The meeting was called to order by Joe Mazurek, ASUM President at 7:15 p.m., in the Montana Rooms of the University Center.

The minutes were approved as written.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Vice-President-Thogersen said that he had no report, but asked the commissioners to report on the work they have been doing.

Green said that the pass-no pass system was voted in favor by Faculty Senate and this will go into effect next fall quarter. He said that the Foreign Language requirement will go before Curriculum Committee March 11 and if it is passed, it will be sent to Faculty Senate for approval. Gray asked Green to explain the pass-no pass system. Green said that it was the combination of two different ideas. He said that if a student received a "pass" he would receive credit towards graduation, if a student received "no pass" it would not go against his total GPA. He said that a total of 60 credits in this new system would be allowed and that freshmen and sophomores would only be allowed one class a quarter on this system. In order to take this system, a student must have a 2.0 GPA; this was to not allow the program to be abused and to encourage students to take courses out of their major without the fear of not doing too well. Green added that students may take courses in their major under the pass-no pass system if they have the okay of the advisor of the department. He said that the only courses that could not be taken on this system are P.E. courses, Math .001 and English .001. It would up to the instructor to determine a pass or a no pass; this could mean a C or a D for a pass.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Legal handbook-Thogersen said that he always has to report the same thing on this report. He said that he has not been able to contact Tolliver but he presumes that the handbook is typed. He said that Central Board will have to wait until spring quarter to propose anything on this matter. He added that this project is already two or more years old.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mertens said that earlier this quarter, budget and finance committee developed a policy for the Sound System for Program Council. MERTENS MOVED THAT CRNTRAL BOARD ACCEPT THE POLICY FOR THE SOUND SYSTEM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MCEWEN. McEwen asked if program council had decided to rent the system to other groups or not. Mertens said that this is up to program council to decide if they want to do this. McEwen asked why student groups would have to rent the system if program council decided to do this. Meyers said that the cost of transporting it with a technician is expensive and it also depreciates in value every time it is used. Meyers added that the rent fee had not been set yet. Mertens said that he would like to have program council administer the policy towards pricing because Central Board does not want to be bound by problems that might arise over the use of the system. Hanson questioned why off-campus groups would be able to use the system when it was paid for by student fees. Meyers said that the rent would be high and that if program council is not using it they might as well let another groups use it to make money on the rent. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
Mertens moved that the resignation of Bob Bingham as a member of Budget and Finance be accepted by Central Board. The motion was seconded by Gray. The motion passed unanimously.

Thogersen moved that ASUM investigate hiring of a legal advisor. The motion was seconded by Wicks. Thogersen said that this has been discussed before and now that the board has a new judicial system they will need a legal advisor. He added that Central Board also has a need for one because of the problems that come up. Mazurek said that Paul Smith from the Law School has talked to him about the need for one and he would like to have a sub committee look into this matter. The motion passed unanimously. Mazurek appointed Gorton as chairman, Cuniff, and Peterson to look into the cost, feasibility, and whether or not the students could hire a legal counselor. They will report at the first meeting of spring quarter.

Mertens moved that Central Board approve to change the investments to U. S. Treasury bills. The motion was seconded by Gray. Mertens said that the investments are now receiving 4 1/2 percent and they could receive 3 percent in the Treasury bills. He added that this would help if ASUM ran a deficit if the enrollment dropped below the base number. The motion passed unanimously.

Mertens moved that the budget creating function be changed from Budget and Finance Committee to the Executive Branch of ASUM. The motion was seconded by Gray. Mazurek said that this was only a by-law change and would require 2/3 vote for approval. Thogersen asked how the timing of this would effect the work of the President. Mertens said that there would be no problem. The president would have the authority to create a budget fall quarter and be finished with it by the end of winter quarter. He will present this budget to the new president after the spring elections. The new president will be able to make changes with the approval of Central Board. Hanson said that the budget would be created by the old president and this would conflict with the new president's ideas. Mertens said that the new president would have the power to change the whole thing with the approval of Central Board. Mertens said that the new president would not have time to draw up a new budget from the time he was elected in April until the end of May but with this new proposal, he would have the power to change anything that would help him carry out his platform. Gorton said that this would be a system of checks and balances but would facilitate the people who were elected in the spring. Mazurek said that the committee could not vote on this at the present time because it did not fit into the present by-laws. Hanson asked what the duties of the business manager would be. Mertens said that he would be an auditor and would serve the president. Mertens also said that the budget and finance committee should be restricted to Central Board members and that others who wanted to be on it would serve on sub-committees. Hanson said that with the present system of election, the president and the vice-president would run on the same ticket and the business manager that is elected might oppose the ideas of the president. Mertens said that the Governor and the State Treasurer do not run on the same ticket. Gorton said that the state government is currently under revision to have these two positions run on the same ticket. Mertens said that he hoped Central Board would consider this problem. Mazurek appointed Mertens-chairman, Bahr and Hanson to report on this matter at the next meeting.

Mazurek said that the Judicial System could be put into effect without a new constitution and that the board will wait to vote on this matter until Swanberg is here to explain it. Thogersen said some things in the Judicial System still have not been worked out before the board can vote on this matter.
Mazurek asked for approval of John Hanson’s resignation as chairman of elections committee. McEwen moved that Central Board accept John Hanson’s resignation as chairman of elections committee. The motion was seconded by Webb. McEwen asked why Hanson resigned. Hanson said that usually this position goes to the freshman with a two-year term. The motion passed with Gray opposed. McEwen moved that Gray be appointed as elections committee chairman. The motion was seconded by Thogersen. The motion passed with Gray abstaining.

Hanson asked if the Board could discuss the new constitution. Mazurek said that the representative system was the essential of the new constitution of the past and present administration and because the Board did not vote on this, there is no new constitution just an amended old one. Mazurek said that the students will be able to vote on the amendments to the old constitution. Hanson said that he disagreed. Hanson moved that Central Board have a ten minute recess. The motion was seconded by Gorton. Mazurek rules the motion out of order.

Announcements:

Mazurek said that the easement was not granted. He said that Jim Moore took the petitions to the meeting in Helena this Monday.

Mazurek said that there will be a MSPA meeting on March 16 and 17 and they will be considering along with the Council of Presidents, the matter regarding student rights and responsibilities and if passed will go before the Board of Regents.

The meeting was adjourned.

Attendance:

Mazurek, Hanson, Webb, Hicks, McEwen, Gorton, Pederson, Gray, Martens, Thogersen, CunniFF, Mckee, Barn

Respectfully submitted,

Raynee Schaffer
ASUM Secretary