

Call to Order – 9:38 am, November 20, 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 (*late*)
Vice President External Relations Darwin Binesh
Vice President University Relations Moe Kopahi

Society Staff

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

Absence

Vice President Student Services Kayode Fatoba

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-20:01

Binesh

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Townhall Discussion added

CARRIED

3. Discussions

a. Special General Meeting

The committee was reminded that any additional agenda items had to drawn in the membership and also had to be simple enough to avoid confusing them. There was the desire to bring in members from multiple demographics who would have a vested interest in any of these matters.

The levy reallocation would not put forward in its entirety at this time, although the opportunity was still available to reallocate a smaller amount towards an initiative of the Board's choosing. There was concern that students would potentially move to eliminate fees altogether. Typically, all fee collection and change to fee collection would require referendum, as per the Universities Act. This effectively eliminated the option for fee changes. There was concern that any attempt to reinterpret the Universities Act could be perceived negatively by the membership.

Any club consultation and club policy development could be done outside of the SGM context through other channels. It would also likely be difficult to have a room full of the membership to discuss the intricacies of club policies and practices.

There was concern that, given the recommendation of the Greek life discussion to Board, it would be unlikely that time would allow for a second agenda item to be added.

Masmoudi entered at 9:50am

Recommendations for agenda items for the townhall were provided:

- Clarification of the FSU establishment process within the bylaws
- Board of Directors Code of Conduct
- Transfer of funds from space expansion to another project, such as international student bursary
- Kinder Morgan Pipeline

There was concern around the use of the “non-binding” term for the Greek life discussion piece. The University had banned Greek Life organizations, but any decision made by the membership would still be binding on the SFSS to advocate on behalf of the groups. There was concern raised that consensus was not reached at Executive Committee, and that there was significant confusion around the item. The University has indicated its support for discussions at the townhall, and the SFSS has already provided support for the Greek life discussion. Given work that had already been completed by a number of board members, there was concern that the inclusion of such a topic may undo the work of the board. Major consultation could begin on Greek life with constituency groups. The goal of introducing the topic was to engage the membership and encourage them to attend the SGM, and such a topic was likely to bring in a large number of members, both in support of and against fraternities.

There was concern that discussions from Greek Life would not be fruitful, as the society could not provide this, although the Board could provide a membership mandate to the next board of directors to prioritize lobbying the university.

Without consensus from the committee, a member recommended to retain the Build SFU and Greek Life items on the agenda to encourage mass membership presence at the SGM.

Build SFU could share some renderings of the stadium and fieldhouse, but there was minimal consultation needed given the type of facilities.

It was expressed that significant effort was needed to promote the SGM, and any attempt to promote any other items would result in confusion and communication failure, particularly given reduction in available street team members and the inability to communicate with the membership effectively during the month of December.

Communications Office had indicated that consistent brand recognition would assist with supporting the project and would simplify messaging should the board choose to promote the Build SFU items exclusively.

The Annual General Meeting included significant time spent to add items to the agenda, and the hope was that a number of concerns previously raised at the AGM could be discussed at the townhall level.

It was expressed that, given issues with reaching consensus at the EXEC level, it may not be ideal to bring forward an agenda item which may potentially undermine messaging around the the Build SFU project and cause further controversy.

The Vice President Finance indicated that \$50,000 could be transferred from the space expansion fund to international student bursaries, and would only require SGM approval for such a transfer. Particularly given SFSS Advocacy Committee work on the subject, this would be a natural action arising from the efforts. There was concern that, given lack of funding in a number of areas, clubs and student unions would not be in favour, particularly given the higher levels of involvements from these groups within the branches of the SFSS. The goal was originally to have a complimentary discussion item to enhance the attendee numbers, and thus such a discussion would likely be of little risk to the Society.

A director indicated that any antagonistic members would continue to view the SFSS in a negative light, including any discussion topics or any actions at the AGM. There was a desire to avoid increasing risk to the Society, however it was expressed that the organization could handle criticism and needed membership participation on the SGM, positive and negative.

It was recommended that the Build and Greek Life items be recommended to Board, given the lack of consensus in the discussion. The decision would be finalized.

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-20:02

Kopahi/Amended Bueckert

Whereas the SFSS Board of Directors has requested that the University establish a international student degree completion fund;

Be it resolved to recommend to Board of Directors to consider recommending to the Special General Meeting a transfer of \$50,000 from the Space Expansion Fund to the aforementioned degree completion fund for international undergraduate students.

Be it further resolved that the SFSS advocate that the university match the contribution.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

In consultation with legal counsel, the AGM had been deemed entirely valid. As an organization, the SFSS had a principled issue with members not being able to vote and thus was hosting an SGM to allow all members to vote on matters of importance. It had been expressed that it was the prerogative of the Board to choose to reapprove any and all procedural matters.

The written opinion from legal counsel would be circulated to the Executive Committee.

b. Agenda Item Workflow

POSTPONED

c. Townhall – November 27

The goal of the Townhall was to bring in students, listen to issues, allow the organization to reach out to the membership and collate their ideas and concerns, with the primary theme of listening. The townhall would allow the Board to take in feedback and solve issues proactively prior to the SGM. All feedback would be received by Board members, and discussions would be conducted internally to attempt to solve as many issues as possible. It was indicated that all

Board members had to remain composed throughout the process, as it was an opportunity for the membership to express issues in an open environment.

4. Adjournment

DC /CUPE 3338