

Call to Order – 12:01 pm, November 19, 2014 | Executive Conference Room

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

President (*chair*)..... Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President Finance..... Adam Potvin
Vice President Student Services Zied Masmoudi
Vice President External Relations Darwin Binesh
Vice President Student Services Kayode Fatoba (*late*)
Vice President University Relations Moe Kopahi

Society Staff

Build SFU General Manager..... Marc Fontaine
Build SFU Administrative Coordinator..... Sabiha Jukic
Campaigns, Policy, and Research Coordinator Pierre Cassidy
Executive Director..... Colleen Knox
Student Union Organiser..... Antonio Daling
Minute Taker Dion Chong

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-19:01

Potvin

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Townhall discussion added.

Updates struck MT would send email on that issue..

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-19:02

Kopahi

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-11-05

CARRIED

4. Discussions

a. Special General Meeting – January 21st – West Gym

The Board of Directors had called a special general meeting, which could for approached in two ways.

The organization could choose to hold the SGM solely to review the Build SFU motions passed at the AGM. This would ensure that the focus of the proceedings remain on the Build SFU project, thus avoiding any confusion in the messaging and the promotion of the event, particularly given the problems that the Society already faces with communicating to the membership.

As all members waiting in line could enter SFU Theatre after these motions, there was no perceived need to vote upon all matters from the AGM again.

- Messaging on the website acknowledging a principled issue of members being unable to vote, there may be issues with perceptions of the AGM being rendered invalid. It may be ideal for the SGM to focus exclusively on Build SFU.

As an alternative, since resources would already be invested into an SGM, the meeting could be used to achieve other goals simultaneously. Since quorum was not always assured at such meetings, the Board may wish consider putting forward issues such as governance reform and levy restructuring to the membership, and such changes could be phased in beyond the terms of the current Board as well. If the membership was being asked reapprove matters that they had already took time to approve, it may be desirable for another matter to peak the interest of the membership. Such matters could including non-binding issues to gauge opinions on matters applicable to the entire membership. These may include targeted funding towards the food bank programme or international student bursaries, or discussions on the future of the Highland Pub (although the membership did opt to avoid discussing the matter at the AGM). Potential discussion could inform Society actions moving forward, including potential advocacy priorities, although there was some concern that such fact-finding questions may be seen as disingenuous.

Executive Committee had been reviewing the matter since immediately after the AGM, even prior to issues being risen by the membership. It was expressed that holding the SGM would ensure that members have the right to vote regardless of the matter, and that member interest was considered positive to the work of the Society.

The committee was reminded that the investment into the SGM was a minor amount in the grand scheme of the project, and it would be desirable for the Build SFU project to have as much positive attention.

Governance Reform at the SGM – It was recommended for approval of governance reforms are advertised at X, in order to avoid having to read out each bylaw change necessary for the governance reform. The CRPC would ensure that everyone was aware as possible. The major areas of reform would be to replace FARM with unpaid volunteers representing the faculty student unions through a reformed council, change to stipend accorded to councilors, change to the definition of constituency groups, and changes to the budgeting process to allow for the incoming board to determine its own budget..

The Executive Committee was reminded that the AGM was a successful endeavor and the Society was simply overburdened by its own success.

Fatoba entered 12:15pm

A director indicated that it may be desirable for the agenda to be distributed well in advance such that the membership could begin discussions early on the matter prior to bringing concerns and opinions to the committee.

The committee could provide a report on director-membership consultations. This would allow the Society to provide a report on the membership's requests and issues, as well as a board response, and would allow the membership to recognize the proactive nature of the organization.

The SGM was seen as a potential opportunity to review the relations with the university. The Vice President External Relations was considering a general engagement strategy/guide with the membership, university, and external groups, to ensure a regularized approach to organizational engagement with its stakeholders.

Messaging – it was requested that a low risk item be added to the agenda which would be of interest to the membership. It was expressed that all directors had to be on the same page to ensure coherent messaging.

Communications Coordinator would be on vacation soon and it would be necessary for any request to be submitted well in advance for preparation. A direct answer to question to why the SGM was being held had to be circulated to the staff. Further, the workload priorities had to be considered in the impact of the SGM to other society projects.

Proposed Secondary Item(s) (*more strongly identified items bolded*):

- Money – the membership constantly had questions around funding and would draw the membership in to vote, regardless of those in support and those against. **Matters relating to clubs**
 - Development of incubator for students developing startups through classes
- **Moving into the Student Union Building** – permission of a services review or some programming which would provide for an avenue of consultation with the membership on Society services.
- Space Expansion levy – reduction to student costs and redirecting majority of funding towards the enhancement of student service
 - Executive Committee had to be reminded that reallocation should potentially go towards FSUs as not all would be collecting a levy.
 - May spark an internal debate to where funding is going.
- **Non-binding consultation on Greek life** – would bring in membership interested in the matter
 - Controversial matter – there were members both highly in support and highly against the establishment of Greek Life.
 - Non-binding, as the Society did not have the authority to dictate the actions of the university.
- **Needs based fee allocation**

Questions were raised around venue selection, as Convocation Mall had a large capacity, and the membership could be provided with blankets and soup should weather be a concern. It was expressed that Convocation mall was the same size as West Gym, weather would be an issue in drawing out the membership, and the space required the SFSS to rent seats, which had not exceeded 300 seats in the past.

Quorum may not be held after the Build SFU items – The street team would be focused exclusively on promoting the Build SFU questions.

Deadline for the agenda would be 21 days prior to the meeting.

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-19:03

Kopahi

Be it resolved that EXEC recommend to BOD to consider adding the Greek Life situation as a non-binding discussion item at the Special General Meeting.

This may allow the organization to mobilizing as many student bases as possible. The committee was reminded that the Peak would be present the board meeting, and it would be

more desirable for the Directors to have specifics on the matter prior to bringing the matter to Board.

The first presenter at the Greek Life townhall indicated the mandate of the greek life was to engage with SFU, rather than a desire to be housed under the SFSS. The SGM item could only task the organization to take a stance on Greek life on campus. As an external organization, the Society could only lobby, as opposed to making hard decisions. To date, the Vice President University Relations and At-Large Representative Langmead have only been tasked to support discussions with GRID, without providing a formal stance on the matter.

CARRIED

The Executive Committee was in consensus of the following:

Project Lead: Vice President Student Services with assistance from Build SFU.

Messaging: SGM date, with Build SFU items, and at least one other item TBD by EXEC by end of week. SGM will be the primary priority across the organization, and is being conducted in order to allow all students to vote on matters of importance to the Society.

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-19:04

Kopahi

Be it resolved to appoint Zied Masmoudi as the SGM lead.

It was understood that the project would continue with EXEC and BOD support.

CARRIED

Action Item: President would distribute an internal memo to board and staff on the matter.

All students were able to attend after the Build items, and approving agenda and minutes. As such, it may be desirable not to revisit non-contentious issues. However, there was significant concern from a number of members around the process of the AGM, and the organization may wish to protect itself from any assertions of wrongdoing. In redoing all AGM items, approval of AGM minutes were the only additional matter necessary.

b. Agenda Item Workflow

POSTPONED

c. Townhall Event – November 27th – AQ 3150

It may be more desirable for a townhall series to be conducted up until the AGM, which would allow the membership to actively express their concerns and opinions on the SFSS to the Board of Directors. Such events were projected to require minimal staff resources beyond that of regular communications, although notetaking may be necessary. Build SFU space could also potentially be used for consultation purposes. This would also allow for recording of the feedback and promote the Build SFU project.

Questions were raised on the expected commitment of the Executive Officers, as it was unlikely that all board members could be present.

Funding would also become necessary and the Executive Committee may wish have a discussion regarding the source of any such funding.

Messaging - each townhall event could be focused on a different topics, or the topic could be member driven.

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-19:05

Fatoba

Be it resolved to task Vice President Student Life and Vice President External Relations to develop the townhall at November 27 at AQ3150

CARRIED

5. Adjournment 1:27pm

DC /CUPE 3338