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NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
February 4, 2009
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I) **Opening Business**

- a. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- b. Grant led the invocation.
- c. Greg, Robin, Nika, Andrew, and Dave were absent.
- d. Grant entertained a motion to approve the January 28, 2009 executive summary. Zach motioned. Julie seconded. *The January 28, 2009 executive summary was approved at 6:06 p.m.*

II) **Podium- Ms. Ann Puzzello, South Bend Common Council**

- a. She referenced the C.L. Lindsey article. She feels that warning neighbors in advance of parties would not necessarily be helpful.
- b. In the past few years, the situations with neighbors and parties have been greatly improved. There have been less reasons for people to be concerned, especially in the East Washington area.
- c. Her focus is the neighborhoods and the residents, she feels that students and neighbors can work together well.
- d. She recommends assisting neighbors through things like shoveling their walks. Understands that many students volunteer and work in the community.
- e. Wants to have good, friendly relationships with students.
- f. One common concern is cars parked the wrong way.
- g. She encourages attendance at the Common Council's meetings.

III) **Officer Reports**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
 - i. Bob, Grant, and Karen will be presenting their report to the BOT tomorrow.
 - ii. The CLC has decided on four task forces: New Introduction to Student Life, Off-Campus/University Relationship, Technology & Study Spaces in Dorms, Medical Amnesty.
 - iii. The Intercollegiate Council is tentatively scheduled for March 28.
 - iv. Bob will have a meeting with a representative from the College Readership Program, from USA Today, to see where ND fits in the bigger picture of the program.
- b. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
 - i. The Discount Booklets are available for sale on-line and at the LaFortune Box Office.
 - ii. His CLC task force is looking into availability in rooms in DeBartolo for study spaces as well as speaking with rectors about placements of printers in dorms.
- c. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief Executive Assistant

- i. The Tri-Campus Commissioners meeting is this week and they will be discussing medical amnesty policies and sexual assault policies.
- d. Ms. Kristen Lewis, Faculty Senate Liaison
 - i. The Faculty Senate will discuss the absence policy at their next meeting.

IV) **Committee Reports**

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. 300-400 people attended Majors Night.
- b. Committee on Community Relations
 - i. Met with NDSP and SBPD to finalize content for the off-campus website.
- c. Committee on Gender Issues
 - i. Working with CORE Council to sponsor "Stand Against Hate" week.
 - ii. The Dove Campaign is coming to campus on February 26.
 - iii. The CSAP committee is forming subcommittees and moving forward with their reviews.
- d. Committee on multicultural Affairs
 - i. Had a letter-writing campaign for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan this past weekend, had over 100 letters.
 - ii. Met with various groups about "Hero Days" and the first hero is Oscar Romero.
- e. Committee on Oversight
 - i. Did not meet.
- f. Committee on Residence Life
 - i. Results from the Grab & Go Survey have been finalized.
 - ii. Working on programming "Safe Spring Break Week."
 - iii. Will be e-mailing student body regarding new DVD Club hours and new available DVDs.
- g. Committee on Social Concerns
 - i. The registration for Green Summit is closed.
 - ii. The ice skating rink is not available till late March, so the event will be postponed until then.
 - iii. Communiversiity Day, tentatively scheduled for April 4, has a goal to have 1000 students participate in projects across the city. The CSC's food drive also coincides with the date. Clubs and dorms will be contacted to participate.
- h. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Working on the presentation regarding President Bush's legacy, tentatively scheduled for the end of February.
- i. Ad Hoc Committee On Student Outreach
 - i. Feedback from the C.L. Lindsey talk is encouraged.
 - ii. Questions for the survey will still be accepted, until February 17th.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Technology
 - i. Devin says the test of the PA system has been postponed.

- ii. Concerning internet service in the dining halls, ND Food Services feels that if the service was improved, students would not leave the dining halls and would continue to study.
- iii. Concerns or problems about ND Secure should be addressed with OIT.

V) **GENERAL ORDERS**

a. Discussion Re: Community Relations and Questions for Ms. Ann Puzzello

- i. Zach asks what she feels is the biggest issue off campus currently is. She says that a lot of houses that are zoned as single-family homes hold more students than they are supposed to hold. She feels that if they could have legal housing, problems would decline. A house can be grandfathered if it is currently zoned for group housing. Another issue is weekend rentals. They greatly appreciate what students have done to cut down on the party situation and it is not the number one problem for residents.
- ii. Kevin asks if there are enough areas off campus for students to move to, specifically with the zoning issues. She references the area east of campus, particularly the apartments and condos as predominantly student residents and not a major concern for South Bend residents.
- iii. Joy asks what happened to the "party ordinance." The nuisance house ordinance was still passed, over the summer. If the police are called more than once, an abatement letter with fines attached could be sent to the owners or renters of the homes. The first time the police are called, it is only a warning.
- iv. Gus asks what the three most important things to being a good neighbor are. She says in terms of parties, do not advertise on the internet and move the party indoors.
- v. Grant asks if the weather influences the cycle of parties. She agrees that the weather is a major factor in students' activities.
- vi. Lauren asks what the best way to advertise the off-campus block parties. Ann says to advertise at the Robinson Community Center or contact her so she can pass along the information.
- vii. Michelle asks if residents would be interested in attending block parties on Communiversitry Day, Ann says the community would definitely want to be involved.
- viii. Grant asks for her perspective on SBPD's goal to patrol for underage drinking versus protecting the students' safety. She says the main problems are parties and cars. SBPD are very concerned about students' safety, but the focus can change if residents are awoken at early hours in the morning. Her focus is on the safety and comfort of her residents. A law concerning NDSP's jurisdiction is currently pending.
- ix. Lauren asks if she sees the students' who live in her jurisdiction as part of the community. Ann says that honestly, since most of the students do not vote, she does not consider them to be constituents. However, if there are any problems that arise, students are more than welcome to

contact her and she will try and address them. She has not had any interactions with students in the past.

- x. Grant asks if it is a negative thing to be referred to as a “college town.” She says that there has to be a lot more interaction and discussions before the term can be used. A reciprocal relationship, specifically with the administration, is needed to build better relations.
- xi. Bob asks what the current communication with the administration is. She responds the CCAC. The issues regarding South Bend residents, caused by the students, are not addressed by the administration.
- xii. Ben asks for examples of what the town has done to reach out to the university. The City Council started the CCAC and are interested in improving communication. Ann held meetings in the neighborhoods to try and help solve the problems between residents and the university. The Tech Park and Eddy Street Commons are examples of the university and city working together.
- xiii. Bob feels that there is a disconnect in communication between South Bend and the university. Both sides have a lot to offer and Ann wants the city to work closely with the university. She says part of the problem is perception.
- xiv. Michelle asks if in her opinion if the CSC is doing a good job reaching out to the community. Ann says she only gets a newsletter, but does not receive regular updates. Overall, Ann says that the neighbors like the students but do not like certain situations.

b. Discussion Re: Content of Off-Campus Website

- i. Grant postpones the discussion till next week.

VI) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Katie W. announces McGlenn Casino Night, this Saturday in SDH.
- b. Ryan P. says that the Iditaroo will take place on February 14 on the golf course.
- c. Robin B. announces LHOP on February 28. A bake-off will also be held that night.
- d. Ryan P. announces Siegfried’s Day of Man will be held tomorrow, proceeds benefit SB Center for the Homeless.
- e. Austin announces the signing of Manti Te’o, arguably the best prospect in the country.
- f. Bob announces the Student Body candidates debate tonight.
- g. Kevin announces, on behalf of Kaitlyn, the WelshFam DanceFest this weekend.

VII) ADJOURNMENT

- a. Grant entertained a motion to adjourn. Jon motioned. Zach seconded. *The February 4, 2009 meeting of Senate was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.*

- ii. Devin highlights some of the accomplishments of the Committee, i.e. Google Bus, printers in Jordan and dorms, mobile help desk, etc. as well as current projects underway like ND Secure, cellular reception.
- iii. A resolution to strike the "P" before Resolution SS0809-22 was approved.
- iv. The resolution was approved with a vote of 24-0-0.

b. Update on \$5 Subway Footlongs

- i. Grant met with the administrator of the Facebook protest group.
- ii. Grant will be meeting with Dave Prentkowski, director of NDFS, and Jim LaBella, manager of the Huddle, to further discuss the issue, specifically to budget for the promotion.
- iii. Another part of the discussion is the quality of Subway's food and the extension of Burger King's operating hours.
- iv. Bob posed the question of if this is a topic Student Government should be addressing. Responses varied, but overall, the senators felt that it should be addressed.

c. Discussion Re: Library Renovations

- i. The discussion was tabled.

V) **NEW BUSINESS**

VI) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Keough's Iditaroo will still be taking place, pending a snowfall.
- b. Lewis House of Pancakes will be held in two weeks.
- c. Freshmen Flex Members will be sitting in on the next Senate meetings.
- d. In conjunction with Hero Days, a mass and discussion about Oscar Romero will be held this weekend.

VII) **ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Ryan entertained a motion to adjourn. Robin motioned. Zach seconded. *The February 18, 2009 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 6: p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole O'Connor
Student Body Parliamentarian

