

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
November 5, 1992
Room 219, Squires Student Center
4:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Peter Feret, Dr. Tom Goodale, Mr. Kevin Mottley, Mr. Brian O'Neil (for Mr. Brad Haley), Mr. Chris Brodrick, Mr. Scot Case, Ms. Jaimee Eichelberger, Mr. Matt Jackson, Mr. Kevin Brown (for Ms. Xzabier Jackson), Col. Robert Goodson, Mr. Jake Perkins (for Mr. Tom Snead), Mr. Mike Hurd, Mr. Keith Coutray, Mr. Robert Hanson, Mr. Ken Kahn, Ms. Cortney Vargo, Mr. Ron Giddings, Ms. Mary Dee Boemker, Dr. Harlan Miller, Dr. Jeanne Howard, and Ms. Freda Blecher.

Absent: Dr. John Eaton, Ms. Beth Rexroad, Mr. Brad Haley, Ms. Adla Tamimi, Ms. Xzabier Jackson, and Dr. Richard Sorensen.

Guests: Mr. John Aughenbaugh, Mr. Dave Nicks (of the Graduate Student Assembly), Mr. Bill Champion, Mr. Richard Alvarez, Mr. J. B. Sutphin, and Mr. Mike Jones

Announcements

Dr. Goodale distributed a memo highlighting several informational items.

Mr. John Aughenbaugh announced Rob Hanson's induction into Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership society.

Dr. Goodale reminded the Commission of the Sexual Harassment Teleconference that is being held November 12 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Brush Mountain Room of Squires.

Dr. Goodale invited the student members of the Commission to have breakfast with the Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Visitors on November 16, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Dogwood Room of Squires.

Approval of Agenda

At the request of Dr. Goodale, item 1 under New Business (video presentation on Block Parties) was removed.

At the request of Mr. Brian O'Neil, a first reading of resolution that makes changes to the Interfraternity Council Constitution was placed under New Business.

The agenda was approved with these changes.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 15, 1992 meeting were approved, but with the following corrections:
Mr. Meighan Belsley was changed to Ms. Meighan Belsley.

Mr. Scot Case made a correction to Resolution #2 in the Resolved clause; "RESOLVED: the Blacksburg Transit Advisory Committee ..."

Mr. Scot Case made a correction to Resolution #3; "LET IT BE THEREFORE RESOLVED: the University Council... granting graduate assistants the option of ..."

Presentation

1. Bicycle Program - Mr. Richard Alvarez and Mr. J.B. Sutphin

Mr. Alvarez, Director of Health, Public Safety and Transportation informed the Commission of the status of the Bicycle Task Force recommendations made last year. He reported that the education program regarding these recommendations will begin next semester, while the enforcement of the recommended policies will begin in the 1993-94 academic year. When asked, he said that enforcement will be directed by Parking Services with the aid of the Tech Police.

Mr. Sutphin, Facilities Planning and Construction, reported a new bike storage program initiated by the University called Pocket Park Project. This storage system includes bicycle racks put on concrete pads surrounded by landscaping and trash receptacles. One of these pocket parks is in place presently, with an additional 20 to be put up by the end of the 1992-93 academic year. He said that the goal of this Project is to increase the use of bike lanes by cyclists, which would aid the overall safety of the University transportation system.

2. Emergency Phones

Mr. Mike Jones, Tech Police, announced that within three-four months 55 new emergency phones will be installed around the campus to aid Tech's emergency response program.

3. Paving of Commuter Lot B

Mr. Alvarez was asked to discuss the progress of the Commuter Lot B paving. He said that paving of Lot B was delayed for over two years due to various storm-water management problems. He also reported that he has received complaints that it appears little work is being accomplished on the Lot, even though a portion of the Lot is fenced off by the contractor. Mr. Alvarez noted that the contractor has a deadline to finish the work, but until that time the areas fenced off are controlled by the contractor.

Subcommittee Reports

1. Student Budget Board. Mr. Matt Jackson presented the minutes of the October 12, 1992 Student Budget Board meeting, and these were approved as presented.

2. Facilities. No report.

3. Governance. No report.

4. Student Life. Ms. Cortney Vargo reported that the subcommittee had met, but it had nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

1. Second reading of three resolutions from the Facilities Subcommittee - Mr. Scot Case.

Resolution #1: Campus Parking Meters

Mr. Case said that he brought up the Resolution's concerns regarding parking meters to the members of the Parking and Transportation Committee, and this Committee commented that it had not heard complaints and would not act on any resolution on this issue unless they receive complaints. Mr. Case withdrew Resolution #1 from Commission consideration.

Resolution #2: Campus Shuttle Service

With the correction made to the Resolution (noted in Approval of Minutes), the Resolution passed.

Resolution #2: Campus Shuttle Service (as approved)

WHEREAS: There is an increased need to utilize the outer campus parking lots due to the combined effects of increased traffic flow and construction to Commuter B lot, and

WHEREAS: the infrequency of the current circulation of the campus shuttle presents a serious hindrance to its effective utilization, and

WHEREAS: there is a serious lack of information pertaining to the campus shuttle's route, schedule, and frequency

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED: the Blacksburg Transit Advisory Committee be officially notified that the Commission on Student Affairs strongly recommends an increase in the circulation frequency of the campus shuttle, AND an increase in campus awareness of the shuttle service.

Resolution #3: Graduate Student Parking

Mr. Case distributed a fact sheet that addressed campus population, demand for parking, parking available, and graduate assistantship categories. He also announced changes to the Resolution recommended by the Commission; the changes were in the Resolution's Resolved clause. Debate then ensued about the fact sheet and then, the Resolution itself. Mr. Case then offered an amendment to the Resolved clause that recommended parking spaces be set aside in the Commuter B, Litton Reaves, and Cassell Coliseum parking lots to accommodate the graduate students who wished to purchase faculty/staff parking permits. Because the number of parking spots to be set aside was not stated, Mr. Mike Hurd made a friendly amendment that allowed for the Parking and Transportation Committee to determine the number parking spots to set aside. The amended Resolution was passed. Mr. Kevin Mottley and Mr. Jake Perkins noted that they voted against the Resolution because of the set-aside amendment, though they agreed with the intent of the Resolution.

Resolution #3: Graduate Student Parking (as approved)

WHEREAS: Designated parking is made available as a basic right of employment for all faculty and staff employed by the university, and

WHEREAS: graduate students are employed by the university as teaching assistants, research assistants, and administrative assistants, and

WHEREAS: graduate students are invaluable in the operation of this university, including the teaching of classes now offered

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED: the Parking and Transportation Committee be officially notified that the Commission on Student Affairs strongly urges granting graduate students on assistantship the option of obtaining faculty/staff parking, AND

that an appropriate number of commuter student parking spaces, to be determined by the Parking and Transportation Committee, from the Commuter B-lot, the Litton-Reaves lot, and the Cassell Coliseum lot be redesignated faculty/staff parking to accommodate the graduate students.

2. Summer Stipend Reports - Mr. Kevin Brown submitted the stipend report of Xzabier Jackson, Chairperson of the Black Organizations Council.

3. Report on Off-Campus Functions Task Force - Dr. Goodale reported that Task Force sent recommendations to the Town Council. After discussing in general terms the recommendations, Dr. Goodale told the Commission that the Town Council would probably discuss the mass gathering ordinance at its December meeting.

New Business

1. First Reading of Changes to the Interfraternity Council (IFC) Constitution - Mr. Brian O'Neil, IFC Secretary, read the proposed changes of the Constitution and briefly explained the reasons for them.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.