



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 21, 2022

Attendance

Present: Eshana Bhangu (President), Dana Turdy (VP Academic & University Affairs), Ben Du (VP Administration), Erin Co (VP External), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Joshua Kim (President's Office)

Regrets: Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Guests: Nadeem Kajani and Rish Das (Events)

Recording Secretary: Joshua Kim

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:13 pm in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes

- The minutes of September 15 were approved (Erin, Dana).

Welcome Back BBQ Recap:

Rish: Welcome Back BBQ, in terms of how much we were initially to lose for this event, was \$80k range; we sold around 5000 tickets; \$255k revenue. The event wasn't sold out mostly due to a lot of events being hosted in Vancouver during that week, and that affected how people wanted to spend their money and led to people not buying tickets for this event. Another thing might be pricing... we increased the ticket pricing by \$5 from Block Party, and obviously, the early birds sold out quickly, but the higher price tickets took some time to sell out. The rationale behind the increase in ticket prices was due to a general inflationary price increase with equipment. Some money was saved with the artist who was not able to make it with a much cheaper artist. Trial balance right now, revenue not shown since Showpass revenue comes at the end of this month as well alcohol sales and some sponsorship money not reflected yet. Roughly we are losing \$115k-\$120k.

Eshana: What went really well, do you think?

Rish: The work that was put into the event, as well as the staff that we hired for scanning the wristbands. What didn't go well would be the two sides of the 19+ and underage were combined, and the fence was almost going to fall over. The only incident that was stressful. Outside of that, in general, the feedback from people shows that people had a good time. The food trucks had a good time. Tried hard liquor this time, and people liked this and ordered hard liquor over coolers. RCMP was not comfortable with a merged area of 19+ and underage people together. How we planned the site, in my opinion, was good. 19+ section had a lot of people. 2500 1st years to rest being 19+, upper-year students. No major complaints so far. I do want to discuss what we want to do about the refunds for the artist who didn't show up.

Nadeem: Some also just couldn't show up.

Rish: For an event like this, the tickets are pretty non-refundable. Unless on our organizer side we do something crazy like changing the date or cancel the event. If one artist can't make it and if 90% of the event goes ahead as planned, the tickets shouldn't be refunded.

Eshana: How many refund requests?

Rish: 20-25 people.

Erin: Do concerts normally refund tickets when they are sick?

Rish: No, people normally just sell their tickets to others.

Eshana: If 20-25 people are requesting a refund, I am okay with giving them the refunds.

Rish: I don't think we should do that as that may open up an opening for others to request one.

Eshana: What do others think?

Erin & Dana: No, we shouldn't give them a refund.

Dana: About cleanup, I saw something on social media about garbage being left in the morning.

Rish: UBC came around on Saturday morning, so should've been fine.

Dana: I heard there was a couple of trash left there.

Nadeem: Made sure our team organized the garbage into groups for the cleaning crew to clean up easier.

Eshana: First time Welcome Back being this big.

Rish: September is a pretty big month for events. Not too concerned about Block Party ticket sales as a lot of people want to party at the end of the school year. People are excited to graduate and have fun. A lot easier for ticket sales for Block Party. Welcome Back BBQ is a little more challenging as on our social media, there are always other promotions as well on our channels. We didn't get our desired date as well.

Erin: Do you recommend Welcome Back BBQ being as big as it was this year next year?

Rish: Yeah, and if we can get the word out starting June, that would be great. In terms of size, I don't think that we should size down.

Eshana: Tickets should be cheaper, though.

Rish: Yeah, and if we can drop down the artists' expenditure a little bit.

Eshana: Appreciate all the work the AMS Events team put into it. Hesitant to call it a success when we are losing \$115k on an event and bring it to Council as a success. Why did French Montana sing "Unforgettable" in the middle? The amount of crowd that left after the song.

Rish: Whatever the number, I am telling you now. Please consider that we were already expecting to lose \$80k, and the \$115k-120k is just \$35k-40k over the loss we were expecting.

Eshana: Who decided the composition of the Firstweek kit items?

Rish: It's just what we've done before.

Eshana: This year seemed way more expensive.

Rish: Welcome Back BBQ tickets this year are already pretty expensive, plus the other items would increase the price of the overall kit.

Eshana: I just expect more from you guys.

Nadeem: This year, we even tried to keep the old-school bundle and the events ticket pass. The kit was just a little bit too expensive. We will now try not to sell the kits but instead give out free kits with a different composition.

BOG Submission

Dana: We must send it over today to make it to the September BOG Meeting Agenda. Extensive consultation has been done with various student groups

Updates

Ben:

- Bigger and better clubs fair with over 100 clubs + campus partners
- Even non-AMS clubs, such as CV2050
- Adding some attractions like food trucks, Super Dogs, live music, TransLink
- Way bigger price tag but spending same amount of money as we did last year from the operating budget and we're correcting the deficit with sponsors

Erin:

- Municipal election
- Provincial lobby week
- Federal lobby week
- World prescription day
- Harm reduction resources map

Dana:

- Textbook broke campaign was a success
- Updated the open letter from 2020 to be more relevant
- Doing submissions to the Board + presenting AMS priorities
- On many committees doing many things

Eshana:

- Indigenous finance guidelines were released
- Indigenous cultural month planning
- Increased mental health coverage

Kathleen:

- Areas of focus:
 - Getting food bank funding from UBC
 - Two of the safewalk vehicles aren't working properly
 - SASC agreement with SLFS
- Post from Peer Support on supporting students impacted by the unrest in Iran

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 pm.