes are nothing but... coming to frats.." where was our safety when people were saying things about us? The fact that it cannot deem what it is, is a safe space.

Senator Zamora 8:52pm-

Trigger warning and safe spaces are not meant to be banned. Survivors from assault, this ban will eliminate faculty and staff. I am proud to say that I am a trans ally. I also like to point out that they work under the deans of students.

Senator Garza 8:54pm-

Discrimination and marginalization is something that we need to discuss in our society. The fact is that we can have real discourse by having an open campus or ban. With that said "95% described free speech as important on their campus" as representatives of students on college campuses I believe in freedom and open expression.

Senator Shull 8:55pm-

I definitely believe that Mckie was well intended and that he wanted more free speech on campus. This piece comes from the ignorance of what is a safe space. I totally get where the senator is coming from those who know the definition of free speech and that I don't think this comes from a place of hatred this comes from ignorance of the definition of safe spaces so vote nay on this piece.

The actual definition of this term has been detested. I think that we are all confused as to what safe spaces are. Example: so yesterday we had a football game the idea of the safe space is that we should all be patriots fans. If you have been a falcon fan you would not be allowed to enter a space where you are safe and patriots fan would not allow. Encourage senators to say no.

Senator 8:59pm-

A lot of the definitions of safe spaces online. There was a comment, "safe spaces are where I want to retreat. Where I can talk to someone that would understand. It is not a permanent place where we plan to stand. Nowhere is anyone trying to escape reality but a type of discussion where you are not going to be judged or lied to. It is what you need there and what you need to push you to be better.

Senator Shull 9:01pm-

This is publicly funded university so it would be banning people and it's against the law.

Senator Escalante 9:01pm

Call to question

Vote by roll call-
Piece fails.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 9:03pm-
Moving onto new business, wifi in resident halls.

Senator Sikazwe 9:04pm-
Thank you for coming out and voicing your opinion and telling us how you really feel. I know the cabinet is very happy. An implementation of wifi in the residential halls. Txstate tries to modify and keep up with technology.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 9:05pm-
Lead sponsor 2016-17.15 come to the front please.

Senator 9:05pm-
A resolution to incorporate of bobcat training and the bobcat guardian into new student orientation. To provide a safe and beautiful campus to explore and journey throughout the area. For PPD to work countless hours to ensure the safety of our students and the campus community and that the ppd provide various resources. This app personally provides safety for our students. To create these services and make them available to the campus community. Information session be mandatory and involved in bobcat orientation and preview and start in fall 2017 student semester.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 9:09pm-
Item 2016-17.16 please come forward

Senator Gonzlaez 9:09pm-
To ensure the most safety on the texas state campus. Studies by the national studies of concealed gun license were 5 times less likely to commit manslaughter or murder. School shooters do not just suddenly snap without warning signs and that the cdc hearing and prepaid summer session activities and counseling services and bobcat baseball and softball. School shooting and potential threats do not.. Applicant must be 21 years of age or on duty to purchase a handgun. Protective restraining orders and that all classroom..

Vice President Samantha Martinez 9:14pm-
No further reports? Motion to adjourn seconded by senator Statton

Adjournment- 9:14pm