

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Student Senate Meeting
Thursday, May 3rd, 2012 VU 567**

Student Senators: *Present:* Kendall Bull (Chair), Jered McCardle, Ethan Glemaker, Christopher Brown, Sharon Schultz, Felipe Espinoza, Katie Vainikka
Absent: Druksel Dorji, Christopher Savage, Matthew Yoo, Evan Fowler, Mason Luvera, Victor Celis

Advisor: Lisa Rosenberg

Secretary: Marissa Jaksich

ASVP for Academic Affairs: Fabiola Arvizu (*absent*)

Guest(s): *Western Democrats:* Andrew Taylor

The Western Front: Jules Guay-Binion

Student: Hung Le

Kendal Bull, Student Senate Chair called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm

S-12-S-08 Move to approve the first whereas amendment. *Passed*

S-12-S-09 Move to approve the second whereas amendment. *Passed*

S-12-S-10 Move to pass the resolution with the aforementioned amendments. *Passed*

I. Approval of Minutes

II. Revisions to the Agenda

III. Public Forum

IV. Information Items

A. Rental Licensing Agreement

Doc. 1

Chair introduced Andrew Taylor, a Bellingham renter, who rents off campus because it is more affordable for him as a student. As a renter, he did not have any leverage before signing the lease because management companies have all the power. This rental licensing agreement would give renters a little more information and would be a benefit to students. Andrew says they would hopefully draft a resolution to pass in the city and get a third party to see this resolution through. Renters do not have many legal rights. Brown brought up that there was a similar resolution a few years ago but that it had been voted down with a 5-2 vote by Bellingham's City Council. Andrew said that the previous resolution went directly to city council instead of city works and working with other stakeholders to make it have more of a chance of passing. Andrew responded that property management companies have a lot of power, money, taxes. He claimed there to be mold problems, electric fires, flooding, and that they would have to go out of the way to help them find housing. Brown said that there is no one inspecting the laws and so renter companies have the freedom and the power to take advantage of people, especially students. Espinoza said this resolution is about informing the students and helping them have better quality interaction with off-campus housing. Glemaker really likes the resolve statement and would love to see that reflected in the fourth whereas statement.

V. Action Items

A. Aramark Employees Unionizing

Doc. 2

Chair introduced that a resolve statement had been added to the resolution since the previous week's meeting "Be it resolved that we call on WWU President Bruce Shepard to issue an official statement urging Aramark to stay neutral in employees' right to unionize." Glemaker suggested bolding the "whereas" to keep with consistency of past senate resolutions. Glemaker wonders how they can shed light on how it relates specifically to students. McCardle thought it could apply to many students if they did not know how secure their jobs were and if they felt they were being taken advantage of because Aramark has so much power to fire. Brown mentioned that students cannot be a part of unions. Vainikka said that these employees are working for students and thinks that directly impacts students. Glemaker suggested making some amendments to the resolution. He suggested adding two whereas statements: "*Whereas, the ability to unionize would generate better working conditions for student employees,*" and "*Whereas, the Strategic Plan of the ASWWU seeks to provide opportunities for students to organize themselves around their special interests,*"

MOTION S-12-S-08 by McCardle

Move to approve the first whereas amendment

Second: Brown Vote: 5- 0 - 1 Action: **Passed**

MOTION S-12-S-09 by McCardle

Move to approve the second whereas amendment

Second: Brown Vote: 6- 0 -0 Action: **Passed**

MOTION S-12-S-10 by Glemaker

Move to pass the resolution with the aforementioned amendments

Second: McCardle Vote: 5- 0 - 1 Action: **Passed**

VI. Discussion Items

A. Issue of the Quarter

McCardle sent around a sign-up sheet for tabling shifts. He also asked who would be able to speak to large classrooms to spread the word about the Student Tech Fee Forum senate is putting on May 17th. Chair mentioned that he wrote a press release to the AS Review and Western Front. McCardle brought up that the poster for the event had been completed and would be distributed Friday. He also asked if anyone would be interested in joining his student tech fee forum subcommittee to help him out with the event.

VII. Board Reports/Concerns

Glemaker reported that Student Trustee Selection Committee met and selected 4 candidates AS Facilities and Services adding another motor vehicle but that it would not be purchased until the middle of next fall.

Espinoza reported President's Nate Penelo is the new ESC coordinator, so they have been postponing accepting the new Russian club. It's a language club that is a requirement of classes.

IV. Other Business:

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 5:10 P.M.