

Minutes for KSU Council of Students

King's Students' Union 2015-2016

Sunday, January 10, 2016, 10:00am

Boardroom, 2nd floor, A&A Building

Voting Members

Liam Compton
Hannah Kaya
Melina Zaccaria
Aidan McNally
Taylor Saracuse
Alex Bryant
Nate Winsor
Brennan McCracken
Ryan Kavanagh
Sofia Zaman
Alex McVittie
Zoe Brimacombe
Benn van Ryn

Non-Voting Members

Sophie Allen-Baron
Gwendolyn Moncrieff-Gould
Charlotte Sullivan
Daniel Whitten

Call to order

Recognition of unceded traditional Mi'kmaq territory

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda is adopted.

2. Approval of Minutes from November 27th, 2015

The minutes are approved.

3. Oral Reports and Goals of Councillors

Taylor Saracuse sat down with Chris Parsons this week to talk about some goals he has, including creating a survey surrounding the issue of Strategic Planning, whose end date is coming up soon. They will look at board satisfaction and meet with Alex Bryant, Zoe Brimacombe, and Chris Parsons soon to figure out exactly what the nature of the survey will be like and what we're trying to achieve with the survey in question. He also wants to talk to Chris Parsons about doing a workshop about board structure, the board's purpose, who is on the board (done in conjunction with a staff hiring happening at NSBerg about the board at King's. Chris Parsons suggested developing that workshop with the incoming board members as a changeover strategy, so he, Zoe Brimacombe, and the two incoming BOG reps would figure out what that would deliver and organize it. He also talked to Chris Parsons about the idea of doing a report or at least starting a report about what progressive boards look like. They won't find much progressive boards among Canadian universities but want to look at

other organizations to figure out what exactly is a good board in relation to issues of representation. He started quoting a locker project he's talked to Aidan McNally about- renting a locker full of kitchen ware on campus for societies to get supplies to prep and serve food on. This would be done on an item list sign-out/honour system. This is a pilot project for eventually purchasing larger lockers for society use for storage and supply rental.

Brennan McCracken said Finance Committee was efficient and productive this time around, and he loves it. He loved Councillor training yesterday, and thought much useful information was put out on how we as a Union operate as well as thanking Dave Etherington and Michaela Sam for their presentation.

Ryan Kavanagh doesn't have much to report, but has been working on the King's talk event that's coming up. The tentative date is the 31st but they are having trouble with submissions. This means that he's been reaching out a lot. There hasn't been a cut-off date for submissions yet because they've had to extend, but Ryan Kavanagh will really push to get people motivated to speak in the next week. Councillor training went well, and the biggest thing for him was the idea of changeover- taking everything that he initially set out to do and what he has done, could do better, and still wants to do. At the end of the year he'll reflect on what he's done and think of what to pass on to the next First Year Rep. He likes the idea of changeover and thinking about helping the next person in his position when that time comes early.

Nate Winsor says he hasn't done anything as Science Rep yet this term, but since our last meeting, he did Study Snacks, which went very well. A few people came out, and many snacks were had, and much studying was done. It served its purpose very well- people talking about stress and drinking some tea. He will do another one this semester. Meet a Scientist is an idea that they've had for a while- talking to profs at Dal and King's about science. This idea is gaining some traction. He tried to reach out to his constituents through a variety of meetings but has gotten no responses so far. Instead Nate Winsor has talked to some professors and researchers and will keep reaching out to set something up, wanting to have some sessions after Reading Week. The Dal Science Society is having their first meeting next week and he thinks they would benefit from a newsletter. Nate will talk to upper years and first years before course selection to talk about upper year opportunities. He's glad to be back and loved Councillor training.

Melina Zaccaria thought training was helpful and a great refresher for a lot of things. She also loved having it in the Wardroom. DASSS has not met yet this semester, but will in a couple of weeks. They are going through presidential searches for the faculty of arts and social sciences. Angela, the president of DASSS, is working hard but can't talk much about it. She went to a SNARCon meeting- the 15th to the 17th of January. It should be very fun. They are talking about tightening up the constitution and having that done at the end of the term.

Zoe Brimacombe comes in at 10:25 am.

Liam Compton introduces himself again, and wants to say, first off that Councillor training was great yesterday and he thought changeover was useful and that the DSS should learn more about that kind of thing. Joy Shand sends her regrets that she cannot be here. The DSS GM will be, hopefully, on the 20th. Their main focus is talking about rewriting their constitution and will be having their first meeting of the year in the next two or three days to rewrite everything. That will be passed at the next GM. Personally, his goals- inspired by the CFS yesterday- are to get more day students involved in things like understanding what the KSU is, what the CFS is, and what the DSS is. He wants his constituents to be more aware of what those are and who he is. He hopes to hold office hours soon,

and getting organized in that sense.

Zoe Brimacombe warns everyone not to wait for the bus in Halifax. Since we last met, there has not been a ton of action but she is excited for the new year and changeover. She and Taylor Saracuse have one more meeting before changeover, which is March 10th.

Benn van Ryn gives his report at 10:41, after the Report of the President. He has been working on the King's Talk event, and has talked to potential speakers and looked at next steps. They are still getting speakers and talking to people directly in order to get more people to volunteer. Benn van Ryn learned a lot at Councillor training as well.

4. Reports of the Executive Committee (attached)

4.1 Report of the President

Benn van Ryn arrives at 10:31 am.

Taylor Saracuse asks for clarification on reconsidering the Galley levy, wondering if there could just be a reduction of the levy instead of a removal. Alex Bryant says that is a definite possibility, but it might be that the Galley doesn't need to be levied at all. Jen Nowoselski has given this some preliminary analysis, and one of the problems is that the Galley is new and still dealing with contingent costs. Now that those costs are covered, we are looking at how the business does in a regular year. He is unsure now if students need to contribute \$6 a year to the Galley. It might be more useful to levy a small amount to the Wardroom instead of the Galley. This is all still random speculation, however. Alex Bryant says Chris Parsons and Jen Nowoselski are giving their fall reports at the next Council meeting.

4.2 Report of the Vice-President (Student Life)

Alex Bryant asks Alex McVittie to speak more on the ethernet vs. wifi conversation. Alex McVittie says that people want to know if anyone is actually using ethernet instead of wifi in residence, wondering if we can just rip out the ethernet cable. She was asked if many people brought a desktop to residence at her meeting, and said that no one did.

Melina Zaccaria comments that she had no idea what the ethernet cord was when she moved into residence.

Sofia Zaman asks if ripping out the cables would cost anything. Alex McVittie replies that it costs more to have the Internet working through the ethernet system. Alex Bryant clarifies that it costs over \$20 000. We have only, however, had wifi at King's for the last two years.

4.3 Report of the Vice-President (Financial)

There are no questions.

4.4 Report of the Vice-President (External)

Zoe Brimacombe asks how to sign up for tabling. Hannah Kaya says she will send an email.

Taylor Saracuse asks if X action members will do tabling, and Hannah Kaya says yes.

Alex Bryant asks Hannah Kaya to give the memo on the university sexual harassment policy at the next meeting.

Taylor Saracuse asks if there is a Facebook event or social media presence for the chat on the Sexual Harassment Phone Line. Hannah Kaya says that if some people are interested, one can send them the event- which will be there in an hour- and recommends that people reach out to those we think are interested in doing something about that information session.

4.5 Report of the Vice-President (Communications)

Nate Winsor asks about people joining CKDU, and Sofia Zaman says to send names to her if people are interested. Taylor Saracuse asks about doing third party endorsements for election purposes- societies, for example. Sofia Zaman says societies can't endorse people, but individuals can. Taylor Saracuse mentions Dalhousie elections in terms of endorsements, and how those affected the results. Sofia Zaman says that they did talk about that as well. Alex Bryant recommends not asking questions for things like this- a combination of this conversation, human resource policy, and other things we should amend- because we should have a special meeting and discussion about this type of dialogue. That would still be a chaired meeting and Sofia Zaman would take care of arranging it. Aidan McNally asks when bylaw changes are going through. Sofia Zaman says that the changes will be compiled in a report, given to the next CVP, and given in a report at the Spring GM.

1. Action Items

5.1 BIRT the King's Poetry Society receive \$30 in contingent funding for snacks for the first Poetry society meeting of 2016.

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally says that this is the Poetry Society's first meeting of the year, and that this is the society that shares love of poetry and original work. They are hosting a slam poetry event in January and will extend and make connections with the wider poet community in Halifax. They want to serve snacks, and so this money includes pop, chips, cookies, cups, and paper towel. At Finance Committee, they recommended that the number be rounded to \$30, and so the receipt just needs to be under \$30. We amend the motion to reflect this change from the original \$28.40. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

5.2 BIRT the Dal-King's Student Fashion Design Show (Vaudeville) receive \$1000 in non-contingent funding to contribute to the fashion show budget.

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally says that the Fashion show is a fundraiser for Dress for Success Halifax, which is an organization that effectively provides formal business attire to people in various economic situations to look professional at job interviews. They specifically target women. The organization is cool and worthy, and the fashion show itself is completely student run. They do an open call for models and designers, purchase their own fabric, and give an opportunity for students interested in creating garments to do so. The largest expense is using the McInnes room in the Dal SUB, which needs to be rented out. The amount for the room itself is around \$1800. Last year, the discussion around funding was that the McInnes room requires having to book through staff and lighting crew instead of students, which is a huge upfront cost. The original request from Vaudeville was for \$2500 so they've used different avenues for funding, which is why they are only seeking \$1000 from us. They have gotten \$1000 from the DSU and are requesting funds from Dal after Dark. This request is much more modest than the original, and given that this is their main event and that they are a ratified society, Finance Committee recommends approval. The expenses cover fabric, fundraising, marketing (cost for printing, for example), etc. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

5.3 BIRT the Haliburton Society receive \$694.60 in non-contingent funding to fund 5 regular meetings in the Winter term, an honorary fellows dinner, and two acquisitions.

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally welcomes Daniel Whitten, who is part of the Haliburton Society executive. The funding request is for 5 regular meetings, two library acquisitions, and an honorary fellows dinner. They had an incredibly detailed funding request. There was a significant surplus from last year, so that is why they didn't apply for funding in the fall. The Society has biweekly meetings involving cheese and wine, and attracts members from the community. This is the 131st meeting and the Society is the oldest literary society at a university. Daniel Whitten says that we are only paying for the President and Vice-President at the honorary fellows dinner this year, and they are focusing especially on diversifying the snacks at meetings. This means gluten-free and vegan snacks at meetings. The literary acquisitions for the library (usually almost exclusively Canadian literature) are for two books to grow the Haliburton collection. Aidan McNally says that each meeting costs \$109.16, which is modest since it includes wine. Given that this is their first request this year, Aidan McNally is happy to see the extensive bookkeeping from the fall. She thanks Daniel Whitten for coming. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

5.4 BIRT the King's Foreign Film Society receive \$315.00 in contingent funding for snacks and video rentals for 7 meetings in the Winter term (\$45.00 a meeting).

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally says this is one of the most active societies on campus this year and commends them for their great advertising. The society was well on their budget. This funding includes 7 more meetings, where at each meeting, \$30 is spent on cheese, \$10 on baguettes, and \$5 on video rentals. The meetings also follow FYP paper due dates so as to attract more of a crowd. Taylor Saracuse quickly clarifies that this is contingent funding for the minutes. He says he is very excited and that the society will be screening more non-Eurocentric films with more non-male directors, since they've only shown one and a half films with non-male directors so far this year. Ryan Kavanagh asks where to direct suggestions for films. Taylor Saracuse recommends the KFFS Facebook group or sending him a personal message. We move to a vote. Taylor Saracuse abstains. The motion passes.

5.5 BIRT the Students Against Israeli Apartheid at Dalhousie and King's Universities be ratified for the 2015-2016 school year.

Moved by Alex McVittie

Alex McVittie says this is the only ratification package she's received this year stating explicitly that they are pursuing funding from other sources (the DSU and NSBERG). This group focuses on stopping the illegal occupation of Palestine and informing people about the issue. They host many events, and also attend rallies, lectures, and solidarity actions. This is a political society that has been ratified before. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

5.6 BIRT Sodales receive \$700 in non-contingent funding to contribute to travel costs to the debate tournament hosted at McGill University from the 15th-17th of January in Montreal, Quebec.

Finance Committee does not have recommendation.

Aidan McNally says that Sodales is a debating society for everyone, and their primary costs are travel costs to attend different debate tournaments. This is to fund a trip to McGill's annual debate tournament, one of the most competitive tournaments in Canada. They are sending 16 debaters. 7 are from King's. Aidan McNally recommended doing this through Society funding rather than reaching out through travel bursaries. It is unsustainable for the KSU to cover all trips by Sodales. Some members are driving to Montreal, and this is a three day trip for students. In mind with what

we have been doing with travel bursaries, Aidan McNally contacted Sodales and said that the request was essentially for \$100 travel bursaries for the King's students. This is the last debate tournament, so from here on out we should have a discussion with Sodales about how much we will fund per tournament instead of every single one. This request helps students participate in a debate tournament, and Sodales is highly regarded around Canada. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

5.7 BIRT King's Dance collective receive \$105 in non-contingent funding to host a workshop January 14th, 2016 in the King's Dance space.

Finance Committee does not have recommendation.

Aidan McNally says that the collective wants to hold a workshop to teach dancers correct techniques for falling and partnering work, which includes safety training. This workshop is cool and improves technique for dancers who are having a show in March. This is part of their programming for the year. The instructor is including tickets for her upcoming dance show for all participants in this workshop. That is a cool opportunity for dancers at King's to connect with the broader dance community in Halifax. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

6. New Business

Melina Zaccaria has gotten an email for the DASSS presidential search. There is some information she can give, but only in camera. She will give us basic information and at some point before they choose a dean, if people are interested in seeing those documents in camera they can do that. They have three candidates: their last names are Coelho, Gottel, and Harvey. Consultation sessions are happening on January 20th. We can't attend but can give information to the president of DASSS at angelagma@dsu.dal.ca. Her office hours are on the Dal website as well.

Adjournment

Ryan Kavanagh motions to adjourn.

Next meeting: January 24th, 2016, 6:00pm (Wardroom)