**Student Government Association Minutes**

April 05, 2016

1. ROLL CALL: Mike Janchuk, Shannon Cullinane, Taylor Saltmarsh, Alina Bracken, Molly Romano, Evan Mines and Brennan Kauffman were absent. Amanda Canale, Kelsey Butler, and Maddie Dexer were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 29, 2016: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Evelyn Dina*
2. Ryan Losco and I met with President Torrechilha, last week, to discuss the Commencement Ceremony, which was discussed last week in SGA. You all received an email from Ryan Losco and me this week, with a well thought-out compromise. As of right now, I haven’t received much feedback expressing further concern. President Torrechilha is kind enough to be here with us this evening for just a few minutes, but if anyone has any questions about the changes please let me know. I hope everyone had an opportunity to read the email and I truly believe this is a fair compromise for all students as well as faculty.
3. **Ryan Losco**: Just to touch upon that, sitting on the commencement committee, this was debated about the issue and trying to resolve it because there’s a wide variety of students who were impacted by it, some students are not, so we feel like this compromise allows the students who want the extra touch with their chair to have it, and if they don’t they can just opt out from it. I think this is the best compromise for the situation, and I’d like to thank the President and committee for considering it.
4. **President Torrecilha**: Thank you for having me, I also wanted to thank you guys for your leadership in bringing the issue back about commencement. Commencement is all about your accomplishments, your families, all that you’ve done at Westfield State. All that was meant to be done was to celebrate and be respectful of all the work you’ve put in. I’d also like to mention the midnight breakfast; we’re looking at May 4th as a possibility for that. The last day of classes is May 9th, so we’re looking at that as a good day for it.
5. **Andrew Morin:** In terms of commencement, I think it’s very great and I appreciate the work you’ve put in, but I’m concerned that students really want their names pronounced correctly so I don’t know if this is going to solve that problem.
6. **Evelyn Dina:** Essentially, when this change becomes implemented, the people that read the names will be trained to read the names, they will have a set number and will practice prior to the commencement ceremony**.**
7. **Priscilla Aguilar:** When do we find out who is going to read the names?
8. **Ryan Losco:** As a person who sits on the committee, it’s going to be four faculty members. Right now, they have not been selected yet, but they will be soon.
9. Tonight we have members of the MASSPirg Chapter of Westfield State here to present their Annual Update.
10. MASSPirg Rep: the Westfield State University Chapter of MASSPirg gave their annual update presentation via PowerPoint to SGA.
11. **Ryan Losco**: I just have a question about the fee; do you know how many students waive the fee at Westfield State?
12. MASSPirg Rep: It’s about 50/50.
13. **Marcus DiBacco**: Can you tell us more about the lobbyists, where they’re hired from and how much they get paid?
14. MASSPirg Rep: We have both state and federal lobbyists; depending on their experience with the organization, that determines their salary. The Westfield and state budget pools into that, most of them come from organizing on campus. Their salaries are not very high, it’s not as much as you’d imagine a lobbyist for a normal corporation.
15. **Dana Kilby**: I didn’t know what MASSPirg was coming into college, and I was wondering if you guys have thought of attaching a sheet to the bill to explain your goals and get more information out about who you are?
16. **MASSPirg Rep**: Part of the new voter registration project that we are starting is doing information sessions at the start and end of the semester. Sending more paper bills is something we’d be able to do, but I like the concept of being able to personally set out and talk to people about who we are. At the beginning of every semester, we do have class reps to try to reach out to the student body during the first few weeks of school. Also, there is an explanation of the funding for MASSPirg on the bill.
17. **Dana Kilby**: Freshman students who get their bill for the first time probably wouldn’t have an idea of what MASSPirg is, so I feel like that would give them a ground of what they’re giving nine dollars towards.
18. **Morgan Suddeth**: Point of information – on your student bill, under where it says ‘MASSPirg waivable fee’, there is a paragraph that generally describes what MASSPirg aims to do as well as a link to their website, so while I think that’s valid, I think it’s also a matter of educating yourself on your student bill.
19. **Dan Pendenza**: You said earlier that the state board decides the issues that you guys do, so how do the students come up with initiatives for you guys to campaign?
20. **MASSPirg Rep**: A lot of the staff that we hire does most of the groundwork with going out and finding out what issues matter to the public. We take that into consideration when choosing our campaigns. We really want to work on campaigns that the public cares about and we are hearing that want to be worked on. It’s also worth emphasizing, that our Board of Directors is made up entirely of students. We don’t have any staff on that board. With our phone calls, we’ll talk about a lot of issues, that we think, should be brought to your attention, and then student input is put in.
21. **Brandon Trafford**: How many students are currently a part of the Westfield States MASSPirg chapter, and then how much money do you guys receive total from the student waivable fee?
22. **MASSPirg Rep**: What you’re seeing here is about half of our core group, the people that come to weekly meetings and are involved in a lot of our efforts as well as having a voting spot for electing new board reps and the like. We also have a lot of peripheral people because there’s a lot of different ways to get involved. I know there are some people, on campaigns, that come to our tables and help specific campaigns. Because there are so many ways to get involved, there are different levels of involvement. As for how much money we get, I don’t have an exact figure, but it’s about $36,000 a year. The program itself costs about $50,000, so Westfield gets a bargain in a sense.
23. **Xavier Carmona**: How exactly do you get student opinions before your campaigns as well as student feedback after the campaign starts?
24. **MASSPirg Rep**: When we say that we do campaigns that students care about, we talk about students who sign off on specific campaigns, so all of you have the opportunity to be one of those students. If there is something that you feel strongly about, you have the opportunity to go to a meeting, voice your opinion, and become a voting member. There’s not really a way for us to know exactly what everyone cares about, we do surveys near the end of a semester to try to get student interest, but coming to a chapter meeting is the best way to get your ideas across. We do go to a lot of classes and hand out cards to get opinions on campaigns and interest on working on the campaign, so that’s another example of how we get feedback.
25. **Jon Cubetus**: Do you have any other means of income besides student waivable fees?
26. **MASSPirg Rep**: Nope, student run and student funded.
27. **Al Fava**: Why exactly does this fee have to be an opt- out fee?
28. **MASSPirg Rep**: The gym membership is also opt-out; there are a lot of things on there that you can opt- out of. If we had an opt-in fee where people are donating and had to do research as to what MASSPirg is in order to opt-in, we would be spending all of our time fundraising instead of working on the issues we know that students care about.
29. **Marcus DiBacco**: I’m still confused as to how you decide which campaigns you’re going to be working on.
30. **MASSPirg Rep**: We have professional staff that we hire with the two percent of the fee, nationwide and state level, they survey the public and students to find out what issues they care about. They bring those issues to us to allow us to vote on which issues we can focus on for the public.
31. **Ryan Losco**: I’ve heard a lot of concerns from my constituents about this vote, what is it that MASSPirg can provide to this campus that a club from the Political Science department, that has experience in everything that you’re doing, such as lobbying, fundraising, campaigning, alumni running for office, what is it that you can give to us that is a little extra than what we have on campus?
32. **MASSPirg Rep**: Emily is hired to spend her time training us to work on specific campaigns, without her, my leadership skills would be nowhere close to where they are today. We give students who want to get involved a lot of responsibility; without Emily, they may crack under pressure. Eventually, these new members can train newer members, then it spreads out and everybody gets a good training. It wouldn’t be possible without our professional staff. What I think MASSPirg brings to campus, that I believe no other group can is true, honest to God civic engagement. This is a resource you can use to connect with your local, national, regional community, anything on any issue. If you don’t believe in the basic platform MASSPirg has to offer, or if you think it could be done differently or in a better way, you have every right and opportunity to do so. I care very deeply about voting in general and being civically engaged, and while I don’t have the time to be engaged, in a group like SGA, I still feel it is important to do as much as I can to make sure people are continually civically engaged, and this is a platform that I feel I can do that. Almost every state has a PIRG chapter, and one of the great things about that is I’ve been able to meet other student leaders from other states, which is a great way to organize and network to see other people’s motivation, for what they’re doing.
33. **Ashley Deleon**: I was here two years ago when we had the same meeting; I see a couple familiar faces. From that time until now, I’ve seen you guys grow a lot and I want to commend the greater presence you have on campus. I was all for cutting you guys because I hadn’t heard of you and you meant nothing to me, but I’m glad I didn’t because you’ve done a lot of great work. Jon Cubetus: When did your chapter start your Subway campaign?
34. **MASSPirg Rep**: The Subway campaign started last semester.
35. **Jon Cubetus**: How do you explain that the largest franchise in the world just turned around in a matter of a few months to just do what you guys wanted them to do?
36. **MASSPirg Rep**: Students. We did a lot of photo petitioning, and we got the second most in Massachusetts to tweet at Subway after UMass Amherst, we did really well with that and they said the biggest thing was the social media presence. That’s why they listened to us, and students matter. The McDonald’s campaign was being worked on for a while, we joined and we won really rapidly, we are doing what students want.
37. **Justin Connolly**: This is directed to the first-year representative, what drew you to MASSPirg?
38. **MASSPirg Rep**: At the very beginning of the year, I went to the club fair to originally find MASSPirg. I wasn’t super involved the first semester as I was very sick; I was out of school for about two months. I got a phone call explaining more about what MASSPirg was, and when I did come back fully recovered, I saw something around campus about it. My friend told me she was very into it, so I started going to the Antibiotics campaigns and I’ve liked it a lot since then.
39. **Morgan Suddeth**: Next semester you’re working on your new voters project, are you thinking of anything past that campaign?
40. **MASSPirg Rep**: Yeah, we’re thinking about our next lead campaign. After that, we’re going to put a lot of effort into the 100% Renewable Energy campaign as well as the Hunger and Homelessness Campaign and the Textbook campaign.
41. **Xavier Carmona**: Is there any textual evidence or articles that show that you specifically were a driving force behind the Antibiotic campaign?
42. **MASSPirg Rep**: Yes, the Washington Post and a couple others, it was one of the biggest public health issues of the last decade, so it was nice to get recognition for the work we did. If you type in MASSPirg Antibiotic Campaign, you can find it. We can send a couple, if you’d like to see them too.
43. **Andrew Manchino**: In regards to the 100% renewable energy campaign, how do we ensure that the community agrees with the movement?
44. **MASSPirg Rep**: This would be more of a statewide campaign than a campus-wide campaign, so we’d be working with Governor Baker to implement this idea hopefully in a four-year span.
45. **Justin Connolly**: I move to close the speaker’s list. Motion carries.
46. **Evelyn Dina**: I want to thank MASSPirg for being here and being transparent with us. The next couple things I say are pretty crucial tonight, so please pay attention. Every two years, we as an organization partake in a revote that ultimately decides on MASSPirg’s continuation here at WSU. MASSPirg currently exists on the student bill as a waivable opt-out $9.00 fee, as most of you know. This means that students will automatically be charged $9.00 unless they select to opt-out. Fortunately, with the opt-out option, MASSPirg is able to continue running at this university. The vote that we will be partaking in today will essentially decide if the MASSPirg fee will remain opt-out or be changed to opt in. If this fee is changed to opt-in, MASSPirg as a whole will lose a significant amount of funding and will no longer be able to exist here at Westfield State. Due to the severity of the vote, we will be voting on whether you support or do not support MASSPirg at WSU. Voting yes is a vote towards keeping MASSPirg here with a $9.00 waivable fee, voting no is a vote in support of no longer having MASSPirg here at WSU. As elected members of the student body, I’d like to remind you that you are here to voice the opinions of your constituents, and to represent them in this vote. With that being said, I move that Westfield State University continues its support of MASSPirg through a nine-dollar waivable fee. Motion carries.
47. **Ryan Losco**: Considering the severity of this vote, I think, just as we did two years ago, that this should be a roll call vote. Therefore, I move that this vote be a roll call vote. Motion carries.
48. **Marcus DiBacco**: I asked around 15 of my constituents about what they would prefer, not a single one of them knew what MASSPirg was, so I’m going to speak in a trustee fashion and go with my own experience and opinion. I personally stand against interest groups, and I have a graph here that says that the legislatures listen to about 4% of what their constituents say, that’s us, and they listen to 30% of what interest groups say. I personally seen on the news and CSPAN, all that stuff, interest groups working on things that the public has not wanted. I know a lot of the time, most interest groups do a lot of voter registration and that’s fantastic, provided the voters know what it is that they’re voting for. A lot of people, even in one of my government classes where we’re talking about it every single day, have no idea what a liberal or conservative is, and for some reason our teacher doesn’t allow moderates, so we have to pick a side and only after we decide something do they pick the other side. Voter registration is great, only if you know what you’re talking about. My final point is that everyone says they’re non-partisan, but you’re only non-partisan if you’re independent, that’s why it’s called independent. The NRA, a huge interest group, is the farthest thing from non-partisan that I’ve ever seen. I rest my case.
49. **Jon Cubetus**: I urge everyone to consider what your constituents would think, I applaud Marcus for talking to everyone, I think what really speaks to me is almost 60% of our campus chooses not to support MASSPirg. There are obviously other considerations to think of such as affordability, or the entirely realistic view that people at WSU do not support MASSPirg on campus.
50. **Ryan Losco**: I also talked to my constituents about this, regardless of what information my constituents know about MASSPirg, they have elected me to support their interests and an overwhelming majority have stated to me that they are not in favor of MASSPirg being on campus. I agree with Marcus on his comments centered about interest groups, I think that’s definitely something that’s accurate. Also, looking at constituents as a whole, Jon presented a little over 50% waive the fee, which should be a sign about our constituency that people aren’t in favor. If you’re going to waive the fee, you aren’t in favor of the group; at least that’s how I interpret it. I don’t understand what it is that they provide that a club on campus couldn’t do. If we’re going to go down the road saying that this would be denying student’s opportunities, we could get a club passed through rules and regulations in about two weeks that would be pretty much the same thing with about the same amount of resources, if not better. With all of that, hopefully you talked to your constituents, I’m going to represent the senior class, and that is how I plan on voting.
51. **Matt Carlin**: As chair, I don’t have a vote. Going back, I initially voted no as a freshman. Some of you may have heard me the past few years continuing that sentiment. That is until I sat down with MASSPirg and got informed. Something that I’d like to address is regarding the money they receive. I’ve heard comments that all they care about is the money, I’d like to address that in the sense of if you’re doing something, you need to pay for supplies and personnel. Not everything can be charity, not everyone can volunteer out of the goodness of their heart. I’d like MASSPirg to use the money they’re allocated to do campaigns rather than asking for money. Secondly, I’d like to address Ryan’s point of a club replacing MASSPirg. The only reason I’m against that at this point is because such a club has not been proven at this point to satisfy the needs that MASSPirg satisfies. Maybe in the future if a club comes in and does just that, we could make that judgment then, but as of right now there’s nothing that could fill in for MASSPirg. I would encourage those of you to think about the 40% that do say yes and not take this opportunity away from students that do want it.
52. **Andrew Morin**: I’d like to reiterate that their campaigns aren’t really Democrat or Republican; working towards getting rid of antibiotics in food really isn’t going to harm anyone. Marcus, I think what you said was really well said, for the most part. The one thing that you may have misworded was about public interest groups and majorities, and I think there are a lot of minorities that are underrepresented so I don’t necessarily support that.
53. **Michaella Tretheway**: Politics aside, this is our passion in SGA, and there’s a group of students over there that have the passion in MASSPirg. I don’t think it’s up to us to take their passion away, they’re trying to improve our lives on and off campus, so I don’t think it’s fair of us to take that away from them.
54. **Andrew Manchino**: I think it is unfair that we in SGA have to make the choice for the students as to whether or not they want MASSPirg on campus. I can guarantee you there are people in this room that don’t know a decent amount of people on this campus, so I don’t think this is an appropriate vote for SGA, I think this should be a campus-wide vote because it is a campus-wide issue.
55. **Evelyn Dina:** This was something that was brought up at our last vote two years ago, we are voted in by the 20% of students that vote and are essentially representing that 20%; if you were to put this on the ballot, you’d get the same 20% responding. Us, selected as leaders on campus from these voting students, are the same students that would be responding on that ballot. If we were to put this question on the ballot, we’d essentially get the same response. This is why we’re here; you should be honored to represent your students like this. You should have a sense of pride that you can make a decision like this on behalf of your students, but thank you for your concern.\
56. **Ashley Deleon**: We’ve talked about the majority opting out, but I have to touch upon how $9.00 is not always easy to spend. Also, people who don’t know what MASSPirg is might not necessarily put money towards it. Lastly, other clubs on campus, I know MASSPirg isn’t a club, but other clubs don’t have majorities, I’m sure 85% of students on campus are not in MTG, but we’re not voting to get rid of them because people here love MTG just as people love MASSPirg.
57. **Dan Pendenza**: I was definitely leaning towards no, but I came in here with an open mind. I want to say that MASSPirg is big on political participation and civic engagement and I love that stuff. I don’t agree with everything that you do, I don’t pay the fee because I don’t necessarily agree with everything you do; however, in terms of the student bill, if you don’t want to pay for it, you don’t have to pay for it.
58. **Haley Batchelder**: Because of the student activity fee, I’m able to do programming and such through CAB. SGA runs through this fee too, as they provide clubs and such the opportunity to do great things through a fee that the students pay. I think it’s only fair to give MASSPirg the same opportunity.
59. **Brandon Trafford**: First off, MASSPirg is fighting for the betterment of society and doing well on this campus. Secondly, I’d like to recognize the fact that they’re a nationally recognized organization, they have the strength in numbers, and they wouldn’t have done the whole Subway campaign if they were just a club on campus. Thirdly, and most importantly, if you vote no, you are taking student leadership opportunities off of campus. As SGA, we are supposed to provide students with opportunities, not take them away.
60. **Morgan Suddeth**: To the point that Ryan Losco brought up about club vs. MASSPirg, I think what MASSPirg brings that a club cannot is that they bring jobs and career opportunities to students. A lot of students go on and continue lobbying whether through a PIRG or an activist group. They also have interactions and coalitions with other schools to have strength in numbers as Brandon mentioned in order to make change. The other thing I want to mention is that I also don’t believe that this vote should be in SGA, what MASSPirg would like to be doing right now is an education drive or a get out to vote drive to educate campus more and allow those people to make the decision about whether or not they want MASSPirg on campus.
61. **Ryan Losco**: There have been a lot of things said, and I want to clear it up a bit here. Even a representative on MASSPirg said he saw something from MASSPirg and didn’t know what it was, so that should speak some volumes. Regarding comments about the minority, we live in a democratic society and most times the majority wins and the minority loses out, so you have to consider that as well. The comment about MTG and taking them away, MTG is a club, not an interest group, so trying to compare the two is a bit of a stretch. As far as taking away opportunities, I already stated that we could offer a club, plus there are various other leadership opportunities on campus, so there is an ample amount of ways to civically engage and be a student leader. In all, I think everything needs to be considered from all points. Trying to compare MASSPirg to other things on campus isn’t the right thing to do as they’re a completely different organization. With that, I move to close the speaker’s list. Motion carries.
62. **Marcus DiBacco**: A lot of you are older and have been through this vote before, but this is not two years ago, 50% of the population has now changed on campus. It’s great to work with such a powerful group such as MASSPirg if you have a club with ideas that align with theirs, but if your ideas don’t align with theirs, I really don’t think you’re going to get any help from them whatsoever. Next, I would like to say that every single interest group in history is a faction, factions are a minority that outweighs the public itself; yes, the public has a majority, but the public has separate minorities as well. Next, we have a lot of classes dedicated to civic engagement, basically all of the GARP classes are for helping social justice, geography and mapping out issues, even my English class is doing civic engagement, so we do have professionals here that are helping us learn and become active community members. Next, in this case since we’re only talking about how you have to opt-out for it, I think it should be opt-in because people should want to have to pay for it. 60% do not want to pay for it, so it should reflect the majority and minority, as the majority does not want to pay for it. Next, I feel like people should already know what MASSPirg is, they’ve been on campus for 42 years so why are they having an education program right now, I mean 42 years is more than twice my age.
63. **Al Fava**: Personally, my issue has never been with MASSPirg itself but rather how they get their money. If you want to support something, you should know what it is and why you want to support it. I just don’t see it as fundamentally fair, if we were to switch it to opt- in, maybe it would make them stronger on campus as you could more easily identify who would want to be a part of MASSPirg.
64. **Jon Cubetus**: First, I want to say I’m well aware that I’m in the minority right now and that’s perfectly fine. Also, excellent discussion, I think you guys have been very respectful with no personal attacks, which I think is great. I just want to clarify that I do not in any way disagree with what MASSPirg does. Like Andrew said, no one can disagree with affordable higher education. However, I do agree with Al in that I don’t agree with how they get their money. I would make the argument that the people who pay the fees do not look at their student bill and that’s fine, they should be, but that also doesn’t voice support for them either. Also, I wholeheartedly disagree with how they go about pursuing their campaigns. I’ve been following them fairly closely because I knew this was coming up, and I’ve done my research. MASSPirg tends to attach themselves to campaigns that will win. I don’t see that as being sincere or what we want, but I don’t know a heck of a lot of campaigns that they’ve joined where they know they’re going to lose. That’s all I have to say.
65. **Matt Carlin**: About the vote, when it comes down to yeses and no’s, abstentions count as no’s. For those tallying the votes and the recording please be silent so we can clearly hear the vote. Every vote matters, so please stay silent throughout.
66. Because of the severity of the vote, we will be voting on whether students support or do not support MASSPirg at WSU. Voting “yes” is a vote towards keeping MASSPirg here on campus with a waivable $9.00 fee. Voting “no” is a vote in support of no longer having MASSPirg here at WSU. As elected members of the student body, you are here to voice the opinions of your constituents and represent them in the vote.
67. Before we vote are there and questions for myself or the members of MASSPirg prior to the vote?
68. I move that Westfield State University continues its support of the MASSPirg Chapter through a $9.00 waivable fee.

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| ROLL CALL VOTE- MASSPIRG - APRIL 5TH |  |
| **RYAN LOSCO** | NO |
| **SAMMIE CHAN** | YES |
| **MIKE JANCHUK** | ABSENT |
| **EMILY MCKENELLEY** | YES |
| **SHANNON CULLINANE** | ABSENT |
| **MARISSA CREMIN** | YES |
| **ANDREW MORIN** | YES |
| **ANDREW MANCHINO** | YES |
| **MORGAN SUDDETH** | YES |
| **TERESA ALOI** | YES |
| **ALLY BANCROFT** | YES |
| **IVANA MCGLINCHEY** | YES |
| **MADDIE CREAMER** | YES |
| **SHARLEEN VARGHESE** | YES |
| **CASEY HILTZ** | NO |
| **KENDALL DUNBAR** | YES |
| **CONNOR GLYNN** | YES |
| **XAVIER CARMONA** | ABSTAIN |
| **NICOLE HANNON** | YES |
| **MARCUS DIBACCO** | NO |
| **MIKE GUERTIN** | NO |
| **CAM SWAN** | YES |
| **ANTHONY DIENI** | YES |
| **DANNY CHAMBERLAIN** | YES |
| **TAYLOR SALTMARSH** | ABSENT |
| **ASHLEY DELEON** | YES |
| **DAN PENDENZA** | YES |
| **CHRISTIAN CAPALBO** | YES |
| **JON KELLAND** | YES |
| **SANDRA MERCER** | YES |
| **DANA KILBY** | YES |
| **AMANDA CANALE** | ABSENT |
| **NYASIA VELAZQUEZ** | YES |
| **DAECIA SERRANO** | YES |
| **PATRICIA AGUILAR** | YES |
| **LEZLIE CAMPBELL** | YES |
| **ALINA BRACKEN** | ABSENT |
| **TARA SARAF** | YES |
| **PRISCILLA AGUILAR** | YES |
| **KELSEY BUTLER** | ABSENT |
| **NICOLE ORLANDO** | YES |
| **ARIEL ST. GERMAINE** | YES |
| **SEAN BACON** | YES |
| **AL FAVA** | NO |
| **BRIANNA PELLOSO** | YES |
| **MICHAELLA TRETHEWAY** | YES |
| **MAGGIE MASTROIANNI** | YES |
| **MOLLY ROMANO** | ABSENT |
| **JESS HANAM** | YES |
| **WILL SONDRINI** | YES |
| **MOLLY LUCEY** | YES |
| **NICKALENA RICHARDS** | ABSTAIN |
| **TARA LAMBERT** | YES |
| **SHAYNA ARNOTT** | YES |
| **LINDSEY CRAIN** | YES |
| **GABBY KNIGHT** | YES |
| **MARK MANKUS** | YES |
| **REBECCA KENNEDY** | YES |
| **EVAN MINES** | ABSENT |
| **MADDIE DEXTER** | ABSENT |
| **JACKIE BROCHU** | YES |
| **BRENNAN KAUFFMAN** | ABSENT |
| **IMANI HILL** | YES |
| **ABBY SALVIETTI** | YES |
| **RACHEL DUNPHY** | YES |
| **KARINA SALLAWAY** | NO |
| **RHYNELL CHRISTOPHER** | NO |
| **BRENDAN MCKEE** | NO |
| **JACOB LOTTER** | YES |
| **JUSTIN CONNOLLY** | YES |
| **JON CUBETUS** | NO |
| **HALEY BATCHELDER** | YES |
| **BRANDON TRAFFORD** | YES |

1. A vote was taken with 52 yes and 11 no. Motion Carries
2. I am passing around a flyer of “From Tween to Teen Girl’s Group,” that is a group run by college aged women for adolescent girls in Belchertown, MA. They are an art therapy based group that operates throughout the summer once a week, educating the girls on topics such as body image, self-esteem, and computer safety. This is the group’s fifth summer and they are expanding quickly. They are looking for more college aged women to help facilitate meeting and build curriculum. If you are interested in helping and would like Rebecca DiVico to contact you, you can write your email on the back of the flyer.
3. This Friday, April 8 from 9:00am until 10:00am in the University Hall lobby, will be the Facilities and Operations Appreciation Day, formerly called Maintainer’s Appreciation Day. This breakfast event is open to all students to share their appreciation for all maintainers and other facilities and operations staff. If anyone is interested in helping Rebecca Kennedy, please see her after the meeting. I look forward to seeing you all there.
4. Last week I mentioned the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s Out of the Darkness walk, hosted by the Active Minds club. They are currently in need of volunteers for registration, check-in, t-shirts, the finish line, set-up and breakdown. They are looking for around 20 volunteers and there will be a 6:00pm training here in the SGA room tomorrow, April 6. They also are looking for students to help out at their table display in Ely on Thursday, April 7, from 10:00am until 3:00pm. The walk is taking place next Wednesday beginning outside of University Hall at 1:30pm for registration and going until 5:00pm. As a reminder, volunteering for something like this is one unit per hour. Please see me after the meeting, if you are interested, or show up to the SGA room tomorrow at 6:00pm with the Active Minds Club.
5. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Justin Connolly*
2. State House day is tomorrow, April 6. Those still interested in attending, please come and see me after the meeting.
3. The Board of Trustees will convene for their subcommittee meetings tomorrow, April 6 throughout the day.
4. The Finance Capital Assets meeting is at 11:00am.
5. The Academic and Student meeting is at 12:30pm.
6. The AAUR meeting is at 2:00pm.
7. The Audit meeting is at 3:30pm.
8. All University Committee**: No Report**
9. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Matthew Carlin*
2. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
3. Multicultural Committee**: No Report**
4. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
5. Health Committee: **No Report**
6. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
7. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
8. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
9. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Jon Cubetus*
2. I hope everyone had a great time at Cotillion, for those who went. I just have a few quick updates. This week is advising for the upcoming Junior class. So, if you will have 54 or more credits by the end of the semester, you qualify to register on April 8. Peer advising is open to all majors and class years, so if you need help making your schedule, they are available from 9:00am until 5:00pm every day. If you have any questions about the registration process, please let me know.
3. The next Office Hours with Marsha Marotta will be next Tuesday, April 12 in the SGA conference room at 4:00pm. If you have any academic concerns, questions, or comments, please stop by.
4. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
5. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
6. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
7. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
8. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
9. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
10. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Haley Batchelder*
11. Programming update**: Haley Batchelder**
12. Barbara Hand has recently sent the student body and email with all information regarding Spring Fest, logistics, DC meals and the schedule of events. Guest packets will be available for purchase tomorrow, April 6, for $15.00 each. Reminder, that a guest pass is the only way that a guest can participate in any Spring Fest activities. Spring Fest will kick off with Forest Park Zoo on the Go. To clarify, this is not a petting zoo as has been advertised. It will be an educational opportunity about the various animals that will be on campus.
13. The Campus Activities Board will be meeting tomorrow, April 6 at 5:00pm back in the Owl’s Nest.
14. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Brandon Trafford*
15. Finance Report: **No Report**
16. Foundation Report: **No Report**
17. SERETARY’S REPORT: Brendan McKee*/Jacob Lotter*
18. Executive Secretary Report: **Brendan McKee**
19. Legislative Secretary Report: **Jacob Lotter**
20. Hi everyone. I’m going to begin tonight by doing our Big Unit Award. This month’s winner sent in 12 units for the month of March, congratulations Sharleen Varghese. Our unit lotto winner is Alina Bracken. Congratulations.
21. There will be four units due for the month of April and they will be due by 3:30pm on April 26. It’s the last month doing them, so revel in that.
22. I just want to remind everyone that I need nice photos for the SGA Banquet slideshow, sent to me by April 29. For every picture you send me, you get one unit. Check your email for more information on that. I’m also sending around the t-shirt we selected for you all to receive at the banquet. It was designed by our President, Evelyn Dina.
23. Can someone make sure I get the sheet that Evelyn Dina passed around at the beginning of the meeting back.

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: *Ryan Losco*

Rules and Regulations Committee: Ryan Losco

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: Ryan Losco
4. Senior fest tickets are still on sale and will be on sale until April 15.
5. Make sure to reserve you commencement tickets the deadline to do that is April 11 and you can pick them up on the 25.
6. **Evelyn Dina**: We do not have a yearbook, correct?
7. **Ryan Losco**: Correct.
8. Junior Class: **No Report**
9. Sophomore Class**: Maddie Creamer**
10. The Class of 2018 is having our Buzz-Off this Sunday, April 10. The event starts at 1:00pm and runs until 4:00pm. We will have food, games and raffle baskets at the event.
11. If you or anyone you know is interested in buzzing, there’s still time left to sign up online.
12. Also, on the day of the event we will allow people to get their hair buzzed for a donation of $20.00.
13. The Class of 2018 would love everyone’s support in attending, so if you are free, please stop on by and tell your friends to come as well.
14. Our next scheduled meeting I April 6, at 4:00pm in University Hall.
15. First Year Class: **Xavier Carmona**
16. The First year and Junior Class, along with everyone involved in the production of Mr. Westfield, have been working tremendously hard to put on this show**.**
17. Tickets will be on sale starting April 14 in the DC.
18. Also, please consider donating some money to a contestant as it does go to granting a wish for a child in need.
19. The First year class will be hosting a throwback Karaoke themed night, April 13 from 7:00pm until 9:00pm in the Owl’s Nest**.** We would like for all of you, who are able to attend, to show your support and come on down. We will also have a jar collecting donations in case anyone want to help support the Mr. Westfield staff and campus grant a wish.
20. Apartment Complex: **Jackie Brochu**
21. I am reporting on behalf of the Apartment Complex president.
22. I accept the resignation of Brennan Kauffman as a Representative to Senate for the Apartment Complex.
23. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 7 at 5:00pm in the RD’s office.
24. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
25. Davis Hall: **No Report**
26. Dickinson Hall**: No Report**
27. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
28. Lansdowne Hall**: No Report**
29. New Hall**: Albert Fava**
30. I accept the resignation of Molly Romano as Representative to Senate for New Hall.
31. Our next scheduled meeting is April 6 at 3:30pm in the New Hall Conference Room.
32. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
33. University Hall**: Mark Mankus**
34. I accept the resignation of Evan mines as Representative to Senate for University Hall.
35. I have started, last month, is a building wide newsletter.
36. This is crunch time for most students on campus and I am devoting my efforts to listening to my residents. One thing that got positive feedback from the residents was the acronym: S-smile, T-Take a deep breath, A – and, R- Relax.
37. Tomorrow, April 6 the council and myself will be handing out our end of the year gifts to the building.
38. Our next scheduled meeting is April 7 at 6:30pm in the University Hall meeting room.
39. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
3. **Andrew Morin**: Mr. Westfield tie-dye is tomorrow in the Owl’s Nest at 7:00pm.
4. **Maddie Creamer**: Buzz off Sunday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
5. **Ryan Losco**: Rules and Regs, your night is not over.
6. **Brendan McKee**: Thank you to everyone who made Cotillion the success it was, I hope everyone who went had a great time. On an important note, if you are running for a position on SGA, for next year, please get your signature sheet in by 5:00pm on Friday, and do not campaign until 5:00pm on Friday.
7. **Dan, MASSPirg**: I want to say thank you for letting us come down and thank you for your support.
8. **Justin Connolly**: If you are interested in State House Day, please see me after the meeting.
9. **Marissa Cremin**: Please see me after the meeting to sign-up to volunteer for the Blood Drive on April 13.
10. **Ivana McGlinchey**: I have the diversity event calendar; so if anyone wants to know the events coming up, let me know.
11. **Dan Pendenza**: Please donate to Make a Wish through Mr. Westfield.
12. **Brandon Trafford**: Can I see Sean Bacon after the meeting please?
13. **Emily McKenelley**: 46 days until commencement.
14. ROLL CALL: Michael Janchuk, Shannon Cullinane, Connor Glynn, Taylor Saltmarsh, Dana Kilby, Alina Bracken, Lindsey Crain, Gabby Knight, Imani Hill, and Rhynell Christopher were absent. Amanda Canale, Kelsey Butler and Maddie Dexter were excused.
15. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.