

Minutes – January 29, 2015
Cornell University Student Assembly
4:45pm – 6:30pm, Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

S. Balik called the meeting to order at 4:45pm.

Members present: S. Ali Khan, B. Bacharach, S. Balik, J. Batista, Y. Bhandari, B. Brown, M. Chak, J. Fridman, L. Goldman, M. Henderson, E. Johnston, G. Kaufman, M. La Pointe, D. Li, E. Liu, L. Liu, M. Masson, R. Raglin, J. Selig, M. Stefanko, B. Sullivan, P. Titcomb, D. Vakili, L. Wershaw, F. Yang

Members excused: A. Zhou

Members unexcused: S. Tayal

II. Approval of the January 22, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved by unanimous consent

III. Moment of Silence

S. Balik asked for a moment of silence out of respect for two members of the community that passed earlier in the week

IV. Open Microphone

There was a question about the rule regarding community members being able to ask questions during meetings. J. Batista said she would follow up after the meeting.

V. Announcements/Repts

Human Ecology Report – L. Goldman

Couldn't understand the recording

Outreach Requirement Announcement – Y. Bhandari

Reminder to SA members of their outreach requirements.

VI. Business of the Day

R.32: Appending the Reference Process – J. Batista and D. Vakili

Motion to amend. In line 61, after “two collective community votes,” add “If the SA votes by a margin of 80% or more of voting members to NOT hold the referendum, the referendum is suspended. If the SA votes by simple majority but less than 80% of the vote.” Also, line 96 should start: “If a referendum has a majority of votes in favor of the submitter”

M. Stefanko is concerned that there should be more guidelines in place. As it is, if the community were to have a majority vote for, \$5K tuition for the sake of example, then the SA would be forced to take action on that and send a resolution to the President asking for said tuition. While the example is ridiculous, there should be measures against something like that happening.

M. Henderson agrees with the idea behind the resolution, but thinks that there are many better ways to go about it.

Call to question on the amendment, seconded, approved by a vote of 22-0-0.

Call to question on the resolution, seconded, approved by a roll call vote of 20-4-0.

S. Ali Khan	Yes
B. Bacharach	Yes
J. Batista	Yes
Y. Bhandari	Yes
B. Brown	Yes
M. Chak	Yes
J. Fridman	Yes
L. Goldman	Yes
M. Henderson	No
E. Johnston	Yes
G. Kaufman	No
M. La Pointe	Yes
D. Li	Yes
E. Liu	Yes
L. Liu	Yes
M. Masson	Yes
R. Raglin	Yes
J. Selig	Yes
M. Stefanko	No
B. Sullivan	Yes
S. Tayal	Not present
P. Titcomb	Yes
D. Vakili	Yes
L. Wershaw	Yes
F. Yang	No
A. Zhou	Not present

R.38: Towards Greater Legislative Accessibility – J. Fridman, M. Chak, E. Liu, B. Bacharach, G. Kaufman

Motion to amend: replace “blurb” with “abstract” on lines 2, 21, and 27, **seconded, approved by unanimous consent**

J. Batista mentioned that this was a great idea and that it would hopefully encourage assembly members to use their abstracts to enhance publicity.

Call to question on the resolution, seconded, dissent expressed, vote to vote: 21-3-0, continue to vote, **approved by a vote of 24-0-0.**

R.41: Elections Committee Additional Members – M. Henderson

Call to question, seconded, approved by a vote of 23-0-0

VII. New Business

R.40: Improving Event Planning at Cornell University – Y. Bhandari and E. Johnston

Motion to amend: At the end “Be it finally resolved that after a semester of gathering comments any necessary changes be made to the event registration process for continual improvement, **seconded, approved by a vote of 21-0-2.**

Motion to move to Business of the Day, seconded, approved by unanimous consent.

Motion to table until next week, seconded, dissent expressed, not tabled by a vote of 10-10-2

Motion to table until next week, seconded, dissent expressed, tabled by a vote of 20-3-0.

S. Balik adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Chelsea Cheng