MEMBERS PRESENT: N. Hilmanowski, L. Meinholz, B. Goldade, D. Popp, J. Rebholz

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: R. Kutz, M. Bradley

At 11:30AM, in the absence of a Chair, the Secretary called the meeting to order and recorded those present.

Under the ‘Public Comments’ portion of the Agenda, the Secretary read a communication from Mr. Terry Fritter. The Secretary inquired if there were any additional public comments. None sought recognition.

Secretary reminded the committee they will be operating under Wisconsin Open Meetings/Records laws.

Secretary read the ‘Committee Charge’ to the members. Grammatical changes and edits were suggested with general agreement heard.

Mr. Rebholz moved, Ms. Hilmanowski seconded, to adopt the Charge. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The Secretary called for nominations for Committee Chair. Mr. Goldade was nominated and stated he was prepared to accept the nomination and to serve. The Secretary made three more calls for nominations with no response. Unanimous agreement was heard that Mr. Goldade serve as Chair of the Committee.

Mr. Goldade recognized Mr. Russell Kutz, Chair of the Executive Committee, to speak regarding the disposition of Executive Committee Bylaws within the Congressional Bylaws draft.

Mr. Kutz noted that he had met with the previous committee on bylaws and expressed surprise that the Executive Committee bylaws would be part of the Congressional bylaws, as the Executive Committee had already adopted their own bylaws and was operating under them. Mr. Kutz stated that the Executive Committee currently could not come to a consensus on the question on if the bylaws should be within the Congressional bylaws document. Mr. Kutz stated that he personally felt that it would be less of a challenge for the Bylaws Committee to allow the Executive Committee to complete their current terms and allow it to come to an end with their terms set to expire in 2017. Mr. Kutz stated that in this case suggested terms might be viewed more favorably if presented next year and noted that the Executive Committee itself has considered 13 different models for their operation and organization.
Discussion was heard that the Executive Committee did not object to the placement of the Executive Committee bylaws within the Congressional bylaws until it became clear that there was likely to be an Executive Committee comprised of sitting members of Congress and voted on by same.

Mr. Rebholz moved, seconded by Ms. Meinholz, that the Executive Committee bylaws be part of the Congressional bylaws document and that those bylaws supersede any existing document they may come in conflict with.

Discussion heard that the prior bylaws committee had examined how to incorporate the Executive Committee bylaws into the Congressional bylaws and had more than one public discussion in this regard. Discussion heard that the Rebholz draft of the proposed bylaws had been reviewed and was looked upon favorably.

Concern expressed that some opinions on outstanding questions may be motivated based on the personalities involved. Discussion heard that leaving the Executive Committee out of the bylaws establishes a separate relationship which is not productive. Discussion heard that the Executive Committee was in part set up to form a Congress and now that Congress is functioning, it should complete the task of adopting its bylaws which includes the question of how an Executive Committee is organized.

Discussion heard that those in attendance from outside the committee should offer their opinion.

Mr. Kutz stated that it was better to have the bylaws all together but that the current clash between the two bodies must be recognized and that having the Executive Committee bylaws within the Congressional bylaws could spark a prolonged floor debate in Congress and thus hamper the adoption of the bylaws document before the next scheduled Congressional election.

Mr. Bradley stated that the current terms of the Executive Committee are not relevant to the question as the committee had set their own terms and then set them a second time by lengthening them and the terms could just as easily be shortened, particularly as there is no consensus on the Executive Committee itself as to how it should be organized or when that re-organization should take place.

Discussion heard that Congress has performed their duties well and the weakness of the University Staff is an internal caste system they have imposed on themselves. Question was raised why the Executive Committee would be afraid to compete in Congressional seat elections or in an election to create a Congressional Executive Committee. Discussion heard that it would be beneficial to Congress and University Staff shared governance if the current Executive Committee members were to run for seats, and serve in Congress.

Vote on the motion was taken. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Kutz was thanked for his appearance before the Committee.

Mr. Popp moved, seconded by Ms. Meinholz, to adopt the Rebholz draft version of the bylaws as the working document for the committee.
Discussion heard that the Rebholz draft best reflects the intentions of the prior committee discussions and eliminates a number of small items that would have to be corrected one by one in the other existing draft provided.

All in favor with the exception of Ms. Hilmanowski who voted no. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Hilmanowski moved, seconded by Mr. Rebholz, for the Committee to review and approve the draft section by section. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

After discussion, Chair set the time for future meetings at Friday mornings.

At 12:50PM, Ms. Hilmanowski moved, seconded by Ms. Meinholz, to adjourn the meeting. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: J. Lease / Secretary