**Student Representative Assembly Meeting 19M**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 5:00pm**

**Council Chambers, GH111**

**Called to Order at 5:00pm**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present** | Alam, Au-Yeung, Dawdy, De Fazio, Enuiyin, Figueiredo, Grewal, Hackett, Hankins, Jangra, Johnston, Lee, Li, McDermott, Mesic, Pagniello, Sarhan, Zhang |
| **Absent Excused:**  |  |
| **Absent** | Alkasef, Belliveau, Ganesalingan, Hassan, Herscovitch, Homsi, Hu, Kampman, Kaur, Marando, Mohamed, Reddy, Singh, Sinnige, Zheng |
| **Late**  |  |
| **Others Present:**  | Jess Anderson (AVP Finance), Ryan Tse (OPIRG McMaster), Mateo Orrantia (OPIRG McMaster), Sarun Balaranjan (OPIRG McMaster), Justine Becker (OPIRG McMaster), Tanya Brkic (OPIRG McMaster)  |
| **Chair** | Maryanne Oketch  |

**TERRITORY RECOGNITION**

* The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe territories through the ‘Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty’.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Mesic that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by Hankins that Delegation #2 is struck from the agenda.

* Johnston explained that because of the snow day Incite Magazine representatives could not make it to the meeting and would present in January.

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Hankins, **seconded** Dawdyby to postpone the Business Caucus report until SRA 19N.

* Hankins explained that their caucus leader dropped their seat and the caucus was not ready to present.

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by DeFazio to strike Business Item #3 – Committee of the Whole – Incite Magazine.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Vote to Adopt**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Mesic that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as amended.

**In Favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**

**Motion Passes**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES 19K**

**Moved** by McDermott, **seconded** by Figueiredo that the Assembly adopt minutes SRA 19K – November 3, 2019.

**In Favour: 16 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2**

**Abstained: Johnston, Hackett**

**Motion Passes**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

* The Chair asked for the Observers to please sign the Observer’s List at the back of the room to be minuted.

**DELEGATION FROM THE FLOOR**

**Parameters**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by Figueiredo, that the parameters for Delegation from the Floor #1 be 15 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for questions.

**Passes Unanimously**

**1. OPIRG – Tanya Brkic, Justine Becker, Ryan Tse, Mateo Orrantia, Sarun Balaranjan** **presented (presentation attached)**

* The group summarized the presentation.

**Questions**

* Hankins asked what value the staff would add to OPIRG, a number of clubs are volunteer run by students, so it is a big ask for students to pay 42k for a staff. Becker stated that loosing all three staff crippled the organization and the events they were able to run that year. Orrantia stated that staff had years of experience managing the backend and the books, and ensuring that we are operating within all policies it is important to have experienced staff. Orrantia explained that OPIRG is not what it could be without staff. Brkic stated that they were trying to reduce the amount students need to pay, and wondered if there was a value for operations vs. salary and benefits that they should move forward and consider.
* McDermott asked them to elaborate why staff are needed to manage the funds, when other student organizations have accountants. Tse stated that OPIRG tries to fund and enable many different groups, so those staff enable that as well as managing books.
* Hankins stated that the Finance Committee’s biggest concern was that admin expenses are not operations and a very small amount of funds are going towards core activities. Students expect most of their funds to go towards core activities. Hankins asked if there were any comments on that and if they had considered moving towards a volunteer organization.
* Orrantia stated that outside of the staff there were no longstanding volunteer positions, and they had tried to manage without staff. Becker stated that OPIRG has decade-long relationships with the community that enable the events.
* Dawdy asked for more clarification on the value-added from an organization like OPIRG versus an MSU Clubs that operate at a significantly lower cost outside of an external organization. Becker explained that all their meetings are public and the student-body can have say. Becker explained OPIRG does a lot of work with the Hamilton community, not just McMaster which adds value.
* Hankins asked if they would consider hiring someone on a short-term consulting basis to help transition instead of hiring a full-time staff member. Brkic said they were not against that, but had to ensure they abide with the union.
* Jess Anderson asked where the discrepancy of 10,000 of the budget came from in their operations budget. Orrantia explained that they had not received the amount of money from the students when creating the first version of the budget, and in the second version of the budget they made an effort to put more money in student initiatives. Added in funding for Black History Month events and new events.

**REPORT PERIOD**

**1. Arts and Science Caucus – Hu presented**

* Hu summarized the report.

**2. Engineering Caucus – McDermott presented**

* McDermott summarized the report.

**3. Internal Governance Committee – report attached**

**4. Services Committee – report attached**

**5. Executive Board – report attached**

**6. Vice-President (Finance) – Johnston presented**

* Johnston summarized the report.

**7. Final Opt-Out Numbers – report attached**

**8. Student Advocacy Week – report attached**

**9. OUSA General Assembly – report attached**

**BUSINESS**

**1. Recess for meeting of MSU Incorporated**

**Moved** by Hackett, **seconded** by McDermott that the Assembly recess for meetings of MSU Incorporated.

**In Favour: 21 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**

**Motion Passes**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present** | Alam, Au-Yeung, Dawdy, DeFazio, Enuiyin, Grewal, Hackett, Hankins, Hu, Jangra, Johnston, Kampman, Lee, Li, Marando, Mesic, McDermott, Pagniello, Reddy, Sarhan, Zhang |
| **Absent Excused:**  |  |
| **Absent** | Alkasef, Belliveau, Ganesalingan, Hassan, Herscovitch, Homsi, Kaur, Mohamed, Singh, Sinnige, Zheng |
| **Late**  |  |
| **Others Present:**  | Jess Anderson (AVP Finance), Ryan Tse (OPIRG McMaster), Mateo Orrantia (OPIRG McMaster), Sarun Balaranjan (OPIRG McMaster), Justine Becker (OPIRG McMaster), Tanya Brkic (OPIRG McMaster)  |
| **Chair** | Maryanne Oketch  |

**2. Committee of the Whole – OPIRG**

**Moved** by McDermott, **seconded** by Hankins that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the OPIRG presentation.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by De Fazio that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Rise and Report**

* Johnston stated that they had a lengthy conversation about OPIRG particularly about their allocation towards staff funding and student events. OPIRG explained they were bound by many stipulations in their union. The Assembly decided to empower OPIRG to work with AVP Finance and Finance Committee to establish a transition plan to bring back to the January 12th meeting for the SRA to determine if OPIRG should be sent to referendum.

**3. Committee of the Whole – Bylaw 5 Groups**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by Reddy that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the Bylaw 5 groups.

* Johnston explained that at the last meeting their were open questions about Solar Car and were waiting for final recommendations for Engineers Without Borders.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by Johnston **seconded** by Hackett that the Assembly move out of the Committee of the Whole.

**Rise and Report**

* Johnston explained that the Assembly was updated on the EWB, Incite and Solar Car recommendations and no one had any questions.

**Vote on Motion**

**Passes Unanimously**

**4. Statement – In Solidarity of Hong Kong Student Protestors**

**Moved** by Reddy, **seconded** by Jangra that the following statement be adopted:

Whereas The Charter of Rights and Freedoms — the supreme law of Canada — protects the freedoms of speech, protest, and assembly in all aspects of Canadian society, including Ontario campuses;

Whereas the Student Representative Assembly is committed to upholding freedom of speech, but is concerned that the guise of free speech may be used to limit dissent, counterargument, and protest by vulnerable students;

Whereas Hong Kong students at McMaster University have been directly impacted by the ongoing unrest in Hong Kong, and publicly demonstrated on campus on 22nd October 2019 to show solidarity with protesters in Hong Kong;

Whereas the students demonstrating on campus in support of Hong Kong protesters had their demonstration materials vandalized and suffered from assault and threats from those opposed to the demonstration, as reported by The Silhouette and captured on video;

Whereas the Student Representative Assembly believes that no student peacefully demonstrating on campus should be subjected to such violence and intimidation;

Whereas McMaster University and its surrounding areas have a sizeable population of students, faculty, staff and community members who identify as Hongkongers;

Whereas the McMaster Students Union must not tolerate acts or comments that perpetuate hate or violence against Hongkongers and all other students on campus, as the union exists and operates within an anti-oppressive framework;

Whereas the McMaster Students Union must continue to take action towards building and creating a safer and more inclusive environment for all students on campus;

Be it resolved that:

The McMaster Students Union stands in solidarity with Hong Kong students and strongly condemns the violence and intimidation that was directed at students demonstrating on campus in support of freedom and democracy in Hong Kong.

Moreover, as there are McMaster students currently on exchange in Hong Kong who may be affected by the events unfolding, the McMaster Students Union is committed to student safety and supports a peaceful resolution to the situation in Hong Kong.

* Reddy explained that the motion was edited and had all accusatory language towards the Chinese government removed and was not intended to take a side. Reddy hoped that it was seen as representative of the MSU values.
* Pagniello stated that they hoped the motion set precedent fort he MSU to call out other acts of violence that have happened at campus or may happen in the future when students are peacefully protesting.

**Vote on Motion**

**In Favour: 14 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 5**

**Abstained: Figueiredo, Johnston, Hackett, Mesic, Pagniello**

**Motion Passes**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by De Fazio to consider the following motion:

“Moved by Johnston, seconded by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly call a referendum to send the HSR fee to students coinciding with the 2020 Presidential Election.”

* Johnston stated that a memo was circulated.

**Vote on Motion**

**Passes Unanimously**

**1. HSR Referendum**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by De Fazio that the Assembly call a referendum to send the HSR fee to students coinciding with the 2020 Presidential Election

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by Au-Yeung to consider the following motion:

“Moved by Johnston, seconded by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly confirm the fee structure for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023 HSR pass for the referendum to be asked in separate subsequent sections for Fall-Winter, Summer and Extended Service as detailed in the supporting documentation.”

**Passes Unanimously**

**2. HSR Referendum Fee Structure**

**Moved** by Johnston, **seconded** by De Fazio that the Assembly confirm the fee structure for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023 HSR pass for the referendum to be asked in separate subsequent sections for Fall-Winter, Summer and Extended Service as detailed in the supporting documentation.

* Johnston explained that the terms are outlined in the memo.

**Passes Unanimously**

**TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Sunday, January 12, 2020**

**5:00pm**

**Council Chambers, GH 111**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present** | Alam, Au-Yeung, De Fazio, Enuiyin, Figueiredo, Ganesalingan, Grewal, Hackett, Hankins, Hassan, Jangra, Johnston, Kampman, Lee, Li, McDermott, Mesic, Pagniello, Reddy, Sarhan, Zhang |
| **Absent Excused:**  |  |
| **Absent** | Alkasef, Belliveau, Dawdy, Herscovitch, Homsi, Hu, Kaur, Mohamed, Singh, Sinnige, Zheng |
| **Late**  |  |
| **Others Present:**  | Jess Anderson (AVP Finance), Ryan Tse (OPIRG McMaster), Mateo Orrantia (OPIRG McMaster), Sarun Balaranjan (OPIRG McMaster), Justine Becker (OPIRG McMaster), Tanya Brkic (OPIRG McMaster)  |
| **Chair** | Maryanne Oketch  |

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by, **seconded** by that the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Passes by General Consent**

/ef