



Minutes

**University of Victoria Students' Society/Local 44 of the Canadian Federation of Students
Monday August 24, 2009 – SUB Upper Lounge 6:00 pm**

Absent with Regrets:

Tracy Ho

Directors on leaves of absence:

Kelsey Hannan (May 1 – August 31), Nathan Warner (May 1 – August 31), Meghan Shannon (May 1 – August 31), Nadim Adatia (May 1 – August 31), Dylan Hardie (May 12 – September 14), Gary Dawson-Quatell (July 20 – September 15)

Directors Absent without Regrets:

Ilaina Decter

Directors:

Veronica Harrison, Edward Pullman, Brodie Metcalfe, Rajpreet Sall, Remy Hall, Sinead Charbonneau, Rebecca Robb, James Coccola, Leah Staples, Christine Comrie, Dylan Hardie, Meaghan Kerr, Heather McKenzie

USW Representative:

Melissa Pritchard

Staff:

Joanna Groves

Guests:

David Foster, Mike Renaud

1. CALL TO ORDER

Harrison called the meeting to order at 6:02.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORIES

Charbonneau acknowledged that we are visitors on traditional Coast Salish territories.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA & ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of 2009-08-10

Motion to Adopt the Minutes – Kerr/Sall

Motion to Amend the Minutes – Sall/Kerr

BIRT the minutes be amended to make the following changes to Section 4.c "CFS Provincial Executive Report":

- replace "CBC" with "NBC"; and

- o delete "and other post-secondary campuses."

Motion Carried

Minutes Adopted as Amended

b. Agenda of 2009-08-24

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda – Metcalfe/Coccola
Agenda Adopted**

4. REPORTS

a. Committee Reports

- i. Advocacy Council** – Has not met.
- ii. Armed with Understanding** – Hosting Denis Rancourt in November, and have sent a request to Local 61 (VIU) to share the costs of bringing him to both Victoria and Nanaimo. Also looking into Naomi Klein.
- iii. Clubs Council** - Has not met.
- iv. Communications Committee** – The first SUB video in the “UVSS 101 Video Series” is two-thirds done. The first one focuses on businesses only. The next one will focus on services. The videos will also give new students a virtual tour of the SUB. Working on a large banner for SUB services (10 X 10’) All new materials will now say uvss.ca, not uvss.uvic.ca, as we move toward implementing the new URL. Also looking into a new UVSS logo.
- v. Course Union Council** - Has not met. Planning a "how to be a course union" workshop for September. Also purchased a new tent for course union events.
- vi. Electoral Committee** - Has not met.
- vii. Environmental Responsibility Committee** - Has not met.
- viii. Finance Committee** - Has not met.
- ix. Organisational Development Committee** - Met and has a motion on this agenda.
- x. Political Action Committee** - Has not met.
- xi. Special Events Committee** – Finalizing September event details. Named SUB party stages after iconic musical figures: Marley, Cobain, Beastie, and Mitchell. Remy's putting together a free outdoor party on September 6 and a show in Felicita's on September 4, which will be something else for res students that weekend. Three bands are confirmed for the all-ages show in Vertigo. Starting Facebook promotion for all events. Planning a Red Bull BYOB (Bring Your Own Brush) Art Canvas Show in Vertigo in November or

January. Still waiting to hear back from Atomic Vaudeville regarding a possible show in Vertigo.

xii. Students Services Committee - Has not met.

b. Director and Staff Reports

Hardie: Just got off the boat.

Pullman: Bean There construction is still going on. The holdup was getting the building permit from Saanich. Anticipating opening by next Friday so we can be open for the long weekend. Annual audit is still in progress and should be ready for the October AGM. Hosted the August 15 Propaganda Machine on CFUV. Attended the Director of Student Services candidate meet n' greet.

McKenzie: Working mostly on logistics for events. Trying to find bands for the UPass celebration and C-Day: Fill the Hill. Also working on the SUB video project and the bottled water campaign getting speakers for Flow. Working on posters for events. Attended all committee meetings.

Kerr: The Ombudsperson was away, so filled in. Most were tenancy issues. Met with Jim Dunsdon to discuss urban agriculture which he brought to the Campus Planning Committee. Completed the CFUV orientation and started volunteering. Put archived minutes on the website. Prepping for SUB Mug stuffing. Attended the Olympic Torch Relay Committee. Also the SUB business pens came in.

Metcalf: C-Day: Fill the Hill organizing. Attended OD and Positive Space Network.

Sall: Attended AWU, took stock of CFS campaign materials, and attended the BC CFS AGM.

Hall: Attended Communications and Special Events, worked on the SUB video, organizing the Felicita's show on September 4 and the outdoor show on September 6, and coordinated with the Snow Club to organize demos at the beer garden.

Robb: ACCESS has been getting ready to go into hyper-drive for September, and the second round of the Ethical Governance Series. All are invited.

Charbonneau: Have been training the new staff. Picked and canned blackberries. Will be doing the same with apples in October, and will be gender inclusive. Planning a visioning session, and are open to making it gender inclusive too.

Coccola: Attended ERC, Communications, and the BC CFS AGM.

Melissa: Passed.

Staples: Attended AWU and working on getting Naomi Klein, working on ERC button designs, working on safety posters along with AVP which will focus on binge drinking.

Comrie: Working on getting Tech-Gnar a ramp for the beer garden. Working on a poster for the bottled water campaign, insurance for C-Day: Fill the Hill, and went to the BC CFS AGM.

Groves: Passed.

Harrison: Attended all committees. The Hiring Committee for the Director of Student Affairs is taking up a lot of time. Wrote a Georgia Straight article on student debt which is now online. Met with the Chair of the GSS on

collaborating on events, etc. Met with UVic President David Turpin on issues and communication. Went to the BC CFS AGM.

c. CFS Provincial Executive Report

Sall: The BC CFS AGM went well. We sent four delegates. Our motion was amended and passed with \$500 being donated to Pride's conference. Local 75 (Camosun) volunteered \$400 as well as in-kind donations. The audit and budget passed. More comprehensive overview at the next meeting. Campaign materials have been ordered and are on their way. The next executive meeting is in October.

5. QUESTION PERIOD

Hall: Where's the General Manager?

Harrison: She's sick.

6. MAIN MOTIONS

a. OLD BUSINESS

Motion 2009/05/11: 04 - Harrison/Comrie

BIRT nominations be opened to fill the following vacancies on the Armed With Understanding Speaker Series Committee:

One (1) Member as recommended by Access UVic

One (1) Member as recommended by the Native Students' Union

One (1) Member as recommended by Pride

One (1) Member as recommended by the Students of Colour Collective

No nominations were made.

Motion 2009/05/11: 06 - Harrison/Comrie

BIRT nominations be opened to fill the following vacancies on the Educational Equity Committee:

One (1) Member as recommended by Access UVic

One (1) Member as recommended by the Native Students' Union

One (1) Member as recommended by the Students of Colour Collective

One (1) Member as recommended by the Women's Centre

No nominations were made.

Motion 2009/08/10: 04 – Kerr/Coccola

BIRT the UVSS Board submit a letter of endorsement to the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability for the Urban Agriculture Demonstration Gardens Pilot Project proposal.

Kerr said that last year Campus Urban Agriculture was talking about a much larger project, and the advice was to start small. These projects have got going on their own, and now we want to get on board. Three different ideas were submitted, so the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability will be the body that will oversee the different gardens. The idea is the host building will look after the site, and that these projects will serve as a template for further projects on campus. This has funding support, but can get caught up in bureaucracy. The UVSP wants to be the stewards of the SUB garden and submit a proposal with the UVSS to push this project forward.

Sall asked who will be responsible for the SUB garden.

Kerr said the UVSS will be officially responsible, but the UVSP will take care of it.

Harrison raised a concern about upkeep.

Kerr said that the Office of Campus Planning is funding the project and funding will be secure. They will be the overseeing group. There is no official commitment from the UVSP but they're passionate about doing this.

Comrie asked who will draft the letter.

Harrison said it's usually the chairperson, but that she will work with Meghan in this case.

Melissa asked how we will stop the bunnies from getting at the garden.

Kerr said we will put up fences. This hasn't been a huge problem in the campus community gardens. The bigger problem is deer. The fencing will be a minimal cost.

Coccola asked if the board can see the letter prior to it being sent.

Harrison said it can be sent over board listserv.

Motion Carried

b. NEW BUSINESS

Motion 2009/08/24: 01 -- Harrison/Kerr

BIRT nominations be opened for one undergraduate student registered in Human and Social Development to sit on the Committee for the Appointment of the Dean of Human and Social Development.

Harrison said the term is ending for the current dean, and that this is a big time commitment. She read out the committee meeting schedule.

Motion Carried

No nominations were made.

Motion 2009/08/24: 02 -- Kerr/Hardie

BIRT nominations be opened for one undergraduate student representative to attend Humanities Faculty meetings for the 2009/2010 term.

Motion Carried

Dylan nominated himself. Robb nominated herself.

Dylan was elected by secret ballot.

Motion to Ratify -- Sall/McKenzie

BIRT Dylan Hardie be ratified as the representative to the Faculty of Humanities for the 2009/2010 term.

Motion Carried

Motion 2009/08/24: 03 – Kerr/Sall

BIRT nominations be opened for one undergraduate student to sit on the Search Committee for Chair of Biology.

Motion to Table – Kerr/McKenzie

Kerr said that two students are interested in the position, but one of them couldn't make it and it wouldn't be fair.

Hardie asked when the committee starts meeting.

Kerr said it's not for awhile.

Motion to Table Carried

Motion 2009/08/24: 04 – Harrison/Coccola

BIRT nominations be opened for one undergraduate student registered in the Faculty of Social Sciences to sit on the Faculty Curriculum Committee for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Harrison said that each year a student gets to sit on this committee. They consider new courses and programs, change or eliminate existing ones, etc.

Motion Carried

Sall nominated Mike Renaud.

Point of Information – Comrie asked if Humanities is separate from Social Sciences, and is Political Science in Humanities.

Harrison said yes and no, Political Science is a Social Science.

Staples asked how often the committee will meet.

Harrison said probably no more than once a month.

Coccola nominated Jose Barrios. Harrison nominated Meaghan Kerr.

Meaghan Kerr was elected by secret ballot.

Motion to Ratify – Coccola/Pullman

BIRT Meaghan Kerr be ratified as the representative to the Faculty of Social Sciences Curriculum Committee for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Motion Carried

Motion 2009/08/24: 05 – Harrison/Pullman

BIRT Board Policy Part VII be amended to add the following, as recommended by Organisational Development:

6. With the exception of leaves of absence, illness, or emergency, Directors who miss three [3] consecutive scheduled meetings of a committee to which they have been elected will be considered resigned from that committee.
 - a. Written warning shall be provided to a Director upon missing the second meeting.

- b. The Director shall be considered to have resigned from that committee upon adjournment of the first meeting missed after having received written warning.
- c. Resignation from that committee shall be communicated to the Director in writing.

Point of Personal Privilege – Robb asked for a section of the policy to be read again.

Harrison re-read the section.

Harrison said we have a bylaw about directors missing board meetings, but another aspect of director's duties is attending committees. Over the year directors get elected and then some don't attend. This policy is about accountability but also about ensuring that we have quorum at committees.

Point of Information – Hall asked this policy will have less weight because it's not in the bylaws.

Groves explained the difference between bylaws and policy, and that they essentially carry the same weight.

Comrie asked if you were forced to resign and then started showing up, could a director be reinstated.

Harrison said yes by attending three consecutive meetings, unless it's a closed committee.

Kerr said there are some committees that you can only be elected to, so we need directors to show up.

Hardie said that Part b contradicts the idea of missing consecutive meetings.

Robb said she is speaking against the motion. She said she's in favour of maximum involvement, but before we take a punitive approach, we should see if there's a problem with the committees. We should assess students' experience on committees. She said some directors may be being irresponsible, but she doesn't think that's a problem. This policy might have the opposite effect that's intended, and make people become less involved.

Pullman said he's in favour of the motion. The problem is chronic absenteeism. He said he's in favour of removing "consecutive" and make it 3 missed meetings period.

Comrie said she's in favour of the motion. She said we need this in policy because this issue has been looked at, and the reason seems to be that people are not placing a high enough importance on committees. She said this policy is fairly lenient, but we need policy that will hold directors accountable. She asked if we would appoint new directors to the committees if directors were forced to resign.

Harrison said yes.

Coccola said he's against the motion. He said his own experience this summer has been that he's wanted to be involved, but had work commitments, and with this policy he would have been removed from ERC. He said the biggest issue is for closed committees, where there won't be a lot of members to make quorum. He said that members at large that don't attend committees should have the same penalty.

Kerr said that this policy is pretty lenient, and doesn't place huge barriers on directors. She said the policy is not meant to punish, but just to hold directors accountable who aren't doing their job. Legitimate reasons for directors missing meetings would be taken into consideration, so you would not get kicked off a committee because of work or class. She said the policy is written this way because it is similar wording to the bylaws on attending board meetings.

Point of Information – Comrie asked how many times a director can speak to a motion.

Harrison said twice.

Harrison said it was discussed in OD what would happen if a committee is scheduled during class time, and they decided that would be an extenuating circumstance.

Motion to Amend – Hardie/Coccola

BIRT section 6.b be amended to change "first meeting missed" to "third consecutive meeting missed."

Hardie said this amendment makes the policy consistent. He said this policy just applies elected committee positions, and if a director obtains voting rights by attending meetings then this policy wouldn't apply.

Motion to Refer to OD – Comrie/Sall

Comrie said she appreciates the time and effort spent on this policy, but her main concern is directors who have legitimate reasons for missing meetings. She said she hesitates on making amendments to policy motions at board meetings.

Sall said she's in favour of referring. She said work commitments should be added to the list of exceptions. She said the policy should include the fact that minutes are not being taken at committees.

Harrison said the committee chair takes attendance.

Point of Information – Hall asked if there is a witness who signs those.

Harrison said no, but the chair of the committee keeps notes.

Hall said he's in favour of referring. He said it's important that meeting attendance is documented properly. He said that this policy could be manipulated to kick people off committees for political reasons.

Harrison said that motions keep getting referred back to committees and then the directors with issues don't show up, resulting in committees having the same discussions. She asked directors to please come to OD if they have issues with this policy. She said the reason why there are not a lot of exceptions is because the wording is similar to the bylaws, and also policy needs to be broad.

Hardie passed speaking rights to Foster. Foster asked if the committee sets meeting times and can the chair change the time.

Harrison said usually the chair tries to work with everyone's schedule.

Comrie said usually there is a staff person at every meeting, and they act as a witness as to who's there. She said that sometimes there are good reasons why directors can't make meetings, and there should be an acknowledgement that of outside of illness and emergency.

Kerr said the point of this policy is that boards don't function properly if directors don't get involved in committees. She asked directors to come to OD with ideas drafted as amendments. She said this policy is one aspect of committees, and that attendance would be covered under a separate section.

Pullman said he's against referring. He said the intent of motion is to deal with chronic absenteeism. He said other issues have been raised here, but you can't account for all scenarios in policy, because it makes policy writing tedious and impossible. He said in theory, if a director is working and unable to attend, they could lose their voting rights, but we shouldn't try to account for a bunch of situations that might not occur. He said this leads to nothing getting done.

Robb said she's in favour of referring, and asked if OD is an open committee.

Harrison said yes. She said when OD was meeting next.

Motion to Refer Carried

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

There were no motions submitted.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Metcalfe asked if we can reschedule OD.

Harrison said that the meeting has been scheduled around the elected members, and that there is also policy requiring 48 hours notice before meetings. She said the date would have to be changed, but she would try to schedule another OD meeting soon around more people's schedule.

Sall asked if the motion could not be discussed at the next OD meeting, but at the meeting after instead.

Harrison said that would depend on what happens at OD.

Pritchard said the renovations to SUBtext are finished, and that everyone should come take a look.

9. MEETING TIMES

The next meeting scheduled by the Board of Directors is:
Monday, September 14th, 2009 in the SUB Upper Lounge at 6:00pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT
Motion to Adjourn -- Coccola/Staples
Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.