

Minutes of the AMS Steering Committee

July 7th, 2021

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (AMS President), Emily Gubski (Chair of Student Life Committee), Eshana Bhangu (AMS VP Academic and University Affairs), Joanne Pickford (Administrative Assistant), Katherine Feng (Chair of Governance Committee and Operations Committee), Lauren Benson (AMS VP Administration), Mary Gan (AMS VP Finance), Romina Hajizadeh (Chair of HR Committee), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist)

Regrets:

Recording Secretary: Emily Covell (Executive Assistant to the AMS President)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Moved: Mary Seconded: Eshana

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the June 16th Steering Committee meeting be approved and sent to AMS Council”

4. Code Change

Cole: Approval of the code change to remove the student at large?

Everyone: approved.

Cole: Great, this will go to council then.

5. Committee Updates

Mary: Update on Finance Committee,

- Taking over the budget two times a week!

Joanne: Are you going to bring that to council?

Mary: Yes. Also approving some projects (signage project), but mostly budget.

Sheldon: For signage, according to code, you need to do a consultation first, then go to council.

Cole: We have money left over in the sub management reserve, \$150,000 or something (that is way under budget). Why don't we change it to come out of that instead? That way we don't have to worry about consultation, and it can go straight to council.

Sheldon: I'll look into it.

Mary: Let's plan to change the fund designation in Finance Committee on Friday.

Emily: Update on Student Life Committee,

- In the upcoming meeting, we will be finding a first chair and finding someone to appoint for the Ad Hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement.
- Did we find out what happened to the grad gift?

Cole: I don't think it was ever formally approved.

Sheldon: Council is supposed to be informed.

Cole: I'll follow up with campus community planning on a grad class gift and figure it out.

Emily: What is the Ad Hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement?

Cole: It is looking to improve the election process.

Emily: Also looking forward, just trying to figure out which direction I will take the committee.

Cole: There are new requirements about keeping in touch, to inform specific people and facilitate presentation to council about events -- touch base with me about that.

Lauren: Update on Affiliates Committee and Events Committee,

- Affiliates Committee: Meeting's have been more informal, and there will probably be a few more of those.
- Events Committee: I realize I still haven't gotten everyone together yet, so I will get on that.

Cole: Final report due end of November, should have an update at the July meeting -- make sure to get an extension?

Sheldon: I'll look into that.

Eshana: Update on Advocacy Committee,

- Meeting again once before council, last time we spoke a lot about vaccine requirements in residence.

Romina: Update on HR Committee,

- Eshana lost two employees, so trying to increase Lawrences hours from 20 to 40. I submitted a couple documents to some of you guys, those are for recommendation in council (hopefully that goes quickly).
- Regarding the CEO posting: HR got that up, but unfortunately we only see two applicants. We may push back the deadline to see if we can get more.

Cole: One of those candidates is probably very good, I recommend looking into them. I don't think you'll need to extend the deadline, I have not seen a better applicant since my time at the AMS.

Romina: Okay I trust that, we will bring that up on Friday.

Cole: I'll get that e-vote out tonight for Eshana's employee.

Katherine: An update on Governance Committee and Operations Committee,

- Regarding Governance Committee: That is great news about the CEO (lots of discussions in Governance are awaiting discussions with this person).
- Will be looking at fees in code tonight and trying to get rid of the numbers (they continue to be outdated) and putting the responsibility of keeping those numbers to the VP Finance so that students can have it updated.
- Regarding Operations Committee: Have received lots of recommendations, and are working on those things.

- Currently focusing on a few things -- a club name change (they had wanted to change their name to include 'society', but that's not allowed, so we probably won't approve that), and Finance Committee referred a topic of discussion.

Cole: I heard some intel about what direction would be taken for this whole council attendance thing, and it sounded a little complicated. I'd be happy to provide some input on that. I would suggest simplifying it to make it a bit less convoluted -- I would like to see that if individuals have a decent reason for not being able to make it, it should be allowed (it seems like we are trying to police it a bit too much).

Katherine: You're welcome to come to Governance Committee tonight, would you like the link?

Cole: Yes sure.

Emily: When are we planning to start in person council again?

Cole: July 21st! Still need to figure out how we are working the technology, and need to look into a bit of a rehearsal, but yeah, July 21st.

Emily: Bring your own dinner?

Joanne: We can get that setup quickly, we would just need approximate numbers.

Cole: Please make sure that we are using OnBoard for committees. Shout out to Romina and Mary who have been using it for every meeting! It's better for our systems, and it's easier for us to coordinate all the work that is happening in all of the committees (easier to find it all in one place), please use it if you can. By the next time we have Steering Committee, I expect every committee to be using it!

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be on July 28th, 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.