

University of Southern Maine – USM
STUDENT SENATE MEETING
~MINUTES~
November 8, 2019
Payson 1, Portland Campus

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM.
2. The Chair instructed the Clerk to collect roll.

The following were in attendance: Senators Bertrand, Carlow, Courbron, Gross, Holderith, Howell, Marino, Reed, Rouillard, Soucy, Whiting, Woods, Worden, and Sheikh.

Senators Sciulli and Duarte were marked Absent Excused.
3. The Clerk informed the Chair that a quorum to do business was present.
4. **Senator Whiting moved; Senator Gross seconded** to accept the agenda.

Voted: No, unanimously.
5. **Senator Reed moved; Senator Gross seconded** to add to the Agenda consideration of including a rules amendment to raise the threshold for Rules amendments to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Senate.

Voted: Yes, with 14 in the affirmative and with 1 abstention.
6. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Reed seconded** to add to the Agenda consideration of adding Latré Sibi as a Business Office signer for the Business Office.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.
7. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Reed seconded** to accept the agenda as amended.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.
8. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Gross seconded** to approve the minutes from 10/25/19.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.
9. The Chair of the Senate delivered his report:
 - The Chair reported that there were just a few things to go over and that President Cummings would be giving a presentation later in the meeting.
10. Senator Bertrand delivered her report on the Executive Board:
 - The Board passed a proposal from finance committee for printing and spoke about the Rules amendments which would be considered at this meeting.
11. Senator Reed delivered his report on Finance Committee:
 - Senator Reed gave a report on the continued progress in the ongoing investigation into Business Office financial practices. He offered further insight into purchase order violations. Additionally, finance committee reviewed several proposals and recommends their passage. A deputy treasurer has been appointed.
12. Senator Carlow delivered his report on the Constitutional Review Committee:
 - The Committee has not met. Steps are being taken to appoint a deputy parliamentarian.
13. Student Body President Varney delivered her report:

- The meet and greet was a success and the professional clothing drive is underway. A blue light review was conducted.
14. Representative to the Board of Trustees Senator Carlow delivered his report:
 - The Senator met with the President on the unified accreditation project. The President spoke recently to the Board of Trustees about the name change. The USM administration is trying to make a deal with Bayside so that there can be more student housing there.
 15. Mr. Long delivered his report on the Board of Student Organizations:
 - \$3,850.15 have been granted to two groups since the last meeting. The Board is hoping to coordinate more effectively with the business office. Additionally, it would have preferred if it were included in the decision process in this matter. The Board stressed that it would not be appropriate to send a deputy Parliamentarian to its meetings and that past Parliamentarians typically were able to make it to these meetings.
 16. Ms. Janelle delivered her report on the Outdoor Adventure Board:
 - Not much has happened since the last meeting. There were two hikes last weekend and there will be horseback riding this weekend.
 17. Mr. Woods delivered his report on the Student Communications Board:
 - There has been no meeting.
 18. Mr. Long delivered his report on the Leadership Development Board:
 - There have been problems with membership of the Board.
 19. Mr. Reed delivered his report on the Classified Staff Senate:
 - Scholarships were discussed at the last meeting.
 20. Ms. Whiting delivered her report on the Faculty Staff Senate:
 - Accreditation was discussed along with the proposed classroom civility code.
 21. Ms. Varney delivered her report on Culinary Counsel:
 - The Council has not met.
 22. Ms. Marino delivered her report on the WMPG Advisory Board:
 - There has been no meeting.
 23. Senators Holderith and Reed outlined the grievance committee which would be formed to investigate personnel problems with University staff.
 24. **Senator Carlow moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to authorize the formation of a grievance committee to investigate personnel problems with University staff.
 Voted: Yes, unanimously.
 25. The Chair opened the floor to nominations for the position of Chair of the grievance committee.
 SUBSIDIARY MOTION
Senator Soucy nominated Senator Whiting.
 Voted: Yes, with 13 in the affirmative and with Senator Whiting abstaining.
 26. **Senator Courbron moved; Senator Sheikh seconded** to grant exemption to Michael Perez, allowing him to receive 2 stipends.
 Voted: Yes, with 11 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and with 2 abstaining.
 27. **Senator Woods moved; Senator Gross seconded** to approve Proposal #48-19-10.

Discussion: Senators Reed and Holderith noted that this proposal would make the Free Press better and that the amount proposed was appropriate considering the usual allotment of Student Activity Fee monies to the SCB.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.

28. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to approve Proposal #48-19-11.

Discussion: Senator Reed presented that this proposal would fund numerous trips for the Outdoor Adventure Board which were put on hold in the wake of the Student Activity Fee increase implementation error.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.

29. **Senator Carlow moved; Senator Bertrand seconded** to amend the Rules, adding to section 2 Rule 8.1 “This document shall not be amended except with the approval of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Senate.”

Voted: Yes, unanimously.

30. **Senator Carlow moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to refer the proposed deputy positions amendment to the Rules Committee.

Voted: Yes, with 12 in the affirmative and with 2 in the negative.

31. The Senate discussed Senator Bertrand’s proposal to amend Rule 9 so to read “The Senate shall meet at least once each month to conduct the business of the Association, and the regular time for such meetings shall be set to every other Friday during the academic year. The agenda for each regular meeting shall be sent to members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, although, for items not included in the original agenda, and for which action must be immediately taken, the Vice-Chair is authorized to add addendums to the agenda, and notification to members with respect to that addendum shall be provided as soon as practical.”

32. **Senator Soucy moved; Senator Courbron seconded** to recess for 2 minutes.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.

33. The Senate reconvened.

34. **Senator Carlow moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to amend the Agenda, moving President Cummings’ presentation to the next item.

35. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Woods seconded** to table item 31’s Rules amendment to Rule 9.

Voted: Yes, with 13 in the affirmative and with 1 in the negative.

36. President Cummings delivered his presentation.

37. **Senator Carlow moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to endorse the administration’s proposed name change from University of Southern Maine to University of Maine.

Discussion: Senator Reed expressed that his concerns with endorsing the name change had been dispelled . Senator Courbron noted that there is concern among students about having to buy new branded merchandise. Senator Bertrand expressed the need for Senators to speak with members of the student body about the name change.

Voted: Yes, with 10 in the affirmative and with 2 in the negative.

38. **Senator Bertrand moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to recess for 5 minutes.

Voted: Yes, unanimously.

39. The Senate reconvened.
40. The Chair notified the Senate of Senator Bertrand's intent to seek the recall of Senator Carlow from his position of Parliamentarian.
41. **Senator Reed moved; Senator Bertrand seconded** to name Latre Sibi as the authorized Business Office signer of the Business Office.
Voted: Yes, unanimously.
42. **Senator Reed moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to refer the Code of Conduct and the VIC Policy to the Constitutional Review Committee.
SUBSIDIARY MOTION
Senator Reed retracted the motion.
43. **Senator Reed moved; Senator Whiting seconded** to refer the Code of Conduct and the VIC Policy to the Committee on Rules.
Voted: Yes, unanimously.
44. Senator Holderith announced that the next Senate meeting would be at 1:00 PM on November 22 in 166 Hastings on the Gorham Campus.
45. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.