Minutes of the AMS Governance Committee
Aug 2, 4pm – NEW SUB 3529

Invited
Mackenzie Lockhart (Chair), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Cameron England (Councillor), Pooja Bhatti (Executive), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Akhil Jobanputra (Guest),

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm

Agenda Items

1. Approval of the Agenda
Moved: Cam Seconded: Pooja
That the agenda be adopted.
Finance changes - Alim isn’t here, deal with it later
Jakob can't make it to the meeting, so no discussion on Interim Executives

2. Elections Overhaul
Moved: Mac Seconded: Jeanie
That the code change titled “Code changes 2017 Elections Overhaul” be recommended to Council for adoption.

Max is no longer able to help - we're on our own

Last time - talking about what could be called a polling station

7G - liked what we put down last time "for the purpose of this provision, a poling station shall include any computer used by the elections committee, poll clerks, candidates of their volunteers on which more Han one voter is catsting a vote" --&gt; candidate or their volunteers couldn't go around handing their laptop out to people
“A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who, as a group, can meet and decide that nothing can be done.”

Candidates and campaign organizations - should it be physical, or website/social media pages?

For the most part, poster boards (but not going to have posters anymore)

Insert physical

Conflict of interest:

Copied from the elections handbook

Re-wrote what Max said, direct recommendation from council

10F - process for reimbursements

Much to ask from the elections committee to have that final say

Everyone could be eligible for reimbursements

Before: certain number of votes

However no one gets a vote total in the end - Max wanted elections committee to decide - Mac thinks everyone is reimbursed

Could get rid of f and g - not saying anything

Move that we remove the new ‘f’ and removing the old ‘f and g’ at the same time

Second: Pooja

Cam: maybe the reason some of that was put there so there would be a process where they don’t - so campaign violations, maybe leaving the freedom

Somewhere else - penalties

Isn’t possible with condorcet
“A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who, as a group, can meet and decide that nothing can be done.”

Penalties - where we going to define what constitutes serious, intermediate - seems to be open to the elections committee - what is a serious offence

Max wanted o leave it open to elections committee

'Including but not limited to...'

outside of the realm of what's going to happen, but let's say that we get a bad ELections committee one year - and a serious offence is something that wasn't considered beforehand

Elections committee should define these things

No objections - motion passes unanimously

Referendum regulations - confidential manner

Shouldn't publicize ? Discret ? Problem in the past when VP Sustainability refereundum

..."without publicizing the nature of the question through AMS communication outlets"?

..."and shall not discuss the question except with members of council or senior managers" <---

8. (B) - option? Is it a thing? Came about with the first BDS referendum (vote anything but yes)

Many didn't want to advocate a no vote

Don't think supporting 'abstain' is a legitimate option

Suggestions - remove 'option' in 'side or option'

Next time it happens, say against yes, would have to vote no

Moved by Mac, seconded by Cam

Motion passes, Jeanie abstains

Funding for Yes or No committees - 150 to 250; why?

10-30 days - could be very difficult to get 250 votes
“A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who, as a group, can meet and decide that nothing can be done.”

Moved by Mac, seconded by Pooja

Motion passes unanimously

Why Yes or No committees not keep minutes - historically, never keep minutes

Doesn't seem necessary - but spending society's money?

Would have to have votes on how to spend their money

Never been done; also candidates don't write minutes

Publications of funding - why remove? 7 days was for elections committee to get their shit together - want to restore this, but change to '2 business days of the receipt of a petition or motion of council calling a referendum' <-- can dig up the bylaws to confirm how this should be worded '....(two business days of the receipt of a petition by the vp aua...."

Moved by Mac, seconded by Jeanie

Motion passes unanimously

Article 5, 2; 250 personnel hours?

At least 4 hours per voting day during society elections and referenda

6 (c)

Moved over - instead of having things in person, have them online

Article 7,5,f,V

There are strategic ways to vote - that makes first place votes not necessarily meaningful
“A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who, as a group, can meet and decide that nothing can be done.”

Suggest if there is no clear winner, directly to a coin toss (50% prefer A to B, 50% prefer B and A)

Strike 'the candidate with the most first place rankings shall be declared the winner. If there is no clear winner,'

Article 11 - if we ever need to do paper ballots, Elections committee can decide

Article 13 is crossed out

Moved Mac, seconded Jeanie

Motion passes unanimously

3. Constituency Reporting (Discussion)

We’ll discuss constituency reporting (the recommendation left from the ad-hoc committee on constituencies) to arrive at direction for how we’ll proceed.

Do we want to put in in code? A policy?

Policy? Code?

2 page report on what constituency is up to in council twice a year

A way of informing, making sure doing your work

Could write one policy on this, put this in code

Send to president’s council for their handbook - but the handbook is being made by VP Admin

So send to VP Admin

Put in code under president’s council is that their duties is to oversee twice yearly reports, and reports can be defined in the handbook for president's council

Financial accountability - VP Finance is already doing that
“A committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who, as a group, can meet and decide that nothing can be done.”

Good to make sure keeping in check, making sure to know what the accounting role does

We draft up language for code 'requiring takes place in president's council, goes in handbook'

Get Alim's idea in the next meeting

Appendix D - requiring them to do that

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: TBD but in about 2 weeks.

Adjourn

That the meeting be adjourned at 3:04 pm.