

Minutes for KSU (Council of Students)

King's Students' Union 2016-2017 September 25, 2016 10:00 am Boardroom

Voting Members Present

Kristen Thomson – Journalism Rep
Julia-Simone Rutgers – Communications VP
Brennan McCracken – VP Student Life
Cedric Blais – DSS Rep
Pilar Guynot De Boismenu – DSS Rep
Zoë Brimacombe – VP Finance
Melina Zaccaria – Arts Rep
Aiden McNally – KSU President
Gina Grattan – VP External
Curran McConnell – Board of Governors Rep
Nate Winsor – Science Rep

Non-Voting Members Present

Mary Innes – HOSTSoc Emma Renaerts – SNARc Dance Collective Hannah Daley – Online Editor of Watch Jennifer Nowoselski – Hospitality Coordinator Charlotte Sullivan – Chair

Call to order 10:11AM

The Chair recognizes that this meeting is being held on unceded traditional Mi'kmaq territory

1. Adoption of Agenda

Zoë Brimacombe asked to move item 8 "Action Items" forward in the agenda, pushing back item 7 "Report on the 2016/2017 Budget" and renumbering accordingly.

The agenda is adopted.

2. Approval of Minutes from September 11th, 2016

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that a spelling mistake was submitted and corrected.

The minutes are approved.

3. Oral Reports and Goals of Councillors (45 minutes)

Curran McConnell said there was supposed to be an executive meeting for the Board of Governors that did not occur because of scheduling reasons. He mentioned plans for a Board of Governors meeting on October 15th, 2016.

Pilar Guynot De Boismenu had nothing to report.

Cedric Blais said that the Day Student Society was in the process of figuring out how the new pool table would be getting into the Wardroom and figuring out when the Wardroom will re-open. Cedric brought up that the Wilson Common Room was increasingly being used for tutorials which leaves day students with few places to spend time on campus, save the Manning Room. Cedric said the Day Student Society was trying to compensate for the lack of the Wardroom but availability of space is a problem.

Kristen Thomson mentioned how happy she was with the outcome of the Fight the Fees action on September 19th that she worked on in coordination with Gina Grattan and Brennan McCracken. She was happy with the turnout and thought we sent the right message. She would like to help with the day of action despite limited time remaining in office.

Melina Zaccaria had an uneventful two weeks as she will not be starting any new projects before changeover. She missed a Dalhousie Arts and Social Sciences Society meeting due to communication error. She would like to thank the council for a lovely two years in office and said she will be helping the new arts representative transition into office.

Nate Winsor apologized for missing the first council meeting. He has not started any new projects since the winter term. He spoke to first year science students and got some feedback. Nate expressed interest in hosting a tea and life chats event for first year science students. He would like to thank council for his time as science representative.

4. Reports of the Executive Committee (attached)

- 4.1: Report of the President
- 4.2: Report of the Student Life Vice President

Mary Innes asked if they were looking at doing more cafeteria style food services or more retail style with Sodexo's Food Services Contract expiring. Brennan McCracken responded that he does not have an answer yet. The conversation surrounds Sodexo's contract ending in June and these conversations happen at the end of every contract.

Cedric Blais asked if there is a chance that Sodexo will renew their contact. Brennan McCracken responded that they can submit a bid.

Cedric Blais asked about a King's students receiving a higher quality meal plan from Sodexo. Brennan McCracken responded that changing the meal plan can be a conversation as students have expressed a concern with food quality, but he does not want meal plan fees to increase as a result. He would like to find a possibility where there would be a higher food quality and also a more affordable price.

4.3: Report of the Financial Vice President

4.4: Report of the External Vice President

Aiden McNally asked if Gina Grattan could speak about the media coverage received from the first day of action. Gina responded that she had spoken to the media that day and had done a radio interview on the event as well as a piece in Global News.

4.5: Report of the Communications Vice President

5. Report of the Services and Campaigns Coordinator

Aiden delivered the report on behalf of Michaela Sam as Michaela is out of the province.

6. Report of the Hospitalities Coordinator

Nate Winsor asked if there was 'gross stuff' found in the steps of the Arts and Academic building during Wardroom renovations. Jen Nowoselski responded that yes, they had found things that led to replacing the steps outside.

Nate Winsor asked what happened with students who are currently staffed by the Wardroom and Galley, specifically if they were being paid for this month without work. Jen Nowoselski responded that students were not being paid and that staff has been receiving weekly updates since August on the status of renovations. Jen said there have been conversations with students about them needing to find alternative employment.

Mary Innes asked if the renovations will affect policies on societies holding events in the Wardroom. Jen Nowoselski responded that there will be no change in policies and that the new space might provide a better area for societies to collaborate with the Wardroom.

Emma Renaerts asked about whether the Wall of Woman could go back up on the walls of the Wardroom. Jen Nowoselski responded that all of the art was being organized through the Advancement Office, specifically Adrienne Abbott, and the Wardroom has no control over the art on the walls. She said it would be worth checking in with her to make sure the Wall of Women will return to the Wardroom.

7. Action Items

Society Ratification

7.1 BIRT the Arts Abstract be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year. *Moved by Brennan McCracken*

Brennan McCracken said that the society is active on campus.

The motion is adopted.

7.2 BIRT Students Advocating Representative Curricula (SNARC) be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Emma Renaerts said that this would be SNARC's second year ratifying and that SNARC had plans to host another conference on bringing awareness to gaps in curricula.

The motion is adopted.

7.3 BIRT the King's Outdoor and Sustainability Society (K-OS) be ratified as a Tier 1 society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said that the society is a merging of the sustainability society and the outdoor society. He said the goal of K-OS is to get students outside and get them involved in sustainability.

The motion is adopted.

7.4 BIRT Sodales, the Dalhousie University and University of King's College Debating Society, be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said Sodales are a team of good debaters who send folks to different conferences and that the team has been active for a long time. Brennan speaks in favour.

The motion is adopted.

7.5 BIRT the Dalhousie/King's Fashion Design Show Society be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brannan McCracken said that the society has put on a charity fundraiser every year that promotes body positivity. He said they have been very responsible and consistent.

The motion is adopted.

7.6 BIRT Best Buddies University of King's College Chapter (Best Buddies King's) be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said the goal of Best Buddies King's is to establish a volunteer network of friendship for persons with mental disabilities. Julia-Simone Rutgers spoke in favour of the organization and said the members establishing the society have a good plan set up.

The motion is adopted.

7.7 BIRT the Dalhousie Harry Potter Society be ratified as Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said that the Harry Potter society was ratifying with the KSU for the first time which would allow them to host events on campus.

The motion is adopted.

7.8 BIRT the King's Dance Collective (KDC) be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Emma Renaerts said the KDC has been well attended in the past when they teach open level classes and that they put on a show which is lucrative for both the KSU and the KDC. She said the society promotes body positivity and strives to create a de-stressing atmosphere.

The motion is adopted.

7.9 BIRT the Saint Thomas Aquinas Society be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said STAS wants to educate students about the Anglican tradition.

The motion is adopted.

7.10 BIRT the Loaded Ladle be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year. *Moved by Brennan McCracken*

Brennan McCracken said the Loaded Ladle was a service that provided hot prepared meals on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday to students for no cost. He said the service has filled in the gap for students who can not afford groceries because of tuition fees.

Zoë Brimacombe said they were ratifying for the second time with the KSU and have plans to hold an event on King's campus.

The motion is adopted.

7.11 BIRT the Saint Andrews Mission Society (SAMS) be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said that SAMS connected students to volunteer opportunities and strove to make volunteering fun and social.

Gina Grattan abstains from voting.

The motion is adopted.

7.12 BIRT the King's Journalism Society be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year. *Moved by Brennan McCracken*

Brennan McCracken said the Journalism Society connected journalism students to each other and to professors. He said society taught literacy and free speech and would like to organize events on campus.

Julia-Simon Rutgers spoke in favour of a planned event by the Journalism Society.

The motion is adopted.

7.13 BIRT the King's Zine Society be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year. *Moved by Brennan McCracken*

Brennan said the Zine Society was being spearheaded by three first year students. He said it was exciting to see first year students engaging with King's early in their time here and that their constitution was in order.

Hannah Daley asked what a zine is. Brennan described it.

The motion is adopted.

7.14 BIRT the UKC Jugger Society be ratified as a Tier I society for the 2016/2017 academic year. *Moved by Brennan McCracken*

Brennan McCracken explained what Jugger was. He described it as a non-violent sport and similar to LARP'ing. He said this was an initiative by first year students.

Melina Zacaria asked about liability for the KSU. Brennan said the sport is non-violent.

Nate Winsor asked if the KSU has ratified sports teams in the past and asked why there were not going through CUBE. Aiden McNally said that those who want to do casual sports can not get support from the athletics department and that the extent of KSU support was room bookings.

Nate asked if the union would be funding their swords. Brennan said that is a question for a later date.

The motion is adopted.

7.15 BIRT the University of King's College History of Science and Technology Society (HOSTSoc) be ratified as a Tier II society with special designation for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Mary Innes said that while HOSTSoc has had trouble in previous years fulfilling mandate, this year they have a timeline for journal publications. She said they will not have the backlog by next year. Mary said she was committed to hosting monthly events and has made progress to that end. She said she has plans to cooperate with faculty and other societies on campus for events. She said they were asking for special designation because they want to serve alcohol when there are journal launches.

Brennan McCracken said that historically EMSP and CSP societies receive special designation for such purposes. Brennan explained what special designation was.

Cedric Blais asked about the publications. Mary responded with an outline of the journal publication plans.

Nate Winsor said that there had been problems publishing the 2014-2015 journal.

Nate abstains from voting.

The motion is adopted.

7.16 BIRT the King's Theatrical Society (KTS) be ratified as a Tier II society with special designation for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said the the KTS was a better known society at King's. He said the KTS executives are holding director auditions for their first season so could not attend the meeting. He said they ratify every year.

The motion is adopted.

7.17 BIRT the World University Services of Canada King's Chapter (WUSC) be ratified as a Tier II society with special designation for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan McCracken said that this is a King's chapter of a larger organization. He said they facilitate and raise awareness of the quality of education around the world. He said King's often fundraises to help sponsor a student to come and study at King's or Dalhousie. Brennan said he has no issue with special designation.

The motion is adopted.

7.18 BIRT the Unconscious Collective Vocal Ensemble (UCVE) be ratified as a Tier II society with special designation for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Moved by Brennan McCracken

Brennan said that the UCVE is an acapella choir on campus that invites everyone to come and single. He said they want to create a welcoming safe space for voices to be heard. He said they were asking for special designation to hold receptions after performances.

The motion is adopted.

Funding Requests

7.19 BIRT The King's Journalism Society receive \$50 in contingent funding to purchase pizza and prizes for Pictures in the Park.

Moved by Zoë Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said what the Pictures in the Park event was. She said the King's Journalism Society would like to provides prizes and pizza to the students.

Aiden McNally asked where the meeting was being held. Zoë responded that it would be at Point Pleasant.

The motion is adopted.

7.20 BIRT The King's Journalism Society receive \$70 in contingent funding to cover the costs of a tour of the CTV news room, including taxi chits, flowers, and a card.

Moved by Zoë Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said that the funding was being requested to allow students to miss as little class as possible for the event. Zoë said they would be taking taxis to prevent missing classes.

The motion is adopted.

7.21 BIRT King's Outdoor + Sustainability receive \$52.98 in contingent funding to purchase movie rights, drinks, and snacks for a screening of The Lorax.

Moved by Zoë Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said the event will be open to King's, Dal, and NSCAD students as well as their guests. The funding is for food and movie rights.

The motion is adopted.

7.22 BIRT King's Outdoor + Sustainability receive \$359.10 in contingent funding to subsidize the cost of kayaking the Halifax harbour for 18 students.

Moved by Zoë Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe explained the event. She said the funds were being requested to subsidize the event which would allow students to pay \$25 so as not to deter students from coming. She said that this was a cost effective way of kayaking.

Nate Winsor asked if this would be the best use of funds because Dal has a similar society. Zoë responded that she did not know the exact relationship between King's students and the Dal Outdoor Society, but that we do not pay a levy to the society.

Melina Zaccaria spoke in favour because it was the job of the KSU to encourage students to start societies at King's and until the K-OS and Dal Outdoor Society merge, the KSU should encourage K-OS.

Aiden McNally said there is precedent in terms of subsidizing events for students.

The motion is adopted.

7.23 BIRT Le Salon receive \$17.98 in contingent funding to purchase cheese and baguette for two weekly meetings.

Moved by Zoë Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said the society would be using the funds for food at two meetings.

The motion is adopted.

Zoë Brimacombe moved to take a five minute recess.

The motion is adopted.

Reconvene at 11:40AM.

8. Report on the 2016/2017 Budget

Zoë Brimacombe explained how a budget was created and that it would be voted on at the General Meeting. She said the budget was not a bank statement but a breakdown of spending. She said we have a significant decrease in enrollment this year which meant a decrease in KSU funding. Zoë explained what levy funds were. She said that the KSU would be running a thousand dollar deficit and explained why there would be a deficit. She said the KSU would not be going into debt, but would be spending more money than they make.

Zoë Brimacombe moved to go on camera at 12:00PM.

The motion is adopted.

The meeting resumed at 12:15PM.

Curran McConnell asked about the specific number of reserve funds. Zoë responded that the answer was not simple, that the KSU had enough to run this year's deficit but would not in years to come. Aiden McNally said it was not clear exactly how much funds we have on reserve.

Kristen Thomson asked about change in every honoraria except the executive. Zoë responded that there have been complaints in the past to increase the honoraria of the executive council. She said the amount of work done by the executive merits the honoraria.

Cedric Blais asked about the DSS levy. Zoë responded that the DSS was not levied through the KSU but that funds were collected by the University for the DSS.

Nate Winsor said the executive honoraria should not be decreased because they are doing more work than in previous years with the cuts of two positions.

Zoë Brimacombe encouraged everyone to come to the general meeting.

Gina Grattan said that if anyone had questions regarding the two roles cut, she would be happy to talk to them.

Cedric Blais asked about sections of the budget where we could provide the same quality of services for cut the budget because of the decreased enrollment and thus the decreased need for access. Zoë Brimacombe responded that decreased enrollment had been taken into consideration.

Brennan McCracken said that the society levy had also gone down.

Aiden McNally said that a lot of the services we provide are not enrollment contingent.

9. New Business

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that the next council would be October 16th at 10:00AM.

The Chair had business concerning elections. There were only three days for campaigning for the elections. The Chair had made a ruling that stipulates the elections would be taking place October 12th, 2016 and October 13th, 2016.

Aiden McNally thanked the councillors who were attending their last meeting for their service.

10. Adjournment

Brennan McCracken moved to adjourn.

The motion is adopted.

Adjournment at 12:26PM