

Queensborough Community College  
Committee on Bylaws

Resolution re: Open Meetings Law  
April 24, 2018

Whereas Queensborough desires to be in compliance with the Open Meetings Law and Freedom of Information Law; and

Whereas those laws require the Academic Senate to maintain records of all members and their votes and to include that information in the minutes that are widely-disseminated; and

Whereas listing individuals by title is sufficient based on guidance provided in an advisory dated January 2, 2006, which is posted on the Legal Affairs page of the CUNY Website;\*

Therefore be it resolved that names will be removed from the more widely disseminated minutes and people can request more information if necessary. Names would be removed from the more widely disseminated or posted minutes, but retained for the official record that will be made available upon request.

Section 8. Record of Final Votes

FROM:

“All senate votes will be recorded and the minutes will note those who vote in the negative or who abstain”

TO:

“All senate votes will be recorded and the minutes will note the outcome of voting actions”

RATIONALE

The Bylaws Committee heard from members of the Academic Senate – students, faculty and staff – who feel they would serve more comfortably if a higher level of personal privacy were maintained.

\*<http://www2.cuny.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/page-assets/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/advisories/OpenMeetingsLawGovernanceBodiesJan22006.pdf>

From Jane Sovern, on behalf of General Counsel Martinez: “[T]he Academic Senate is required to maintain records of all members and their votes, by name, and to provide those records upon request. The Senate is not required to include that information in the minutes that are widely disseminated. Listing individuals by title is sufficient for the minutes.”