

Senate Minutes
April 3, 2017

Call to Order: 7:10pm
Pledge: Senator Garza

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:11pm
Any amendments to the orders of the day. Senator Duncan seconded by Senator Gonzalez.
Senator Shull move guest speakers to item 4 seconded by Senator Schrade

John Thomaides 7:14pm-

Mayor of San Marcos. Half the people in your city don't know what you're doing and the other half don't know anything about it. Office of the presidency it could be worse he could be mayor. We are missing a city student manager. Our city manager was fine listed for a job in Amarillo and all his family was down there and he took the job. That is the most important job in our city and everyone has been working overtime because of it. We will do a nationwide search to find the best city manager for San Marcos. We're trying to deal with overcrowding and loitering. It is something that we deal with a lot in San Marcos. I do personally a lot of litter clean ups and hot spot clean ups. We had 500 volunteers to clean up loiter in this town but the problem is that it keeps showing up. Its tough to change peoples attitude. We even charge a \$500 charge now and still there's still problems. If you ever liked participating in loitering in campus there's keep San Marcos beautiful. How we should deal with our parking in our downtown. A lot of the spaces that we use for our customers and businesses are affecting them and not being used properly. We have added 250 acres of green space and 24 miles of trails that has been largely by volunteers. We added 250 acres about a month ago and we are looking to do alot more. The development of the properties as they become available will be great for the city. Our budget is the 15th budget and we have never created a tax increase in there. We would like to increase revenues for growth rather than taxes. There is a cost to our fast growing city. No one wants to do a tax increase but there is a real need for it. There's a bomb election coming up in May. Our plans are to have 2 additional fire stations around our city limits. We do not have enough people in the firefighter services we would like to produce the train facility fo that. The town has almost tripled in size and Texas state doubled since then. So we need to provide an expansion in our police department. The constructions standards for 47 years ago was pretty low so our buildings are in pretty rough shape. Our fire department and our library is always the number 1 rated when we do our community survey. These are reasonable things that we are asking our people to consider. There is a school district as well and it has no tax collection and really trying to keep up the pace with the city limit. Any questions

Senator 7:26pm-

The timeline for the charge being put on the river to float it?

John Thomaides 7:26pm-

No sir no plans of charge to get into the river. That is incorrect.

Senator 7:27pm-

Anything being done to use reusable bags in the city?

John Thomaides 7:27pm-

We are always giving away reusable bags if you have them. I keep them in my truck when I go to the grocery store. We are very supportive in lowering the use of plastic bags. Local liberty and local citizens how to govern themselves. The reddest city in the reddest state is Forkstop

texas. Why? Because the bags were getting into the cattle feeder and the cattle were dying. It should be a bill being considered. There's a lot of anti city bills going on through legislature. Any other questions

Senator 7:28pm-

When can we expect aquarena to be done?

John Thomaides 7:29pm-

We just finished the overpass part of it. Typically they take 2 years through construction. We also contributed about 10% and the states did funding for the rest. You are about a little less than 18 months. They started the project mid last year. We had orange cones orange barrels around the city. We decided to get them done and it's a mess but when it is completed traffic wise will be a lot better

Senator Peterson 7:31pm-

I've noticed that the lights are very different. Traveling red light to red light to redlight. You can't travel in the city without spending 45 minutes in your car when the city isn't that big.

John Thomaides 7:32pm-

We spend about a million dollars and we put in the radio frequency. The camera thing at the top is really a timer not a camera. What has happened now is that most accidents have been found to happen at lights and mostly in intersections. The timing is really off. You can actually report that to the city and there's a computer screen with all the lights.

Senator 7:33pm-

How student should get involved in the city?

John Thomaides 7:33pm-

There's a lot of ways to get involved in the city. There's 35 different boards in the commission that any student can sit in that's one way. As far as the city itself there's a ton of internships in the city itself. As far as public policy goes you be feeling. If you find one thing that interests you and just show up and listening an participating and there's a lot of opportunities. The city holds a lot of things and opportunities. We throw about a dozen concerts a year for free. It's live music there's one this thursday. I would hope to see more students going to them. No more questions. Feel free to communicate with me in anyway facebook twitter even a telephone back in my office.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:37pm-

Moving onto approval of the minutes. Seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Senator Duncan 7:37pm-

Move sb. 16-17.12 seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:37pm-

Moving onto item 6.

President Andrew Homann 7:38pm-

Thank you to everyone that attended bobcats united. I got an email that the graduate college is having a workshop for those wanting to go to graduate school. Last senate meeting this year. Very productive senate I believe we've done so much.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:39pm-

Item 8. Next monday is our banquet and will conclude our final meeting and we will provide some banquet results. It will be a very nice event so if you RSVP I hope you will be there. Seniors if you have not already sent in your senior response and picture please send that to me. Move onto item 9. None. Item 10 cabinet reports

Senator Duncan 7:41pm-

Apologize that we had to do away with T-span. Moving forward we will fix that issue.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:42pm-

Any other members?

Senator Shull 7:42pm-

Ive appointed 2 student senators to our council and they'll do an awesome job representing you guys. We will all be gathered here at the front after meeting if you have any questions or concerns

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:43pm-

Moving onto old business. Entertain a motion seconded by Senator Shull. Moving onto the author of 2016-17.13 please come to the front. Senator Sikazwe consider this piece as already read seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Senator Escalante 7:45pm-

The last bobcats united event we had was definitely the most powerful. This will definitely be a thing next year so senator please go. A resolution to implement a translation feature on the texas state university webpage. I think this will be a great addition. One of the student orientations is provided in spanish. President homann and i have talked to the president about this and we all thought it would be a great idea to do this. Questions? None.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:46pm-

Entertain to move to adopt seconded by schrade. Move onto debate and discussion. Call to question seconded by Senator Escalante. Vote by voice seconded by Senator Staton. Move onto new business. 2016-17.

Senator Miranda 7:47pm-

Read 2016-17.

Transition into office speech

Senator Miranda 7:47pm-

Currently students can only get insurance if they are. For nontraditional students or those that can't afford insurance will make a difference for them.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:50pm-

Move to adopt. Seconded by Senator Gonzalez. Move onto debate discussion. Senator Gonzalez seconded by vote by voice Senator Staton seconded by . Move onto item author of item S.B. 2016-207.21

Senar Miranda 7:52pm-

A resolution endorsing a feasibility study and survey for extending hours of the library. Since 2009 i think we should revisit and see if we can extend the library hours and seeing the options and routes that we can take.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:54pm-

Entertain move to adopt seconded by Staton. Moving onto debate and discussion. Senator gonzalez call to question seconded by schrade. Duncan vote by voice seconded by draws. This piece passes. Moving onto 2016-2017.22 author come to the front

Senator Miranda 7:55pm-

A resolutions to extend the send n print service to the lbj center. It be easily accessible to students. If you use one of the public computers on the 4th floor you'll be waiting a bit long for it. This is the perfect time to pass it so that it can get done.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 7:57pm-

Move to adopt seconded by draws. Debate and discussion. Schrade move to call to question seconded by gonzalez. Gonzalez voice seconded by Staton. This piece passes. Moving onto s.b. 2016-17.23 author please come to the front.

Senator Sikazwe 7:58pm-

Calling for the updating of student information form be a mandatory process to register for classes. Essentially this is an issue that we have been trying to tackle for a long time. It is very often unutilized. The main problem they have been having is that students are not updating their information.

Senator Shull 8:02pm-

What we found out was that students thought they could skip through their emails and not opening it or deleting it and not really knowing what the information being used was actually used for. It is for safety and something that really needs to be done. Questions

Senator Duncan 8:03pm-

I'm worried about registering for classes. How long is the process like is it automatic or a 24 hour process?

Senator Shull 8:03pm-

No it will be immediate.

Senator 8:03pm-

Any evidence that this has been a problem?

Sikazwe 8:04pm-

I met with the chief of police and my question was why haven't we already done this and the common answer was well it's because students are not updating their information so they can't really do much.

Senator Peterson 8:05pm-

Is there a way for the alert system to go to the clocks on the wall?

Senator Shull 8:05pm-

It does and it does go to the computer screen as well.

Senator Cutter Gonzalez 8:06pm-

If you volunteer your number. Is there evidence that people that are not putting in their correct number? Any time you pose a delay in someone's account and not being able to register

Senator Sikazwe 8:07pm-

I have been primarily signed up for the Texas state alert system but as far as it goes when it comes to students safety I think it would be more accessible information in case of a flood rather than logging into your email. Would you rather wait for an email that you may not ever check or get a quick text? I guess you're misinterpreting it, it's going to be a step before registering process.

Senator Cutter Gonzalez 8:08pm-

It's more of an individual problem than anything else. The registration system is not the same as our student records. If there is a case of an error and someone has a hold then their file is restricted

Senator Sikazwe 8:09pm-

I think this will be something actually beneficial to our body. Only 5% of our students use our bobcat safety app as it is.

Senator 8:10pm-

I work in McCoy advising student so I work with this situation quite often.

Senator Shull 8:11pm-

It's just a step before registering.
escalante

Move to adopt seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:12pm-

Moving onto debate and discussion.

Senator Gonzalez 8:12pm

Move to call to questions seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Senator Duncan 8:12pm-

Move to vote by voice seconded by Senator Gonzalez.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:13pm-

Piece passes. Author of 2016-17.24 please come to the front

Senator Sikazwe 8:13pm-

Calling for student government to organize to get to know our police department every once in the fall and spring semester, which will give the students the ability to interact with them. This be an event that students sign in with their IDS. Another piece that ties into everything that me and senator Shull are trying to pass. I was talking to the chief of UPD. What can we do to provide students a safer environment? The ability to interact and break whats going on between the two entities.

Senator Escalante 8:17pm-

UPD has hosted a lot of events throughout the year. Will this piece offer collaboration?

Senator Sikazwe 8:17pm-

I want it to be something that student government can put on or bobcats united. It's just something to start interacting and dialogue with the students.

Move to adopt seconded by Senator Escalante

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:18pm-

Debate and discussion. Senator Duncan move to strike director of marketing to government affairs Seconded by Senator Drews. Debate and discussion

Senator Sikazwe 8:19pm-

Main thought was that director of marketing would be in charge of the program

Senator Duncan 8:19pm-

I think it would fall under government affairs and adding one more onto that upcoming director will spread him a little thin. It could fall under government of affairs. This is something that can be expanded

Senator Sikazwe 8:20pm-

Main thing about the piece is that it is to be handed to the director of Marketing. What are you suggesting?

Senator Duncan 8:20pm-

Just change it to government affairs

Senator Sikazwe 8:21pm-

If you want this to be in the spirits of bobcats united then leave it under the director

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:21pm-

Move to adopt. Vote by voice seconded by Senator Drews. Nays have it this piece does not pass. Call to question seconded by Senator Escalante. Debate and discuss seconded by Senator Drews.

Senator 8:23pm-

Explain why its student services?

Senator 8:23pm-

It would be more consistent to have it under that same umbrella with bobcats united

Senator Sikazwe 8:24pm-

This should be marketed and programmed when I said bobcats united it was more of an example not an exact use.

Senator 8:25pm-

Partnership between marketing and its directors. Not to do the initial planning student services can plan this event and then the marketing event would then follow up

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:25pm-

Any other questions? None. Entertain move to call to question seconded by Senator Gonzalez. Vote by roll call. Amendment passes. Moving onto debate and discussion. Move to call to question Senator Gonzalez vote by voice seconded by Senator Aguilera

Senator Sikazwe 8:28pm-

For email notification to student if they are the recipient of a parking ticket issued by parking services which would promptly inform the student of the concurrent violation. Ties into what the mayor was saying today. I know this is essential because students get a ticket and are not aware of it.

Senator Drews 8:33pm-

Will it be an automatic email?

Senator Sikazwe 8:33pm-

I'm pretty sure that when you register your vehicle they have your name and all that info

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:34pm-

Questions? Schrade seconded by Senator Staton. Vote by roll call draws. I's have it this piece passes. S.R. 2016-17.26

Senator 8:36pm-

Exemption of Sales tax on the purchase of books by the university students. This is something that we should say yes and I can't see any college student opposing this legislation and we all know the burden of increased cost. Questions?

Senator 8:39pm-

Why do you believe that the state should further subsidize its students?

Senator 8:40pm-

It's pretty complex what each school should do with this and with this direct..

Senator 8:40pm-

How does an entity identify or qualify or define what is used as textbooks?

Senator 8:41pm-

The requirements of the student and there will be some kind of authoritative figure that says this is directly related to school purposes. This piece is just that Texas state government are just a support

Senator Sikazwe 8:42pm-

This facilitates the students

Senator 8:42pm-

Does this involve online and in store?

Senator 8:42pm-

Yes this involves both.

Senator Peterson 8:42pm-

I went tot the texas coalition thing I am in support of this because when it comes around to schools and universities they do their tax free weekend for k-12 in the beginning of August but for those students waiting for financial aid it does not leave enough time for others

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:44pm-

Move onto debate and discussion. Senator Schrade move onto call to question seconded by Senator Gonzalez. Senator Duncan by voice seconded by Senator Drews. This piece passes. S.B. 2016-17.12

Senator Duncan 8:45pm-

An act lifting unnecessary and burdensome regulation within the student government code. A candidate for senate could not like or share their support for one another. When you're going into leadership roles you should have the right to say that this is the person I work well with, id like to work under. There's a lot of unnecessary barriers to be taken out. Now is the time to do it. There's a rule that you have to send all your campaign material in which is unnecessary as well. Questions.

Senator Zamora 8:49pm-

I agree with what you're saying but how do you think about getting rid of this will have a negative impact on election?

Senator Duncan 8:49pm-

I believe it to be a positive impact. I believe we are the only one in texas that have those stipulations and it will have a positive effect on the rules.

Senator Miller 8:50pm-

Do you think that can turn campaigns into a partisan issue by doing this?

Senator Duncan 8:51pm-

No it's just a thing with who you choose to serve or campaign with.

Senator Aguilara 8:51pm-

Move onto Debate and discussion seconded by Senator Gonzalez

Senator 8:52pm-

Was this sent out in an email?

Senator 8:53pm-

Yes. So it is our job to do that so if I can do that you can do it. I hope that most of us can vote on this in full confidence. If this isn't voted on now we may not get to do it anytime soon next semester either.

Senator Escalante 8:55pm-

Move to call to question seconded by Senator Drews

Vice President Samantha Martinez 8:56pm-

vote by roll call this piece passes.

Senator Shull 8:57pm-

To call for a \$50 loitering fine to be imposed on those who are second littering offenders and signage to promote this cause which state keep san marcos beautiful

Senator Sikazwe 9:01pm-

We had a speaker come out colleen cook. If this doesn't highlight the problem then I don't know what will. During a shift I saw someone throw confetti and not come pick it up. Multiple people are doing it then of course it accumulates substantially. The mayor even thinks its a problem so texas state has to take it serious as well. No one wants to get fines. What we're trying to do is help keep our river clean and protect the endangered species within it.

Senator Shull 9:04pm-

We have endangered species in the area and we are harming them. Eating them will likely result in death. This is a straightforward piece.

Senator Sikazwe 9:04pm-

There's no simple resolution but doing nothing is not going to resolve it.

Senator Gonzalez 9:05pm-

Move to adopt seconded by Senator draws.

Vice President Samantha Martinez 9:05pm-

Move onto debate and discussion. None. Move to call to question by Senator Gonzalez seconded by Senator Schrade. Move to vote by roll call seconded by Senator Schrade. This piece passes. Motion to adjourn seconded by Senator Duncan.

Adjournment- 9:06pm