Minutes of the AMS Legislative Procedures Committee
March 12, 2015

Attendance

Present: Jenna Omassi, Marjan Hatai, Mark Bankroft, Veronica Knott, Angela Tien, Delaney Griffiths, Sheldon Goldfarb.


Regrets: Jeff Pea

Recording Secretary: Jenna Omassi

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Agenda
   Move: Marjan, Second: Delaney
   Jenna: strike President’s Commission, add Position Statements
   Passes unanimously

2. Build AMS
   Jenna: No updates, meeting this week.

3. Policies
   Lauren’s policy - SAC approval
   Mark’s policy - consultations almost finished

4. Executive Director
   Jenna: We are going to be consolidating all Code sections on the executive director, creating a section for them, like the General Manager or one of the executives.
   Sheldon: There is a definition and what they have to do, here and there mentions, they hire senior staff. The General Manager is in the bylaws and their section doesn’t say much. Their duties are very technical.
Jenna: Where should they be put in Code? It doesn’t have to say much, there should just be somewhere we can refer if we want to know about the ED position, their pay and who hires them... 
Sheldon: They could be put with the executives, but they are also with services. We could have a separate article, right after associate VPs we could put in. 
Jenna: Definitions to be included. 
**Action Item: Sheldon to draft a change**

5. **In Camera Code**

Jenna: The main issue is having proxies in camera and how they are voted to stay in/leave. I have spoken to Abdul and he agrees with Sheldon, as long as we don’t lose quorum during voting. 
Sheldon: One suggestion is to vote before going in camera. 
Jenna: The problem with this is that the motivation for them to stay/leave may be confidential and at that point people who may need to leave are hearing what the in camera session is about. 
Sheldon: Proxies can provisionally stay, at least you can get into camera and don’t automatically lose quorum. That is what this allows. The proxies can’t vote but are provisionally there. The only other flaw I see is that the motivation will be known to proxies. 
Veronica: Though there is a little problem of confidentiality, which is more functional, works a lot better. 
Mark: The quorum issue is still there, but this is better. 
Sheldon: I added another section in paragraph B to allow for another in-camera motion to hold. This is part of the conflict of issue portion, allowing us to have a conflict of interest vote in camera. 
**Move: Angela, Second: Veronica** 
PASSES UNANIMOUSLY 
**Action: Sheldon to send to Joanne**

6. **President’s Commission**

7. **Agenda Code Changes**

Jenna: We decided to consolidate the code changes about statements from students at large, policy consultations and questions during reports. 
Sheldon: We are also including the accompanying motions with presentations, to be put right after presentations. 
Jenna: These changes are all much needed and asked for by councillors. Should
Q stay then? Additionally, can councillors still put forward motions and not just committees?
Sheldon: We allow 2 councillors to put forward a motion and we could leave Q.
Marjan: Q should stay.
Mark: One case, in terms of there is a lot of discussion, would it be up to the discretion of agenda committee to put it at the end?
Veronica: Yes!
Jenna: What do we think of questions to president, executives, executive director and committees.
Lauren: If doing for execs, makes sense for standing committees (or those who provide a report)
Move: Angela, Second: Veronica
Passes unanimously
Action: Sheldon to send to Joanne

8. Conflict of Interest Beyond Motions
Jenna: This is the same set of code changes that we looked at in October/November, but I would like to re-visit to see if we will continue working on it and finish it, or decide it is something the committee would not like to carry on with. Currently if someone has a conflict of interest, they just cannot speak during motions, but if it is just discussion they are allowed to weigh in, which can still affect a vote/motion later on.
Marjan: What is the need to have ‘an apparent’ conflict of interest?
Sheldon: Article 10 explains the apparent conflict, which is different from actual conflict of interest.
Veronica: I think it is important to include ‘apparent’.
Jenna: What do you think about having conflict of interest beyond motions?
Veronica: I don’t think it is essential to the actions of the society, normally that is only in relation to a motion. If we are having a discussion I wouldn’t say it is as necessary to acknowledge it.
Sheldon: In this committee itself, Tanner spoke about PAI, but there was no motion, so anything we say they are not normally motions on the table, but there is still an apparent conflict. You can still influence the discussion.
Veronica: Then that makes sense.
Jenna: No other changes suggested by Daniel or Ross.
Sheldon: The other person who also commented are Ken.
Jenna: Overall changes Tanner talked about was looking at the way in which we look at ‘conflict of interest’
Motion to send to Council pending Ken’s approval
Move: Mark, Second: Delaney
Passes unanimously
Action: Jenna to consult Ken, and then Sheldon to send to Joanne

9. Agenda Committee
Jenna: The Agenda Committee needs to be reformed, to ensure that it meets and that the making of the agenda is more effective. Do we want to keep agenda com?
Veronica: The implications for not having Agenda Committee, creating reasonable expectations for time and filter presentations to committees. It is important to have an agenda com. The reason council is ineffective and ineffective is because of the lack of a functional agenda committee.
Jenna: What do you think of the composition?
Sheldon: Should we be looking at the proposed changes Graham has in the summer?
Action: Sheldon to send Jenna code changes from Graham.
Veronica: I would say that an agenda can’t be sent to Council without going through agenda committee. Code should be more restrictive. It is the only way to hold agenda committee accountable.
Jenna: Composition?
Veronica: It is appropriate to have the standing committee chairs there, I think it is fine. Speaker and Clerk of Council should be included.
Jenna: D to transitions of chairs and E to Hiring Committee.
Sheldon: Agenda needs to be approved by agenda committee?
Veronica: Quorate meeting.
Jenna: What if there is not quorum and the agenda is not sent out?
Sheldon: What about C? And if committees don’t meet they can call a meeting (Section V, Article 1, Paragraph 12)
Jenna: We should strike C. The other paragraph can stay.
Action: Sheldon to draft

10. Capital Projects Fund

11. Funds Streamlining
Jenna: We need to talk about funds and if they should be consolidated in the way in which they are invigilated. This was something suggested to us to look into when we were looking at the Sexual Assault Initiatives Fund.
Sheldon: Others include the competitive clubs funding, from Mat. What about repairs and replacement for SUB management and define something in Code?
We amended the bylaw and said something would be defined in Code.
Action: Jenna to work with Daniel and Mateusz, talk to Keith about SUB repairs and replacement (from bylaws).

12. Position Statements
Jenna: We discussed ‘position statements’ with Pierre and UNECOR, to allow for these to take the place of External Policies for short term positions of the society.
Sheldon: It could go right next to policies (Section II, Article 11) we could make a separate article on position statements.
Action: Jenna to ask Pierre to send along what he envisions to Sheldon

Action: Add Oversight Overhaul Changes to agenda for next week

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is 12:30pm March 5, 2015 in SUB 266J

Adjourn

1. Moved Veronica, Seconded Angela

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm