



Saint Mary's University Students' Association

5th Floor, Student Centre
Saint Mary's University
923 Robie Street
Halifax, NS, B3H 3C3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MEETING MINUTES

DATE:	Sunday, July 24 th , 2016
TIME:	5:45 for 6:00pm
LOCATION:	Ozmon Boardroom, 5 th Floor Student Centre
PRESENT:	Mr. Rice (Chair), Ms. Raebrun (Vice-Chair), Ms. Bhaskar, Mr. Oyindamola, Mr. Shams, Mr. Rakotondrafara (by phone)
ABSENT:	Mr. Garwe, Mr. Alanazi
GUESTS:	Mr. Rahman (President), Ms. Robert (Vice President Equity and Wellness), Ms. Jones (Vice President Academic Affairs), Mr. Gaunce (Vice President University Affairs), Mr. Nasrallah (Vice President Student Affairs)
RESOURCE:	Ms. Anna Ferguson, Recording Secretary

1. Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 6:09pm.
2. Adoption of the Agenda:
 - a. **It was moved by Ms. Bhaskar and seconded by Mr. Oyindamola that the agenda be adopted as circulated. The motion was passed unanimously.**
3. Board Minutes
 - a. **It was moved by Ms. Raeburn and seconded by Ms. Bhaskar to defer approving the the Board Meeting minutes from May 11th, 2016 and June 12, 2016 until they were finalized by the Board Secretary. The motion was passed unanimously.**
4. President's Report.
 - a. The SMUSA Executive team had created a new position titled Vice-President Equity and Wellness, which is responsible for promoting equity & wellness on campus.
 - b. Mark Inglis was hired as the Marketing and Events Manager.
 - c. Mr. Rahman has been reviewing the financials from The Gorsebrook and recognized a deficit. The executive is looking at various ways to improve the financial position of the Gorsebrook.



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- d. Welcome Week 2016 is being planned. SMUSA is budgeting Welcome Week related expenses of \$61,000.
 - e. Talks about restructuring the SMUSA Website and SMUSA App are still in the works and the Board will be reviewing proposals from suppliers in the near future.
5. Chief Governance Officer's Report
- a. Mr. Rice and management from the university are working to negotiate an MOU. The goal of the document is to formalize the relationship between SMUSA and the university. It will be ready for the Board's review in the relative future.
6. Proposal for Website Redevelopment
- a. The Board reviewed several quotes, some outdated, to redevelop the SMUSA website. It was determined that the SMUSA Executive Team should go back to each supplier with the exact plan for redevelopment and to get updated quotes to bring to the Board.
7. Proposal for WUSC Referendum Funding Use
- a. \$14,500 was collected from the WUSC referendum last year these funds were never used in 2015/16. Mr. Rice explained that the money could be put in a reserve, given out as a bursary or put in an endowment.
 - b. **It was moved by Ms. Raebrun and seconded by Mr. Shams to accept the proposal from Mr. Fletcher to put the WUSC funding in an endowment. This motion was passed unanimously.**
8. Proposal for Mental Health Referendum Funding Use & Reserve Funding Request
- a. Ms. Raebrun recused herself from the conversation about the funding use.
 - b. Ms. Robert presented the Board with various options to use the funding including a Peer Mentor, Programming and a Wellness Centre. \$14,000 came from the approved referendum.
 - c. **It was moved by Ms. Bhaskar and seconded by Mr. Shams to approve an additional Peer Mentor position at a cost of \$5,000 and to use the other \$9,000 for wellness-related programming or to fund an additional Peer Mentor position if required. This motion was passed unanimously.**
 - d. It was noted that the Board could delegate additional money at any time at its discretion if Ms. Robert needed it. The Board was willing to keep the conversation open about additional money in the future however, \$14,000 was enough to get started.
 - e. Ms. Raebrun returned to the meeting as she was no longer in conflict.
 - f. Ms. Robert discussed the importance of creating a space for commuter students to relax and seek Mental Wellbeing support on campus. She requested that the Board give her some money to create a Wellness Centre on the first floor of the Student Centre.



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- g. **It was moved by Ms. Bhaskar and seconded by Mr. Oyindamola to approve \$5,000 from the capital reserve to create a Wellness Centre on the 1st floor of the Student Centre. This motion was passed unanimously.**
 - h. Ms. Robert discussed the importance of creating a Mental Health Committee to continue the conversation throughout the university.
 - i. **It was moved by Ms. Raeburn and seconded by Ms. Bhaskar to approve a Mental Health Committee as presented by Ms. Robert. This motion was passed unanimously.**
9. Proposed Travel & Expense Policy
- a. **It was moved by Ms. Raeburn and seconded by Mr. Oyindamola to accept the Proposed Travel & Expense Policy prepared by Mr. Fletcher. This motion was passed unanimously.**
10. Bus Stop Proposal
- a. SMUSA is waiting approval from the city to consolidate bus stops on Inglis Street and add a bus shelter. SMUSA had the funding from the SMUSA Capital Fund this project.
11. Board Retreat & Board Yearly Schedule
- a. Mr. Rice explained that the Board Retreat will happen off site this year and urged all members of the Board to send him their schedules for the year.
12. Other Business
- a. Mr. Rice explained that if anyone from gets media requests to inform him as well as the Executive Team at SMUSA.
 - b. There was discussion about increasing the insurance policy. More information to come at a future date.
 - c. It was discussed by the Board to hold Board Meetings in AT101 or at other locations on campus to encourage students to come and get their voice heard.
 - d. **It was moved by Mr. Shams and seconded by Ms. Bhaskar to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. This motion was passed unanimously.**