



General Assembly

Thursday, April 19th, 2019 – 5:00 pm

University Club – Devos Center

Chair: Rachel Jenkin

Parliamentarian: Morgan Mattler

I. Call Meeting to Order: 5:02pm

- a. Moment of Silence
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call

II. Guest Speakers

- a. Santi, Assistant to the Grand Rapids City Manager
 - i. Toast Masters, I did it for 8 years in this room. I have not been in this room for around 5 years. This club, 7:30 every Thursday morning is a great experience. Toast Masters is an organization to better your speaking skills, like eliminating “Uhs and Ums”.
 - ii. VP Ibarra: Interested in hearing GVSU relationship with downtown GR
 - iii. VP Jones: Yesterday I heard from diversity and inclusion how city is applying diversity lens
 - iv. Senator Kolc: Live downtown, love to hear more about parking housing against meters.
 - v. EVP Mattler: Talk a little about your boss as well.
 - vi. Santi: From Lansing Michigan, started as librarian, came to GR in 2001, worked in public libraries for many years. 2 years ago, I reached out to my network to someone who used to work for the city in who worked for city of GR in HR department. She helped me find this role of assistant to the city manager. I help make projects, write speeches, helped with writing “We are GR”. Started June 2017, have worked for 3 City Managers so far. SAFE task force, I helped Greg become an expert in it. Then when Eric came in as interim city manager, I was tasked with helping plan out LakerLine, like planning the property acquisition for the buses. Also the work with Art advisor, so when someone ones to put art up in public space, I help coordinate getting the art approved. Also I help with donations to the city, like children’s museum astronaut display, Cualders plaza, have to make sure we can maintain the art. Now I work under Mark Washington. He is very transparent and value based. Very easy to work under. You know where he stands. Difficult to keep up with him as he drives us for excellence. Very fair. Currently the GR agenda, around 800 pages long, use to be sent Friday at 9am and needed to be read by Tuesday the next week. City Manager saw this and thought city commissioners may not fully understand this as due to length of document. Now every Monday, we have “cabinet”, we review the agenda, I send draft agenda to city commission on Tuesday, one full week before the meeting. Now government of GR runs better since they have more time to absorb the

- information. Also all presentations need to be previewed so during the meetings, the agenda goes through mostly smoothly.
- vii. City Manager form of government. Some mayors in other cities basically run the city, like Detroit, Chicago, New York. They have more power over appointments. In GR, the city manager helps run more day to day as the mayor sets policies and standards. Then the city manager manages the policies and helps keep the Mayor out of the weeds and helps keep the Mayor in high level policy.
 - viii. GVSU relationship with GR. It is very good right now. GVSU has helped GR grow. There were some struggles, like the nursing building. When GVSU bought that land, there was not a lot of communication with Bell Knapp Neighborhood. GVSU helps pay pilot since they don't pay taxes and this money that goes into this fund helps fund to better the area now. With new building, Finkelstein, it was a much better process. GVSU has been an engine of growth for GR, like the up and coming Lakerline.
 - ix. Equity question, people start in different resources, some people need more than others. Some are marginalized and put in certain places, out of their control. City is trying to catch up in many ways in trying to figure out how to deliver services in equitable manner. Like snowplows, off street parking vs areas where some have only street parking. City would look and see where what streets are harder to plow so plowing service could be more present in those on street parking areas.
 - x. Also every apartment building needs to have equity plan to present to the city.
 - xi. GR is close to a 600-million-dollar corporation.
 - xii. Parking Crunch in the downtown area. City manager thought that parking department needed to slow down and make a clearer strategic plan. 2500 parking spots coming aboard soon I believe. Across from courthouse, near the GR theatre. Also parking app, the embedded map, it allows more flexibility in time you get to choose, and the new vendor is easier to work with. One thing that could be improved on would be the community engagement since some people all the sudden had there free parking spots now with meters present. Things are changing, only solution of more parking is not the only answer. Mobile GR is working on trying to implement with automated shuttle. You can get to most places in GR in around 20 minutes. Near many Malls, Grocery stores, etc. GR is a small city with big city problems. GR is growing rapidly.
 - xiii. Senator San-Chez Castillo: Public transportation, with GR being second largest in state, plans for a metro being implemented in future? Highly suggest it, even though it would cost a lot.
 - xiv. Have not heard any plans, approach we are taking right now is Laker line and Silver Line. Effectiveness will be seen once fully implemented. Right now doing an

area specific plan, to see what certain areas needs are so when developers come in, they already know what needs for the neighborhood are. Has been talked about before, brainstorming free service ideas, like the DASH bus line. That is paid for by Mobile Bus line.

xv. Senator Marsman: GR plans with climate change?

xvi. GR is leader in sustainability. 2007 we have had plans in place since then. Plan to be carbon neutral in 2025. Waste water treatment center, many food creation places, there waste has different treatment needs, we take the energy harvested from treatment and sell to consumers, then we will use it to power the facility. Also plans to put in more solar panels. Department is growing, we have a GVSU intern currently there.

xvii. City is also working on strategic plan, and city manager is looking forward to help model it after GVSUs plan. Basing it off the GR city manager values as well. Like accountability, equity. Vision statement currently Grand Rapids is to be national recognize equitable city with robust community and economy. Mission statement to elevate quality of life through services they offer. Different properties of government excellence, affordability, mobility, safety, health. In next few weeks in next fiscal year, city will go under some reorganizations. Metrics to be announced and responsibilities to be shared.

III. **Public Comment – Part I**

IV. **Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers**

Sign up Sheet for tabling for Thank You Cards for T-Haas

V. **President's Report**

a. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

- i. Strike line item A under new business, due to no projector. Approved
- ii. Thank you for everyone who made it downtown and helped with pre GA social with students.
- iii. Resolution from senator Harris (income based meal plan), Bob has been talking to partners, interested in task force, talk to me if interested. Around 8 senators showed interest.
- iv. Student senate week, been going great. Make it to CAC event tonight.
- v. 61 packets have been signed out for senate election so far.
- vi. Bob is in process of organization with prez ball deficit, we will be helping plan to help cover cost. Voting will be soon. Go to appropriations if you want to vote on budget request over \$10,000.
- vii. Senator Marsman: Appropriations location (Kirkhof 2201)

- viii. Bob: history on room, when Devos was built, this room is old bar from Amway hotel was donated to be given from Richard Devos. Spaces like this were created for entertaining, strategic planning, etc.

VI. **Executive Vice President's Report**

- a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Approved
- b. Shout out to senator Kolc for her efforts for push to having this GA downtown.
- c. Voting on CTF documents today.
- d. T-Haas letter drive has been going great, shout to to Deberry and Sawatzki for leading it. Also submit your T-Haas selfies.
- e. 5pm on march 18th. Deadline for packet to be turned in, photo to be taken, form submitted through student senate website. Shout out to elections Commission for everything they have been doing.
- f. Also working on end of year dinner, details to come soon.

VII. **Officer Reports**

a. **Senate Resources** – Holly Neva

- i. Submit office hours.
- ii. Survey, please do it.
- iii. Folders with governing documents are in cubbies. Utilize binders to hold all senate related things to help with senate organization.

b. **Finance** – Amanda Crawford

- i. Appropriations in Kirkhof 2201 tomorrow. Packet will be given tonight.
- ii. Will be voting on reserve request due to loss on cancelling President Ball event. If you want to vote, March 21st, need to attend an appropriations meeting or a training session I will hold. Limited by my own schedule but there is time to gain voting rights.
- iii. VP Qureshi: Paying for entire expense or part of it?
- iv. VP Crawford: estimate payment from senate of around \$20,000.

c. **Campus Affairs** – Carter Engler

- i. Shout out to senator Drosshart for carpool.
- ii. Sign up for T-Haas letter drive tabling.
- iii. Reach out to senator Drosshart for Care fair he is running.
- iv. Check out CAC info night event tonight.

d. **Educational Affairs** – Erin McIntosh

- i. Last Lecture was past Tuesday, went great and thank you for those who came out. One professor was from event plugged our downtown GA.

- ii. March is reading month, sign up for reading, more dates to come fro reading.
- iii. Interest in sitting as VP of EAC, hit me up. Also SAAC
- e. **Diversity Affairs** – Rachel Ibarra
 - i. Senator Patil had a great “succulents with senators” event.
 - ii. Read report for project ideas.
 - iii. Looking into how diploma will display preferred name. In making sure students know they can have it show preferred name.
- f. **External Relations** – Cameron Jones
 - i. Thank you to those who helped table for letter drive for higher education funding. Got around 150 letters in total.
 - ii. Senator Nurmi for housing project meeting.
 - iii. Inclusion symposium, best practices for employee retention, attended. How to be more inclusive. Something we can always strive for, recognize privilege, making space equitable no matter who you are. Learn to celebrate small wins.
 - iv. Talk to professor about including Mental Health Awareness resources, she was up to for including it. Try asking a professor you are close with.
- g. **Public Relations** – Bilal Qureshi
 - i. Senate week, thank you for all the help.
 - ii. Tonight, last event with CAC Kahoot and discussion for panel. 9-10 in Holton Hooker Multipurpose room.

VIII. Call for University Committee Reports

- Food Committee General Plan: They will be going over plan in next food committee plan, March 12th I believe.
- Academic policies Committee: Finished first pilot for academic forgiveness. For those who change majors, they are choosing new students, like minimum GPA, follow through, etc. Recovery camp, 80 students, usually only 50 return next year due to many reason. Camp costs around \$100,000.

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. Review and Voting of CTF Constitution Updates
 - i. Voting: Yays have majority
- b. Review and Voting of CTF Bylaws Updates
 - i. EVP Mattler: Grammar changes and tweaks, made changes. Sub Committees part, made changes to grammar, Clarified point of who can chair subcommittee.
 - ii. Senator Bialowas: Second chance given for conduct review, do not agree with since it seems to delay the inevitable?

- iii. Senator Drosshart: Changes were made to help clarify that conduct review is not for being kicked off body, but to present options. Second chance was added for if some sort of emergency were to come up out of the senators control.
- iv. Senator Schaffer: Wanted to Alleviate if worries if something were to come up.
- v. Senator Bialowas: Conduct review in my opinion is for extreme cases. If there were some sort of emergency to come up, I feel like it would be communicated and accommodations would be made.
- vi. Senator Schaffer: Tried to change how conduct review so it would not seem as harsh as currently stereotype is that if you go, it seems that you will be kicked off the body.
- vii. President Jenkin: If a senator is being sent o conduct review could be due to a problem with the VP and conduct review board is a neutral unbiased group they can talk to if needed. For all consequences, not jus the harsh ones.
- viii. Voting: All say yays for approval.
- c. Review and Voting of CTF SRC Policies and Procedures Updates
 - i. Voting: All yays for approval of changes
- d. Review and Voting of CTF Finance Rules (Changes cannot be made)
 - i. Voting: All yays for approval of changes
- X. **New Business**
 - a. ~~Professionalism On and Off the Body Presentation, EVP Mattler~~
 - b. **CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY**
 - i. Senaotr Hall: Committee Vs Committee sport competition, like volleyball since it is non physical. Will create poll in Slack to gage interest.
- XI. **Public Comment – Part II**
- XII. **Call for Announcements**
 - a. Senator Aller: Faculty Excellence award closes tomorrow. Can nominate 5 faculty members.
 - b. Senator Dowker: if signed up to lead tour for GSA summit, respond to email about doing another tour.
 - c. Senator Drosshart: Mental Health Awareness care fair, 2 weeks after spring break, more to come once we come back from spring break, give me ideas.
 - d. VP Jones: Cook leadership nominations applications close tonight. Can help if you need help
 - e. Senator Kolc: Thanks for everyone who came downtown. Thank you for seeing importance.
 - f. Senator Kolc: 35 senators have submitted mid year survey.
 - g. Senator Hunter: Thanks for making the trip to downtown Allendale senators.



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- h. VP McIntosh: Setting up conference for tours, interest let me know
- i. EVP Mattler: After spring break, election packets will be done very soon.
- j. Senator Marsman: Write State Rep for letter drive, let me know if you want to write a letter
- k. President Jenkin: Encourage people to sign out election packets. Do in class speeches, help spread the word about elections.
 - i. Timeline for guest speakers, time on senate will fly by, work hard on projects and even harder on school.
 - ii. Interest in running for cabinet, talk to any cabinet member, especially the VP position you want to run for. Come to Cabinet Monday at 6:30.
 - iii. Task force for food insecurity, come to me if interested.
 - iv. Have a great safe spring break.

XIII. Adjournment: 6:28pm