Chimp Kirchner, President of the Union

Shannon Gillespie McComb, Vice President of the Union

Amanda Youmans, Graduate Rep

Conrad Mossel, Class of 2017 Rep / MAP Chair

Erika Lane, Class of 2018 Rep

Matthew Rand, Class of 2019 Rep / Policies Chair

Ananya Murad, Class of 2020 Rep

ines Roman, Club/ICA Rep

Stephanie Kern-Alley, Club/ICA Rep

Kay Sun, Club/ICA Rep

Luke Kuprenas, Club/ICA Rep

Rasika Ekhillar, Club/ICA Rep / BusOps Chair

Ciera Williams, Club/ICA Rep

Chris Hoskins, Club/ICA Rep

John Fantell, Member at Large

Anissa Choiniere, Member at Large

Caitlin Kennedy, Member at Large

Majken Rasmussen, Member at Large

Dan Rogers, UC Rep

Jen Church, GC Rep

Thomas Alappat, Senate E-Board Liaison

 Guests (Please Print on Back)
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<td>Nicholas</td>
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<td>Paul Harell</td>
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<td>Cameron McAra</td>
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<td>Julie</td>
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<td>Martha McElwitt</td>
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<td>Jimmy</td>
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Rensselaer Union
Executive Board

Agenda
March 30th, 2017

1. Roll Call @ 8:00 PM
2. Mother’s/Games Room Renovation Proposal – 8:00 PM
3. Room Reservation Policy – 8:35 PM
4. Culinary Club Request for Recognition – 9:00 PM
5. Long Sword Request for Recognition – 9:10 PM
6. Chabad Request for Affiliation – 9:25 PM
7. Union Cargo Vans and Crew Truck Purchase – 9:35 PM
   a. Director’s Report
   b. Member Reports
   c. Senate Report
   d. President’s Report

Contingencies FY17 Beginning Balance $32,500
Contingencies FY17 current balance $18,582.65

Contingencies FY16 Beginning Balance $32,500
Contingencies FY16 this week $9,670.88
Mother’s Games Room

- Necessary because under utilized space and awkward to use
- Current layout on presentation
- Proposed layout from Dan the archie
- Mother’s is a different shape w/ diving wall and a green room, larger storage closet
- Game’s room: pingpong tables, variety of games, still have ‘09 lounge
- Open lounge space outside of Games room (more publicly accessible
- Small kitchen area for clubs/events

Questions

- Happening five years in the future, most likely, looking for a motion that says moving forward with this plan
- From Joe: this is the idea of a renovation down there, do you want to do this/sound like a good idea? Have a firm come in to do a space assessment
- Cost? To start hiring firm, timeline for that?
  - The Institute has people they work with, $5k to $10k, can be done whenever the E-Board decides
  - Have a step system of where we want to move from there
- This should move forward, the rooms are underutilized
- Steve: Approve concept of changing this and that in the future it will be looked at; if the architect comes now and the renovation doesn’t happen for a while, then it will have been useless
- Games room is used a lot for Grad events-what is the capacity of the potential new space?
  - Actual capacities for the room are unknown, currently 250 people. Other options can be explored,
  - Grad student events and grad department events are increasing in size, this should be taken into consideration. Games room is one of the only places these can happen now
- Motion to say we should have this planned, have a timer to say hire architectural firm, start saving money when?
  - Initial estimate is $500,000, might be other designs that are less cost-intensive and make better use of space
- Concerns may change over four years, maybe be saving the money now so that in the future we can get it done and can hire the architectural firm
- How does this floor plan relate to the motion?
  - Motion says move forward to a renovation in Mother’s, doesn’t say anything about saving or spending money, looking for approval of the concept
- Capacities: original games room, 280 people, new plan: 265 with games room & lounge. Mother’s would still be performances, stage on right side
Retractable walls aren’t soundproof, so there should be a real wall between games room and mother’s.

Potential ways to use more of the space

How do you think the space will be used more/goals of renovation?
  ▪ More open access to spaces that should be easily accessible, no reason to have the lounge in a room that can be closed off.
  ▪ A lot of considerations

Mother’s is significantly smaller; would that affect events in Mother’s? and storage in Mother’s, is that the right amount of space?
  ▪ Based on how big the roomstage is on the second floor. Estimated based on something else.

This isn’t a final plan for the renovation

Have you had any talks with groups about this space?
  ▪ Reached out to groups that use the space to get their opinions on it, some input from some of the clubs that use the space.

Was Grad council part of that?
  ▪ Jen attended some of the meetings

Kitchenette area, but wouldn’t work for serving

Why 3 lounges?
  ▪ ’09 lounge must be there, one is more of a reservable room, other is a lounge similar to the Welcome lobby

Concept still in its infancy

Call to question (waiting on second)

Motion 1: approve moving forward and working on planning renovations of Mother’s and Games room

Merits:
  • What does this motion do? Holds the board to continue to plan for this and continue through the next stages
  • Conrad would be more comfortable seeing a list of things that are a problem with mother’s and things we want to improve on (proposal being attached now)
  • We have nothing, why is the board saying keep planning it? Doesn’t seem like a useful motion
    ▪ The board showing our support for improving the Games room, giving the committee the support for doing it
    ▪ Saying this board is approving tasking the BO committee so that future boards can reference back to this board for starting the project, see what the original intents were
  • Change to say “task the Business Operations committee”-change is being made

Now reads: task Business Operations committee with moving forward and planning renovations

14-0-3

Motion passes!

Room Reservation Policy
  • Newly revised
• Moved exceptions clause to the beginning, put StuGov organizations instead of just Senate and E-Board
• Included not to be reserved for study hours
• Moved up paragraph (4)
• Primetime hours clause-not on Sundays, included regardless of affiliated status in response to Greek Life. Can have special events, just not regular house meetings in the Union
• Questions
  o Matt-not a big fan of the primetime hours, any data on that? Any clubs that exceed that limit?
    ▪ Largely during those times all rooms are booked; idea is that clubs want to have meetings and this would allow everybody to have that chance for their meetings/booking a room
    ▪ Just a framework so no one abuses time/takes up too much time
    ▪ More people can make space of RU during these times
  o Because Greeks pay extra for their houses, feels like they are going to be excluded from these spaces; limiting their space use is maybe not the best
  o Primetime hours-wishes there was more data/open comments from departments; needs to be tweaked with more open comment and data collecting
    ▪ Data is maybe not necessary; special events can go to operations department to decide on special events
    ▪ Primetime hours are not to exclude, they are to allow other to book the rooms
  o Admissions has a certain room in the Union regularly every week
  o Only thing named not being able to use the rooms are Greek Houses, feels exclusionary
  o A way to get hours on Greek Organizations booking rooms during primetime hours? Would like to see those numbers before going forward with this
  o Seems like no clauses for new/provisional clubs; seems like they may not be allowed to book rooms
    ▪ Meant to add that in
  o Looked at EMS, clubs do book way more than they need; clubs need to plan their time appropriately; hours between 4-10 pm, use is extremely high so that’s why that time
  o Exceptions clause is in the beginning
  o Looking at EMS is one thing, there are students who go around the Union and see if the room is being utilized, maybe ask those students?
  o Building supervisors do this too, load data onto EMS (have to determine how to access)
  o Clubs are booking extra time than needed; has been a recurring problem
  o Why do you think prime time hours are necessary?
Point is that these are times where Union is heavily booked; these are convenient hours for all clubs to have meetings, necessary so that more groups who need/want this time will have more access to this time
- Restrictions on McNeill room now?
  - Can’t be reserved on weeknights, can only be reserved Friday and Saturday, E-Board can grant exceptions (include that)
- Be careful about what message this policy sends to other groups on campus; work with other groups externally
- Show us why this is a need, an open comment would be useful and helpful.
- Archer Center began here, but we also support it to do programming for student groups here; maybe grandfather them in?
- Unfair to clubs who want the space; clubs should have higher priority than other groups
- 200 hours/week blocked off for clubs, over 200 clubs so some clubs would be unable to book anyway. Clubs should not be trying to book day before their meeting
- Might not be able to guarantee time for all clubs, but any time is better
- We are responsible for the clubs, do we want to give the message that we aren’t putting the clubs first?
- Joe-Some gaming clubs/card playing clubs will try to reserve 3-4 nights/week for 5 hours. Hard to say whether it is right. Should we approve this much time for a particular club?
- Change wording to reflect what the intention is - tackle extra long regular meetings; make the intention come across
- Think about: you can’t let anyone have a room for five hours any night; similar problem to athletics. Must limit some time and spaces; set limits for particular places? Allow people to meet when they can meet, give them that opportunity. Focus more on that part of the policy
- People living on Freshmen hill cannot get into RSDH, similar idea for this. Doesn’t feel this is an issue, policy serves a larger benefit in general

Motion 2: close the queue
Motion passes
- Do something similar to limiting the time they can reserve at once
- Moving forward: desire for data from EMS and clubs (a survey to Greek life, departments, club leadership), work more with athletics to see how they organize booking fields, etc.

Culinary Club Request for Recognition
- Goal: get anyone interested in cooking involved, whether to teach or cook or learn or etc,
- Plan to host 2 events/month.
- Want to be recognized so they can hold fundraisers and become self-sustaining
- Questions
Risk Management? Recognized 10 years ago, worked with the same Chef Tim who is trained. People do more risky things with food than this.

This would be an awesome addition to get them going again, Mueller Center works with Sodexo, this would be a wonderful group to work with through that.

Cameron wants to create an entrepreneurial program, like a group could work in a space in the Union and set up a business. Offer a different food service
  ▪ Actually already talked about working with a couple groups, they would love that

Have ideas for fundraising

This is okay because working with Sodexo; anything that goes beyond 14 days of sale must have NYS license. 10/semester food sale days

Talking about high risk and low risk foods

Motion 3: approve Culinary Club as Union Recognized club
19-0-0
Motion passes!

Long Sword Request for Recognition

- Fencing association; historical martial arts club, lots of different systems from Europe
- Want recognition for money and more PR, more outreach
- Questions
  - Ability to reserve rooms for this club; provide facility for the club to practice
  - Not familiar with any fraternal elements; they do not scar cheeks, etc.
  - Instructor: the presenter. Training from martial arts, learned through the club
  - Risk? Took risk a while to understand and evaluate; as long as they are not using metal weapons, they are approved through institute through risk management
  - Competitive element?
    - Events where people go and compete; sees tournaments as a tool designed to test how well someone’s interpretations of these techniques come through
  - Plan on being an instructor after you graduate? How many do you expect to be trained to your level and continue this club?
    - Will have to see; there are instructors who can come up from farther away (2x/month)
  - They are often times short on trainers (wood, plastic, synthetic). Would be nice to have the money to support the materials
  - How do you recruit/advertise?
    - Facebook group is large, average that show up is 7-8. Presence at activity fair
  - Make sure okay with outside rate being larger than

Motion 4: Approve NYHFA Rensselaer with community member constituting up to 50%
15-1-1
Motion passes

Chabad Request for Affiliation
- Jewish organization that has been unofficially operating at RPI for 35 years
- Want affiliated status to be able to table, reserve rooms, etc. No funding will be requested
- Want to promote Jewish identity on campus and Jewish culture; this is more based on outreach, want to have own solidified place
- Questions
  - A Troy Chabad center that has funds, will be funded by them and by fundraising
  - Difference between Chabad and Hillel?
    - More about bringing traditional Judaism to campus and students
  - Very open to all students on the campus
    - Open to anyone who wants to learn about Judaism, do not have to be Jewish to join
  - Does this group have to be reviewed by Father Ed?
    - Person in charge of Chabad In Troy is an RPI Alumnus, knows Father Ed
    - Can find out from Father Ed in about five minutes
    - Can come back later if any issues

Motion 5: Approve Chabad on campus for affiliation to RU pending approval from Father Ed
18-0-0
Motion passes!

Motion 6: Talk about publications suite and renovation

Merits:
- Why are we making this motion?
  - Shannon wants to talk about it because the SVL is being pushed aside, the SVA want some progress
  - Didn’t we task this to Biz Ops?
    - Yes, they have a proposal
  - It is important and we should put it on an agenda, pay full attention to it, but now is not the right time to do it.
  - Decided not to put on agenda because costs hadn’t come in yet, costs came in earlier today
  - Shannon wants to move forward with the intention of the Publications Suite
  - Would this motion designate a space?
    - Yes
  - Item on agenda should be addressed first
  - Estimated cost was lower than the cost that was given
  - Call to question

7-8-3
Motion does not pass

Union Cargo Vans and Crew Truck Purchase
- Numbers came back from procurement
- Want to replace 2 cargo vans and truck
• Got bids back from 3/5 suppliers. Latham Ford will trade in vehicles ($5300 for them).
  2017 vehicles (all new), $74000
  o $69000 for three new vehicles!
• Funds coming from facility reserves
Motion 7: Approve purchase of new vehicles as described (quotes attached)
Merits:
• They fit in the garage?
  o Yes
• Been talking about not parking them in the garage anymore because damage comes from in the garage
18-0-0
Motion passes!

Reports:
Director’s:
• All have their own little projects
• Good job E-board!
Member:
• Hidden Figures is being shown tomorrow
• Relay for Life is tomorrow
• Make sure clubs are on top of deadlines for purchases (budgeted items)
• Town hall meeting: new research center starting, man at RPI created physiologic test that is 95% accurate for placing someone on the spectrum, will be approved for BS in music, 3% increase to tuition, off campus commons opening in May, new capital campaign: wants to lower the debt, commencement speaker announced, 2 recipients for honorary degrees
• A joke
• Holi is on Sunday
• Chip’s last meeting
• Acapella show tomorrow!
Senate:
• Counseling center proposal: getting counselors trained on specific issues
• Career fair proposal
President’s:
• Thank you for the cake
• Chip will be performing at Concerts on April 22 in Mother’s
• Meeting with VP Human Resources-concerns about time it is taking for hiring for Director of Union position, also not great that so many people are leaving
• Working with staff to get plans for long term purchasing plans, loosely defined
• Vote in primary to get your mug!
• Awesome year thanks everyone!