

Inter-Residence Hall Association
Parliament Meeting – Minutes
Memorial Union Campanile Room
23 March 2017 – 7:30 PM

- 1) Call to Order
 - a) Called in at 7:37pm
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Approval of the Minutes
 - a) Minutes stand approved
- 4) Adopting the Agenda
 - a) At-Large Leyton: Move to add Freeman Display Case Bill
 - b) At-Large Linden: Move to add ISU Student Action to Informational Speakers
- 5) Informational Speakers
 - a) Iowa Prison Industries
 - i) *See supplemental document for minutes
 - b) Iowa Student Action - Questions: kalebv@iastate.edu
 - i) []: One of our goals is to get the university to stop using the services of IPI. The wages are not satisfactory. The highest wage is about \$1.92 per hour. According to the Des Moines Register, sending an email costs \$0.25, doctor visits are not free. I don't think it reflects well on us to utilize prison services and basically enslave the prisoners. It also takes away jobs from students.
 - ii) President Jacob: I think it is good to hear both sides of the argument. Thank you guys from coming in to speak. We have become a lot more educated on the topic tonight. I don't want this to turn into a debate. Our constituents will likely fall on both sides of the issue. Ask questions, but keep it civil.
 - iii) Jackson Larch: Do you have an alternative solution?
 - (1) []: I don't think we should use prison labor when students could be working over the summer or at other times to do the same work.
 - iv) Willow Justin: This is also a rehabilitation program for them.
 - v) President Jacob: Everyone has personal opinions on this. I would like you to go back with the facts of both sides and see what they think about it.
 - vi) Willow Justin: Are you guys going to come back after we talk to our constituents?
 - (1) Yes, we would love to come back
 - vii) StuGov Cody: I would like to hear more about your solutions. If we stop using IPI, what happens to those prisoners when we stop using those services?
 - (1) []: Having the opportunity to work in prison is great, but the wages are our greatest concern. I would like ISU to use the work of citizens instead of prison labor.
 - (2) StuGov Cody: Do you think cutting our relationship with IP would cause their wages to go up?
 - (3) []: I don't think it would have a negative effect on the prisoners.

- (4) []: I agree, if we stop using prison labor, it will not fix the entire system, but it is a matter of the underlying principal.
- (5) StuGov Cody: That is a fair point, but what is the game plan?
- (6) StuGov Cody: You said that students (and other citizens) would be willing to do the work. Where did you get this information?
- (7) []: If you look up the unemployment rate, there are lots of people without jobs. 50% unemployment in the African American community.
- (8) StuGov Cody: That is valid, but that entire population doesn't reside in Ames. I would like more data about people in the community being willing to do these jobs. If we eliminate prison labor, how will we afford the much higher costs?
- (9) []: I would be lying if I said we knew the answers. I think there is another issue with the legislature cutting our funding. This issue is tied to a ton of other issues.
- (10) StuGov Cody: Thanks for coming
- viii) Exec Caleb: Are you taking people's backgrounds into account?
 - (1) []: It is really crucial to look at backgrounds. With IPI, they are just preying on people in a bad situation and using them for cheap labor
- ix) Exec Aaron: DoR is also a self-sustaining organization?
 - (1) Pete: We're an auxiliary. What we make is what we get.
- x) Exec Aaron: IPI operates in a similar way to the DoR in that regard. IPI has competitive pricing. If we stop using IPI, we would have to pay a lot more money for furniture. What would you say to students?
 - (1) Caleb: I think the legislature needs to increase funding so that we don't have to rely on prison labor.
- xi) WW Dee: Are you an actual organization or just two people?
 - (1) Caleb: We are a part of People's Action Association.
- xii) Helser Araceli: It seems like you guys just want us to stop our business with IPI. Have you thought about other options?
 - (1) Caleb: Yeah, I would probably prefer they get paid reasonable wages.
 - (2) Helser Araceli: Have you done any math on that? I would encourage you guys to bring back some numbers. Stopping business with IPI doesn't seem too reasonable as a student.
 - (a) Caleb: It is really hard to find that information
- xiii) Exec Trey: You mentioned that some things in prison are not free. Where was that information from?
 - (1) []: Des Moines Register
 - (2) Exec Trey: There are some things that are free, such as housing, since they are supposed to be there. Are there some things that are provided for free?
 - (3) Caleb: I don't have the numbers, but you can look them up
 - (4) Exec Trey: Assuming there are some things that are free, how do those factor into the wages that prisoners receive?

- (5) Caleb: I don't have numbers, you could look that up
- (6) Exec Trey: IPI did say that their program reduces returning prisoners by 8%. You guys have used the term "slaves" a couple times here. What makes you say that? The program seems to be fairly effective and working in a good direction.
- (7) Caleb: I don't want to downplay 8%, but that is not a huge draw from the number. Iowa already has a lower rate.
- (8) Caleb: When you look at the history of slavery, it didn't really go away, it just changed forms. Slaves became sharecroppers. Now prisoners are essentially slaves.
- xiv) Caleb: *Nixon Quote about war on drugs*
- xv) President Jacob: Please send me all these statistics and facts after the meeting so we can send that out and we can bring it to our constituents.
- xvi) David: We don't have many statistics, but I can answer questions.
- xvii) BLF Claire: Have you guys talked to IPI about your concerns?
 - (1) No
 - (2) Claire: Are you planning on doing that?
 - (3) Now that you suggested it
 - (4) Claire: I would suggest that you contact IPI directly
- xviii) Friley Katie: Thank you for coming. Where would you like to see this go? Do you want IRHA to pass a resolution? Are you going to the legislature?
 - (1) David: We are relatively new to this. We've been at it for a month. We don't have a gameplan, but we are interested in discussing this. We feel (as students) as if we are taking advantage of these people.
- xix) Oak/Elm: Move to exhaust speakers list
 - (1) No objections
- xx) WW Dee: If any of our constituents have question or comments, how can we contact you?
 - (1) David: I can give you my email
- xxi) WW Iason: Do you think they have fees for using the phone and going to the doctor to simulate what happens in the real world?
 - (1) I don't think that is the intention. I think they are exploiting prison labor. They make 20 million in profit every year.
- xxii) David: I appreciate you letting us come and speak at this meeting.
- 6) General Orders
- 7) New Business
 - a) Parliament Bill #2016-X-XXXX: Geoffroy T-Shirts
 - i) Read in by author: Geoffroy Eric
 - ii) Geoffroy Sonya: Move to waive second read
 - (1) Second. No objections
 - (2) UC. No objection. Second read is waived
 - iii) Geoffroy Sonya: We are a new building and trying to have some events to get the community together. We are going to order some t-shirts.

- iv) WW Dee: How many people live in Geoffroy?
 - (1) Exec Aaron: 130
- v) Friley Katie: I think this is really great. Next year they'll have a hall council. I think this is pretty much a no-brainer. Move to call to question.
 - (1) Second. No objections.
 - (2) Bill passes 27-0-2
- b) Parliament Bill #2016-X-XXXX: Volleybrawl
 - i) Read in by []: At-Large Leyton
 - ii) At-Large Leyton: Move to waive second read
 - (1) Second. No objections.
 - (2) UC. No objections. Second read is waived
 - iii) President Jacob: I tried to get a rep here tonight, but couldn't. I was in Freshman Council for two years, so I know a thing or two. They actually reduced the amount they are asking for. This is a cool way to get your floor involved. It is a really fun and really cool event.
 - iv) Geoffroy Sonya: What are misspent funds?
 - (1) At-Large Leyton: We passed a bylaws change a while back. Misspent funds are funds that are allocated and aren't spent on the explicit purpose stated on the bill.
 - v) Friley Katie: How will the registration fee get paid? Are we paying for people who have already registered?
 - (1) Jacob: Historically people have signed up through the StuOrg Marketplace and then the people who signed up just aren't charged.
 - vi) President Jacob: Freshman Council is a way to put your foot in the door and get involved on campus. There are tons of different committees. It is a really good way to get involved in an organization. They do a lot of recruitment during DIS and other events to get people involved. This event is the result of work by the events committee.
 - vii) BLF Claire: Move to call to question
 - (1) Second. No objections.
 - (2) Bill passes 26-0-0
- c) Parliament Bill #2016-X-XXXX: Freeman Display Case
 - i) Read in by author: At-Large Leyton
 - ii) At-Large Leyton: Move to waive second read
 - (1) Second. No objections.
 - (2) Leyton: We want to waive second read so we can start building this before the end of the year. This is a big project.
 - (3) Friley Katie: I'm still confused why we need to waive second read. I think this could wait two weeks.
 - (4) BLF Claire: This is rushed because there wasn't really a plan of action until this week. We want to waive second read because some of this stuff may need to be ordered. We want time to build it.
 - (5) Placard Vote: Second read is waived

- iii) Helser Araceli: Why is this being built instead of bought?
 - (1) Claire: That's a good question.
 - (2) Leyton: The cost to buy is a lot more
- iv) Helser Araceli: What is our guarantee that they know what they are doing?
 - (1) Claire: A bunch of engineers are going to build it
- v) President Jacob: I've never had reps come in and blatantly admit that they want their bill to fail; that's impressive. It's going to be hard to cut plywood without any saws.
 - (1) Exec Kay: The Cornerstone hall desk has saws
- vi) WW Dee: What is the history?
 - (1) Claire: We have a lot of trophies, scrapbooks, etc.
- vii) StuGov Cody: How do you know that the engineers won't cut their hands off with the saw? Did they mention safety precautions at all?
 - (1) At-Large Leyton: No, not at all
- viii) Jackson Larch: Have they reached out to hall council?
 - (1) At-Large Leyton: Nope
- ix) Friley Katie: If this is for Freeman Hall, why is it going to one house?
 - (1) Claire: It just makes it easier to pay for
- x) Friley Katie: I don't trust seniors in mechanical engineering. Maybe you could even get into contact with IPI?
 - (1) At-Large Leyton: We would like them to look into other ways to fund this. We are just doing our job so we don't get yelled at.
- xi) At-Large Tia: Move to call to question
 - (1) Second. No objections
 - (2) Bill fails 4-20-3

8) Open Forum

- a) BLF Claire: I would just like to say that with the new organization that came into talk. I strongly encourage you to get in contact with them and have them come and talk to your residence halls. Their email is in the minutes.
- b) At-Large Tia: Over break it was my birthday. My second mom symbolically adopted me a giraffe. I have a picture.
- c) Linden Francis: I work for ACCESS. There will be a movie playing in the Great Hall from 6-8pm on Monday. It features 8 men from Iowa who have been sexually abused. I would encourage you all to come
- d) Friley Katie: We are doing a WW/Friley event. We are working on trivia.
- e) WW AJ: We were kind of aggressive when the speakers came in today. It takes guts to come in. Let's be more open with people in the future.
- f) VP Elect Cody: ISUnity Day is happening on April 13 from 11am - 2pm. The event is focused on bringing together all kinds of different people from over campus. If you have any questions, email cody@iastate.edu. Cyclone Market is also coming up soon. It will be in the commuter lot. It is a chance for Student Organizations to market themselves. That event is 10-1 on Saturday, April 8th.
- g) StuGov Yash: The details are in the agenda email. Like the Facebook page

- h) Events Carmen: Our event went extremely well. We had about 160 people come. We had a ton of fun and had a great crowd. S/O to Justin for prizes. Thanks to everyone on events committee for helping out.

9) Student Government Report

- a) StuGov Sam: We seated a new HS senator
- b) StuGov Cody: I commend you on passing around Jacob's Gummy Bears
- c) StuGov Cody: We had a lot of funding last night. Next week is our final meeting.
- d) StuGov Cody: We had a bylaw change that affects ad-hoc committees
- e) StuGov Cody: We had lots of new business to look at for next week
- f) StuGov Yash: We waived second read on the diversity committee. There are 3 events that they are putting on coming up really soon. Like the Facebook page.
- g) StuGov Cody: We had a 24.2% voter turnout, which is the highest in ISU history
- h) StuGov Cody: This is our last meeting. We appreciate all the work you do. I hope we all served you as best we could and as well as you served us.

10) Officer and Advisor Reports

a) President

- i) On the Freeman History Bill. The intent is cool behind it, but execution could use a little work. Often people will come to you with ideas like that and it is our job to work on solutions that meet the intent of the bill. I would encourage you all to look into some history and do something with your hall.
- ii) If you read the Daily, there was an article posted yesterday about a disconnect between IRHA and our constituents. This is a motivator to do better. Don't dismiss articles like that right away even if you don't agree with them.
- iii) I got a little flustered when we were talking about the IPI stuff. We can easily default to confrontation, but that discourse gets us nowhere. We need to take their intent and use them to improve the university and the world we live in. I don't think these people came in with the intent to rile people up. The least we can do is listen to them and not directly dismiss what they are saying.
- iv) Leadership banquet is coming up next week. Y'all need to dress up for it.

b) Vice President

- i) Encourage all your folks to attend the banquet. There is a dress code.
- ii) This is the last meeting for the StuGov reps. Jacob and I only have two meetings left. The last meeting will be led by the new slate. These last two meetings will likely be very long and hectic. A lot of bylaw changes and the budget process to get through. It should be a ton of fun.
- iii) If you are interested in getting involved with bylaws discussions, let me know.

c) Dave [RESIDENCE]

- i) Iowa State sponsors the Start By Believing Campaign. As part of that, there is a SBB event on April 5th from 10-1 outside the Library to support the campaign.
 - (1) At-Large Leyton: What about us poor souls who have class? How can we get involved and help?

(2) Dave: ISUPD has social media presence. I know there is opportunity to get involved beyond this one event. I can get you in contact with people on campus.

(3) Friley Katie: If I recall correctly, we passed a bill saying our doors would start locking at 7pm. Our doors lock at 5pm now. Is there a reason for that?

(a) Dave: I don't know. We can look into it.

d) Pete [RESIDENCE]

i) No report

e) Mohamed [DINING]

i) No report

11) Committee Reports

a) Events

i) Thank you to all of you guys for talking to your residents and encouraging them to come. The events committee was super helpful.

b) Leadership

i) Logan: I know dress code has been a question. Where what your current wardrobe allows you to. Where something you think looks nice. As close to business formal as possible (think career fair)

ii) Logan: The food choices have been locked in. The vegetable option will be a vegetable medley and then herb-roasted potatoes. The event is at the Alumni Center. There is free parking right behind the building.

c) NRHH

i) If you want to attend Relay for Life, let me know.

ii) We will be selling cancer ribbons outside the library next week

iii) We finalized our event for res hall week. We will be doing rocking recognition. It will be at UDCC, Storms and Cornerstone. You can make rock pets and take a picture with a life-size picture of Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

d) Finance

i) Be ready for the budget in two week.

e) NCC

i) Applications for NACURH are due tomorrow.

ii) Also, no one has applied for the NCC position yet. It is a paid position and provides great leadership experience. You should apply!

f) CA

i) No report

g) Communications

i) No report

h) IT

i) No report

12) Closing Announcements

a) Claire: If everyone could check their hall desks for outside games and stuff like that, let me know. Email:

- b) Wyatt: Ask around for bands in the residence halls or any bands. Get them in contact with me.
- c) Logan: Martin has a paint along with Bob Ross. It will be great.
- d) Linden Francis: We have an event called Presidents to Residents. We basically want an open forum to be held on April 2nd with the new StuGov Pres/VP.
- e) StuGov Sam: As was previously mentioned, it is my last meeting as your senator. It has been a wonderful year and a wonderful ride. This week's movie is "Wild"
- f) At-Large Leyton: Move to adjourn
 - i) Meeting adjourned at 10:19pm