

Board of directors, Meeting Minutes

DATE:	Wednesday, February 3 rd 2016
TIME:	7:00 to 8:46
PRESENT:	Mr. Rice (chair), Mr. Nicholson (vice-chair), Mr. Algermozi, Ms. Paula, Mr. Rakotondrafara. Mr. Alanazi
ABSENT:	Ms. Bhayani, Mr. Gaunce, Mr. Madokh,
GUESTS:	Mr. Armony (President), Ms. Jones (CRO)
RESOURCE:	Mr. Shawn Nicholson, Vice-Chair Acting Recording secretary

1. Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Adoption of the agenda
 - a. It was moved by Mr Nicholson and seconded by Ms. Paula that agenda be adopted as circulated. Motion was passed unanimously

It was moved by Mr. Nicolson and seconded by Mr. Algermozi to amend the agenda by moving point 3: Student Senator Appointment, to point 6; moving point 4: Habitat for Humanity Funding Request, to point 3; moving point 5: Referendum Question Consideration, to point 4; and moving point 6: Elections Committee Update, to point 5. The motion was passed unanimously

3. Habitat for Humanity Funding request

- a. Two representatives, Brady Reid and Simone Mutabazi, gave a presentation regarding the costs for their project, a trip to the United States to build homes and provide community aid.
- b. The Habitat for humanity society requested extra funding. This is to help offset rising costs associated with travelling to United States. Expected costs have changed due to a change in Canadian/USA dollar currency exchange rate.
- c. There are 42 students going; 38 from SMU, 3 from Dalhousie and 1 from Mount University, \$700 have been contributed by each student. They have received \$2,000 from The Alumni Association, \$2,750 from the President's office and \$1200 from misc. fundraising.
- d. \$2000 in support was requested from the Board.
- e. The Board decided to deal with this item in camera at the end of the meeting.

4. Referendum Questions

- a. A constitutional referendum was proposed, to move the SMUSA Constitution away from male and female language to gender-neutral language. The question will read: "SMUSA believes in equity and the inclusion of all students. Do you support amending the constitution to include only gender-neutral language" The referendum question wording was passed.
- b. A referendum question was proposed on the behalf of WUSC. It will read: "SMU students currently support the education of a refugee student by paying 2.25 or 1.25 per year. Do you support the continuation of this fee so we can continue to bring the refugees to SMU to earn their degree? It was approved for another 2 years
- c. Women center- "currently you are paying a yearly levy of 2\$, do you support the contribution of this fee to allow the women center's services remain available to students" Motion was moved to approve question as presented by Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Rakotondrafara. Mr. rice proposed that the decision for this question is left for students to make and that any changes to the question's actual accuracy is the only thing that should be discussed by the board of directors. Motion to approve question as represented passed unanimously
- d. Enactus: Referendum represented by Ross Arsonault, the project manager of enactus. The referendum said "Enactus Saint Mary's is a student run not for-profit organization that uses entrepreneurial action to impact communities through several student run projects. These projects range from providing support to refugees, working with women in prisons, and arranging the distribution of feminine hygiene products to women in Kenya. Enactus Saint Mary's is open to all students across campus. Do you support Enactus Saint Mary's in receiving an annual levy of two dollars, simply one cup of coffee a year, to sustain the growth of these projects?" moved by Mr. Nicholson and Seconded by Mr. Barak.
It was advised by Mr rice to revise the question to change "11" to "several group project" to keep the question consistent through out the years. The amendment was moved by Ms. Paula and Mr. Barak.
Referendum was passed as amended but not unanimously. Mr. Algermozi abstained from the vote
- e. Journal: There will be a question forthcoming; since they are governed by a board them, their question will have to be passed by their board in order to be passed by the Board of directors. Once its been passed It will then be sent to Mr. Rice to discuss online through email. The journal will be seeking to continuation of their fee for another 3 years.
- f. Mental health question as by Collete Robert "1 in 5 Canadians suffer from mental illness. Would you be willing to pay \$2 per year to support mental wellbeing on campus?" The question was moved by Mr. Algermozi and seconded by Mr. Nicholson. Mr. Nicholson suggested that the word "Annual" should be present in the question. Amendment was moved by Mr. Nicholson and seconded by Mr. Algermozi. The motion of amended question passed

unanimously. Collete discussed 3 budgets that were scenario dependent. There will potentially be a SMUSA paid position for someone to work part time on mental health initiatives. Motion passed unanimously

- g. Refugee sponsorship asked by Osama Nasrallah. "Do you agree to give 2 dollars per student one time fee to help sponsor a refugee family to come to Saint Mary University". Motion moved by Mr. Barak and Seconded by Ms. Paula.

It was discussed that this sponsorship should not be specifically towards Syrians refugees, but should be towards any refugees and that should not be limited to one specific nationality.

-Mr. Rice advised amendment to the question as follows "Do you support a one time fee of 2 dollars per student to help sponsor a refugee family to come to Saint Mary's University"

-Amendment to the question was moved by Mr. Nicholson and seconded by Ms. Paula. Motion was carried unanimously.

- Amended question passed but not unanimously; abstained Mr. Algermozi

- h. International Development Initiative Fund: No submission of a referendum question was available, as they have to get approval from their board, however they are looking for the continuation of the existing fee.

5. Elections committee update:

- a. Mr. Nicholson recused himself
- b. Elections schedule adjusted by the CRO to the voting being opened during reading week as it was closed earlier
- c. CRO has to have discretion to define active vs. passive campaigning and to define whether having materials up is "campaigning"
- d. Campaign period will open Monday the 8th, debate evening of the 9th
- e. Campaign period will finish 23rd of February
- f. Election Schedule moved by Mr. Algermozi and seconded by Ms. Paula
- g. Motion to approve the schedule passed unanimously

6. Student senator

- a. Ms. Bhayani has obligations and is unable to serve as student senator and therefor a new senator needed to be elected
- b. Mr. Rice read an emailing that said that there is an important committee meeting on February 5th; an academic hearing panel for academic misconduct
- c. Students are needed in the meeting as there are too many academic representatives and not enough students to support students in academics
- d. Mr. Rakotondrafara volunteered to be the student senator, it was moved by Mr. Rakotondrafara and seconded by Mr. Nicolson
- e. Motion passed unanimously. Mr Rakotondrafara abstained

7. Other Businesses

- a. Mr. Nicolson recused himself
- b. CRO asked for an increase in election budget of 1300. So that the budgeted increases from 700 to 200.
- c. With the current budget. CRO and DRO would have to serve at the polls as well as leave no budget for the training of the candidates; they would have to train voluntarily.
- d. It was differed to email lee to see how much they can fund to an increase up to 1300.
- e. Motion entertained to reallocate up to 1300 dollars to hire additional clerks depending on the president to find that amount of money
- f. Motion was moved by Mr. Algermozi and seconded by Mr. Rakotondrafara
- g. Motion carried unanimously, Mr. Nicolson recused himself
- h. Mr. Armony suggested that the student fee should be increased from 130 dollars and that an increase is over due. Mr Amony felt it was necessary to discuss this before next years election
- i. Motion to go in camera at 8:23 pm. Moved by Mr algermozi and seconded by Mr. Barak. Motion passed unanimously
- j. Motion to approve the funding proposal brought by habitat passed unanimously
- k. Motion to go out of camera at 8:42

8. Adjournment:

- a. Motion adjourned by Mr algermouzi seconded by Mr. Rakotondrafara
- b. Motion passed unanimously at 8.46

BSR