



COLLEGE STUDENT COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
(Friday, December 3, 2021)**

The College Student Commission convened in a regular meeting on *Friday, December 3, 2021* at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair *Jeffrey* called the Board Meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Jeffrey Clemmons, Lira Ramirez, Edwin Bautista, Pete Cervantes, Todd Clayton, Esther Heymans, Justin Parker, Tatum Owens, Isaiah Smith, and Ethan Tobias

Staff in Attendance: Staff Liaison *David Alcorta*

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Changed vote on Item 3b of New Business, section 3 and removed *Parker*: (7-1)
- b. *Clemmons* motioned to approve, and *Tobias* seconded.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Liaison updates

- i. Commission should reconvene on January 21st.

b. Campus reports

- i. Commissioner *Clayton* met with HT President Jones to get back transportation of free bikes.

c. Campus Accessibility

- i. *Clemmons* motion to address this section, *Clayton* second. Members of working group will be contacting disability and accessibility services on each campus. *Heymans* and *Ramirez* are working on Austin campus development in accessibility. Need for community support as well that needs to be addressed. They are spoke with the St. Edwards Disabled Students organization in the accommodations office because disability rights intersect with all our interests.
- ii. *Bautista* mentioned how there are no green spaces available in west campus.
- iii. *Ramirez* stated the need for on-campus and off-campus accessibility to student resources.
- iv. *Clemmons* spoke on equipping us with vocabulary to increase visibility. We can go into learning disabilities as well as other types.

d. Community and municipal involvement

- i. *Bautista* mentioned how we had some coverage on local news. It is critical for us to make presence.
- ii. *Clemmons* warned the commission to not forecast about potential actions not in writing.

e. Working group- Housing

- i. Commission to read through recommendation 20211203-3c-1: In Support of the University of Texas Student Government's Joint Resolutions 21-09 and 21-10. *Clemmons* motion, with *Tobias* second.
- ii. Commissioners proposed and passed amendments mostly regarding the section including a liaison. Recommendation to pass recommendation was approved on *Bautista's* motion and *Clayton's* second, on a 9-0 vote.
- iii. Housing as human right and affirmative step in protecting that from each of our colleges.
- iv. Another recommendation, Recommendation 20211203-3c-2: Citywide Student Housing Needs Assessment, was motioned. With *Clemmons* motion and *Clayton* second, the recommendation passed with a unanimous, 9-0 vote after several amendments were made.

f. Working group- Transportation

- i. *Clemmons* motion to discuss, with *Heymans* second, the working group is looking to make recommendations for free or no cost bus passes. They are looking into safety and addressing bus drivers and riders.
- ii. *Clayton*: has been considered in the group. Use no cost as language, no cost to students. *Bautista* still cautions the usage of the language as portions of the costs do come from UT tuition.
- iii. *Ramirez* suggested it would be great if we had truly no cost bus passes. There is a need to study the relationship between the city of Austin and CapMetro.
- iv. *Parker* brought up issues with CapMetro app, and how it doesn't display the pass.
- v. Unanimous vote to include *Parker* as part of transportation group.

g. Working group- Campus Civic Life

- i. *Clemmons* suggested to propose a future recommendation to name propositions by number to create clarity from election to election.
- ii. *Smith* was concerned about how advocating for voting rights could conflict with recent state legislation regarding the topic.
- iii. *Clemmons* and *Parker* expressed concerns about advocating for survivors and avoiding partnerships with student organizations who act in opposition with that cause.
- iv. *Owens* suggested that the commissioners establish a town hall in the upcoming semester to create a space to discuss civic life and student safety.

3. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair *Clemmons* adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m. without objection. *Bautista* seconded.

The minutes were approved at the February 18, 2022 meeting on Commissioner Owen's motion, Commissioner Cervantez second on a 9-0 vote.