

ASMSUN Town Hall Meeting

Meeting Minutes

MSU Northern SUB Ballroom

Wednesday Nov. 30, 2016

*****TOWN HALL MEETING TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM STUDENTS ABOUT MAS*****
RESOLUTION REGARDING PROTESTS IN AND AROUND THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX
RESERVATION

In Attendance: Randy Roeber, Collin Miller, Tayla Farar, Ethan Partch, Trent Noel, Alicia Mason, Brendan Heims, Rachel Glavin, Christopher Brekke, Nathan Baird, Jacob Rosaaen, Jaelyn Kelso, Jessica Hoel, Matthew Tackitt, Cris Larson, Pamela Anderson, Riley Mortenson, Steven Wise, Tammy Boles, Amber Spring

Excused: Jessica Fish, Eric Tibbetts

Absent: Conner Schnicke, Sam Siroky, Taylor Etwiler

Guests: General Public

Call to order: Meeting called to order by R. Roeber 6:00 pm

Introduction:

Public Address	ASMSUN President R. Roeber addressed the audience welcoming them to our meeting and describing how the events would proceed.
MAS Resolution	E. Partch read aloud the MAS resolution regarding protests in and around the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

Public Comment:

Michael Peter, MSUN Student, Stockgrowers President	Representing MSUN Colligate Stockgrowers, Said that the club unanimously decided that it opposes the resolution, citing the damage the protest has caused to property of local farmers and ranchers. Also thought that we needed to support ND with mutual funding so they will support MT when we need help.
Cory Buckley, Student, RA, Former Senate VP	No personal opinion regarding the pipeline. Opposed to the resolution agreeing with the points made by stockgrowers. Said that the college should not be involved with political matters.
Sweetgrass Society	Said they "Stand with Standing Rock" and do not see this as a political issue, Stated that about 15% of students at MSUN identify as Native American, and want to make sure they are represented. Support the adoption of the MAS resolution.

John Snider, MSUN Professor	Supports the MAS resolution. Is strongly opposed to the violence of law enforcement used against the protesters at standing rock.
Willard Fladager, Taxpayer	Is upset that the school is trying to make a political statement and doesn't want to see his tax dollars going to passing resolutions that he doesn't agree with. Thinks that schools are for education and does not want student senate getting involved in politics outside of the school.
Mike Lamebull, Taxpayer	States that "water is life" and supports the resolution. Want to protect the water and thinks that this is everyone's issue because we all use water.
Spike, MSUN Professor	Is appalled at how the protest in ND is being handled and supports the protest. Cites a BOR policy that we as an institution need to focus on issues that deal with our Mission Statement. He does not feel that the senate should represent the whole campus on this matter and thinks that we should not take a stance on this issue.
Paul Mackenzie-Jones, MSUN Professor	Stands with Standing Rock, Cites the number of incidents involving oil. Cites that we took land away from the Native Americans when were formed the Reservation System and said with this pipeline we as a country were doing it again.
Russell Standing Rock	Stated that he has always been very proud of this institution and the sweetgrass society. The issue involves everyone. Water is Life and the protesters are protecting life. The issue is not whether or not you pay taxes and is not a political matter. We need to respect water.
Fred Smiley, MSUN Professor	Has two points to make. Is in support of resolution, and the purpose of colleges was not just to get a job but also becoming an educated citizen.
Tribal Leader, Chippewa-Cree tribe	Supports Resolution. Says that this resolution has to do with educating people and is not a political matter.
Dillon Wadsworth, Student	Says that this resolution has nothing to with our school. Schools should not be telling its students how to think students can form their own opinions. Says that supporting this resolution would look bad because so much of the money on this campus is generated because of the diesel, oil, and welding industries.
Dodge, Student	Thinks that this issue is in ND and does not concern our campus. Says that everyone uses oil.
Student, Chippewa-Cree tribe member	Came to northern thinking that this was a Native friendly campus. Wants to protect water and feels that if we don't pass this resolution it is making natives not feel welcome.
Public, MSUN Alumni	Not a political issue but a water issue. We need to be conscious of the environment.
Mary-Anne Blankenship, Student	Agrees that this is a humanitarian issue, and that we need to respect native sovereignty. Supports the resolution and thinks that if we do not pass it the issue will divide campus
Student	Wants to protect freedom of speech, feels that NODAPL is not a political matter. Says that she has a lot of respect for this university.
Public Comment	They support resolution, says water is life, and we need to be conscious of the environment.
David Peter, Student	Stresses that even if the resolution does not pass it is not a vote for or against the pipeline.
Public Comment	Is glad to see that we are giving everyone a chance to speak their opinion on the matter. Encourages us to look into trying to unify this campus. Is

	concerned that The Native Americans are not being well represented, and feels that Native students bring a lot of support to this campus. Supports resolution.
Sidney Boyce, Student	Say that we as student are here to further our education and thinks this resolution doesn't have anything to do with our education. Thinks that this is a Native American friendly campus and has a lot of native friends.
Public Comment	Thinks this is a water issue, water is everywhere. This is not a political issue. Urges senate to consider future generations.
Gilberta Belgarde	Thanks us for bringing this matter to the public for comment. Supports the resolution, Thinks this is a civil rights issue.
Barry Francis, Student	Is against the resolution, thinks that the campus should not take a stance on the issue and that we do not need to add our name into this fight.
Darrel Rich, Chippewa-Cree tribe memeber	Says he loves Havre, does not like this issue being discussed like this. Wants us to think about everyone downstream, and how this will affect the environment. Thinks that this is a water issue.
Haley Cram, Student	In support of the resolution, thinks that no great thing has ever come from being quiet.
Austin Weis	Says that this issue is about whether or not we condemn the law enforcement not about the pipeline.

Adjournment: R.Roeber declares Town Hall adjourned at 6:50 PM

****Senate Meeting to follow after recess****