Hiram College Student Senate
Meeting Minutes

Date: September 26, 2022  Time: 7:30pm  Location: East Hall Forum

Call to Order & Roll Call

Vice President Hussain — 7:30PM

Guest Speaker

Terrie Neilsen— 7:30PM

Terrie Neilsen, Deputy Director, Portage County Board of Elections

- Terrie talked about the confusion often associated with voter registration. Students can vote one of 2 ways: using your home address by asking for an absentee ballot which will be mailed to you or you can change your registration to where your college resides.
- When filling out the registration form, penmanship matters. Students at Hiram have a mailing address. You must provide them with a residence address/GPS address (dorm where you live) and a mailing address (address of the college).
- First, fill out the top 2 questions about citizenship and age. After that, write in all of the other information asked on the form (be sure to add in the name of you dorm if necessary). After this is filled out, a confirmation postcard will be sent to the mailing address (these cannot be sent to the residence address and will come back to the county as undeliverable and you will have to vote a provisional ballot).
- Voter registration deadline is October 11th, 2022. The office is open from 8am-9pm and there is a Dropbox at the Ravenna location.
- **Common Question:** Can we fill this out for someone else?
  - **Answer:** Yes, but it is not recommended and if someone else fills it out the person the form is regarding must sign it.
- The website voteohio.gov can be used if you like to change the location of your voter registration.
- **Common Question:** What do students need to being when they come to vote?
  - **Answer:** A form of identification (it is okay if your Ohio divers license address does not match portage county). If you are out of state and your drivers license is out of state, the college will send you a $0 electric bill that can be used as a valid ID as long as it is printed. If you forget to print it, that does not mean you cannot vote, you can still vote using a provisional ballot. This ballot’s forms of identification can be anything with you name and current address as well as your social security number. The ballot is counted as long as you are not registered elsewhere.
- If you are not available on election night, you can request an absentee ballot. You do not need an Ohio drivers license, all you need is the last 4 digits of your social security number. The first day these can be mailed is October 12th. This should requested no later than November 7th or it can be delivered to the board of elections on election night.
- Early voting also takes place in the office in Ravenna starting October 12th until 7pm.
- Any questions about voting and elections can be answered by the Board of Elections office. Voting is very important. There are 2 state wide issues on the ballot- one has to do with sentencing guidelines for criminals and the other has to do with voting rights (this amendment states that only citizens only 18 years or older can vote in the election).
• Supreme Court Justices are also on the ballot. These are the ones who decide on issues like abortion and redirecting.

• **Common Question:** How can you make a difference?
  o **Answer:** Help people register. Be a pole worker (Compensation: $20 for training and $130 for working on elections day).

• **Senator Galecki** asked where applications can be found. **Ms. Terrie** responded and said that all of the applications are all on their website.

• **Senator Marin** asked if the signature on the registration form needs to match the one on your drivers license. **Ms. Terrie** said that they do not need to match.

**Advisor Announcements**

• **Advisor Steiner** talked about the concerns brought last week about work order. He mentioned that him and the executive board will be meeting with the necessary people to address this issue. Things students can do to help is first, make sure that the work order was actually put in by asking your RA. The Dean of Students are working on ways on making this process more transparent.

**Presidential Announcements**

• **President Johns** reminded senators about voter registration and encouraged them to sign of for a time to help students register to vote.

• She also mentioned Senate’s next event which will be taking place on Thursday at 5:30 and encouraged senators to attend.

• She also talked about Aunt Flow, the menstrual product dispenser. The first wave of dispensers and set up across the KC, dining hall, library, and Coleman Center. These products are completely free.

• **Scott Pohlman** will be coming to our next meeting to discuss the dress code weight room policy.

• Sunday, October 2nd is a Kickball event with faculty hosted by Rev. McCreight. She encouraged senators to attend.

**Executive Board**

• The Student Life Committee was confirmed on a 11-0-0 unanimous vote. **Senators Dominic Harris and Jade Mongold** will be sitting on this committee but other senators are welcome to join.

• **Vice President Streator** asked senators about their interest on the Mental Health Committee. **Senator Selander** mentioned that some sort of outreach with a faculty member could be a helpful discussion. **Senator Palm** talked about involving the mental health staff at the health center can be helpful. **Senator Bolton** said that these meetings should be open to the public and **Senator Borgan** dittoed. Senator Selander also felt that this committee should be student run. **Senator Galecki** disagreed and said that we should not villainize the faculty and should consider their concerns. **Senator Palm** said that the committee should reach out to people before to people incase they are not able to speak at the meeting. Senator Bernhardt said that these meeting should be recorded so that people can listen to them later. **Advisor Steiner** mentioned the use of a wellness model, something often used in other colleges. This model digs deeper on the root causes of why people are feeling the way they
are feeling. Senator Selander also talked about compiling resources that students who do not feel comfortable on campus can access.

**Clubs and Student Organization Updates**  
*Vice President Flaherty – 8:12PM*
- *Vice President Flaherty* talked about how a clubs/organizations calendar is in progress.

**Senator Action Item Updates**  
*President Johns — 8:12PM*
- *Parking & Campus Safety Update* - *Vice President Flaherty* identified issues that the executive board discussed with Dan Fynes at campus safety. Dan wanted to reiterate that visitors with a pass can only park in visitor parking and not in visitor parking. For the tickets, they are working on including the permit into the arrival process so that tickets can be avoided. He also talked about that the students who receive tickets are usually the same ones. Senate is trying to push for a 3-day grace period and that this issue’s resolution is still in progress.

**New Senator Action Items**  
*Vice President Streator – 8:15PM*
- *Senator Galecki* talked about a timeline on access to DegreeWorks. *Vice President Flaherty* said that this is a Wi-Fi issue in residential areas and it will work better in the library.

**Notes from the Gallery**  
*Guests — 8:16PM*

**Adjournment**  
*Vice President Streator — 8:17PM*