AMS Clubs and Societies Working Group
Minutes of the April 15th, 2021 Meeting | Zoom

Attendance

Present: Nicolas Williams (Chair), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (Vice-Chair), Arnaud Dione (Clubs Administrator), Tommy Xu (CRC Manager), Mary Gan (AVP Finance), Suyoung Ahn (Clubs and Constituencies Financial Administrator)

Regrets:

Call to Order
Moved by Sylvester, Seconded by Tommy
The meeting was called to order at

Land Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda
Moved by Suyoung, Seconded by Tommy
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is adopted as presented.

1. Discussing the terms of the clubs audit
   a. Operations Committee has assigned Clubs & Societies Working Group to complete a Clubs Audit by September 1st, 2021.
   b. Sylvester: Let’s start by talking about why this is necessary:
      i. Club Renewals: Submissions are made, but because it occurs during the transition, people do not take the time to look at these submissions.
         1. Allows bylaw changes that are harmful to build up over time.
      ii. Nicolas: Important to consider two other areas, finances and values/stated goals.
         1. Mary: Try to identify potential problems in terms of debt. Look at club financial statements.
         2. Suyoung: Don’t really check for systemic issues. But there are clubs with external influences that we should be on the lookout for.
            a. For example, clubs send money to their headquarters instead of reinvesting it into the UBC community.
3. Difficult to look at all TBs, so may be best to consider what clubs are most likely to be not operating in the best interest of the students (i.e. clubs with headquarters).

iii. Sylvester: We could try to collect all this information for the next team before they start.

iv. Other areas to consider:
   1. Election of executives who are no longer UBC students
   2. Looking at what club’s stated goals are vs. what they stated at their founding, comparing that to what they’re doing now.
   3. Membership make-up; are they active members of the Society.

v. Sylvester: Best to share with the coming team what the context is behind some of these decisions.

c. Nicolas: My recommendation is to split the work to different members of the committee, do their analysis on their own and then come back to the WG.
   i. Alternative: Tommy says each could do a different section of it.

d. Nicolas: What are our options in terms of remedies:
   i. Sylvester: Have multiple options available. Can recommend changes to clubs who have bylaw changes.
      1. However, in other situations, if clubs are extremely in violation, deconstitution may be necessary.
      2. Mergers are also another option.
   ii. Clubs could have a strike limit, if they fail to respond to our recommendations.
   iii. Tommy: Should we have some kind of scale to help adjudicate what remedies should be offered?
      1. Nicolas: Not necessary, I think it would be best to be flexible.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:58pm