

Bethune College Council General Meeting #9

September 23rd, 2016

5:30 pm

Bethune College, Room 203 BC
Chaired by Natan Simchovich and Cindy Truong

Meeting convened at: 5:54 PM

Roll Call:

- Voting Members: Tomás Mendes Simões, Kristine Del Rosario (left at 8:55), Joey Fahd, Syed Naqvi, Sarah Pecile, Ivana Murray, Ahmad Ali, Paul Delaney (left at 6:39), Amir Mehdi (arrived at 6:25 PM).
- Non-voting Members: Cindy Truong, Natan Simchovich, Dilveer Viridi, Kazi Mridul, Wedad Mumtaz-Sheh, Kayla Lascasas, Nima Yazdankhah, Muhammad Hasan Baig, Ryan Valerio, Rebecca Picart, Agata Szeremeta, Frank Mikhael (left at 7:07).

President's Update:

- Yorkfest was a success with a good turn out.
- Next week interviews are starting for student space coordinators for JCR and JACs.
 - After monitors are hired, they may have to under go a training involving security, so that they can be better prepared. This was discussed privately with Suzanne Park.
 - Security suggested for us to install cameras.

Orientation Chairs' Update:

- Frosh week was an overall success. Orientation chairs would like to thank everyone for their work.
- We did not hit our expected target for kit sales, we sold 30 less than expected
- Possibility of why we didn't sell enough frosh kits:
 - New buying system through York is a bit confusing and they do not advertise well.
 - Lowering frosh kit prices would not make a difference because other colleges' prices are similar to ours.
- Big thanks to Syed Naqvi for the escape room.

VP Finance's Update:

- Current bank balance: \$98,800.
- We didn't hit target for frosh kit sales, sold 30 less kits than expected. Estimated

- at \$7,000 less in sales than expected.
 - Frosh went over budget by \$4,300.
- Discussion regarding the addition of an extra \$5,000 from last year's carry over to this year's budget will be further discussed at the next meeting with the updated budget.
- Biggest issue: Lassonde has not given us a cheque due to troubles with Lassonde's signing authority. They owe us for boat cruise, bubble soccer, etc.
- All expenses for frosh are filed away and organized.
 - Updated orientation week financial break down is attached.
- Requests that no one will give confirmation of reimbursement except for our VP Finance, Natan Simchovich.
- Motion for the VP finance to call the auditor for a reduced price or else we may go to a different auditor for next year by Natan Simchovich. Seconded by Joey Fahd. Discussion:
 - Amendment by Paul Delaney: To bring back different auditor opinions in case they do not lower their prices. Seconded by Kayla Lascasas.
 - Look into Suzanne Park's family auditor
 - Vote: 8-0-0. **Motion Passed.**

VP Social's Update:

- We've only sold 25 tickets for the Blue Jays' game, more tickets need to be sold.
 - Opening up to all York's students and non-york for Monday, September 26th, 2016.
- Note for other event ticket sales: Start the selling dates earlier on from the event date.
- Working on Montreal bus schedules for clubs and casinos.
 - Must send itinerary with exact times and dates to the bus company for approval.

VP Athletics' Update:

- Lots of athletic interest during frosh week.
- First few sports of the year were bowling and the Terry Fox run, both having great turnouts.
- Inputting lots of teams. Outdoor sports have started and indoor sports are starting up soon.
 - Working on merging teams and switching things around to avoid defaults.
- Reminder to council that we agreed on all council members participating in at least one sport per semester.
- May put into action a no show/default system for players who constantly don't show up.
- BAC general members have been hired.
 - They can also help with defaults and contacting players.
- Thinking of looking into additional area for Bethune Athletic Council (BAC).

Clubs and Affiliates' Update:

- 22/24 of our clubs showed up to the Frosh week club fair.
- Only one club, Lassonde Engineering Club, reached out for club spacing.
 - Not under our jurisdiction, redirected the issue to Suzanne Park.
 - Issue: Multiple clubs already have a space in the Bergeron Centre. They are requesting for additional space. Will start dealing with clubs with double spacing.
 - Club funding criteria is available on the York website.
 - Will distribute to all the executives of each club.
- Suggestion to go over the budget for each club and having a clubs' meeting.

YFS Update:

- Yorkfest is still going on this week. Bigger turn out than last year.
 - Homecoming Game on September 24th, 2016 at 1:00 PM.
- November 2nd, 2016 is the day of action for the Fight the Fees initiative.
 - September 22nd, 2016 was the first senate meeting. A motion was passed that all the course directors are requested by the deans to provide reasonable academic accommodations for students who are participating in the day of action. This is a request not a demand; students can appeal if the professor decides not to provide any reasonable academic accommodation. Attending the day of action can be used as a legitimate reason for missing any academic work in the petition.
 - Hopefully by next meeting YFS' VP campaign can come and update us with the plan and how Bethune can help.
- YFS concert on September 22nd, 2016 in the Aviva Centre went well. Less attendance than expected, but left more room for students who did attend.

VP External's Update:

- Promotions for the Ice cream truck event went well, and the Blue Jays' event went okay.
 - Suggestions:
 - Use the screens in front of the Stong Cafeteria and in Central Square (using Apple TV or a PC and router).
 - Posting in the Accepted pages on Facebook.
 - Having council like and share from one post made by Joey Fahd rather than making their own post. This will increase circulation and views.
- Majority of last year's apparel has not been sold. Will be holding a 'Bethune Apparel Blowout Sale' to get rid of majority of our inventory and the rest will be used as prizes later on in the year.
 - Will be including frosh jerseys in the sale.
- In combination with BAC, Joey Fahd looked into Oceanic Inc. for our new

apparel line.

- Compared to Akran Marketing, the people and communication at Oceanic Inc. seems to be much better. Other colleges have been going with Oceanic Inc. as well.
- This year the council's jackets will be bombers. Will be looking into the cost and if they will be subsidized or not.
- The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) has been hired: Olivia Sinopoli, Schulich's orientation assistant and VP Operations.
 - Will be running elections in October in cooperation with the Elections Review Officer (ERO), John Amanatides, Tomás Mendes Simões and Joey Fahd.

VP Executive's Update:

- Office hours schedule has been made to accommodate everyone's schedule.
 - This schedule will be posted tonight and be effective starting the week of September 26th, 2016.
 - If there are any issues, please notify Tomás Mendes Simões and/or Amir Mehdi.
- Amir Mehdi is officially resigning as VP External for Bethune College Council this 2016-2017 year due to personal matters.
 - Position will be open during the upcoming fall elections. There are people who have already shown interest.

Other Business:

- Tomás Mendes Simões presents a letter regarding orientation week and orientation assistants.
 - Discussion and response on the letter:
 - There were issues with tasks given by the president not being completed during the summer by the orientation assistants.
 - Previous orientation chairs got paid more in the past, this year it was said that Natan Simchovich and Wedad Mumtaz-Sheh were orientation assistants and Tomás Mendes Simões was the orientation chair, therefore getting paid together less than one orientation chair in the past.
 - There is miscommunication with the roles of orientation week. The roles and duties of orientation chair(s) and orientation assistant(s) are being misunderstood.
 - The intent of the change in position between orientation chair(s) and orientation assistant(s) was so that the president would have the final decision in planning.
 - BCC constitution Article V. 3. d. states that the president must: "Be available on a daily basis during the summer semester to oversee

the planning and implementation of Social Orientation as well as assist the Master's Office.”

- BCC constitution Article V. 20. a. states that the orientation chair(s) must: “Assists the BCC President with the planning and implementation of Social Orientation.”
- Motion to exclude this letter from the meeting minutes records due to miscommunication by Kristine Del Rosario. Seconded by Kayla Lascasas. Discussion. 8-0-0. **Motion Passed.**
- Motion for in the case of the primary orientation chair, Wedad Mumtaz-Sheh, applying for a position on the Bethune College Council within the 2016-2017 academic year, that the meeting minutes of today be reviewed, along with the additional documentation provided by the Student Success Centre (SSC), previously known as the Student Community and Leadership Development Centre (SCLD), 2016 orientation bosses, and the 2016-2017 BCC President, by Tomás Mendes Simões. Not seconded. **Motion Fails.**
- Something to consider in the constitution meeting to change the constitution so that CROs take into consideration previous work and past reviews of candidates, and to clear up duties of orientation chair(s)/assistant(s).
- Motion to extend the Bethune College Council General Meeting #9 on September 23rd, 2016 past 2.5 hours by Kazi Mridul. Seconded by Kristine Del Rosario. Discussion. 6-0-2. **Motion Passed.**
- The 2016 orientation bosses' presented a letter to the council on how orientation week went from their point and their experiences.
 - Discussion and response to the letter:
 - This letter was supposed to be on how the week went, it was not an attack, but it was targeted towards orientation assistants, Natan Simchovich and Wedad Mumtaz-Sheh, without mentioning the president, Tomás Mendes Simões. To be fair, this should include Tomás Mendes Simões performance as well.
 - Communication during the week was an issue but as a Whatsapp group was created without the addition of Wedad Mumtaz-Sheh, even after confrontation and not being added until the second last day, made him feel excluded.
 - Boss nightly meetings were planned over the walkies and orientation assistants were not present.
 - Orientation assistants were made to feel subordinate throughout the summer and the week. They were made to feel like they were working under Tomás Mendes Simões from the interviews, not making it feel like it was their week.
 - There was miscommunication throughout the whole week by all parties, including orientation assistances, the president, and the orientation bosses.
 - This miscommunication led to disorganization. Bosses didn't know

what to tell leaders, leaders didn't know what to tell froshies, and no one knew what was happening.

- There were tasks throughout the week that weren't properly completed by the orientation assistants, as well as the president.
 - Issue of some leaders not doing work because they were hanging out with the orientation assistants.
 - Ahmed Naguib and Sujeevan Puvaneswaran had permission to be part of the week as Normy's security guards. There was miscommunication with them having a jersey and what their duties were.
 - This letter is thought to be bias with only one point of view. To improve the document, there must be various opinions with different points of views.
 - Communication for some may have been easier with certain orientation assistants or the president, but it was different with everyone, so it is hard to see who did do work and who didn't.
 - Frosh week is made up of primarily volunteers and we should respect them.
 - Lack of information, lack of communication, and lack of training was provided.
 - Improvements to take into consideration: mandatory nightly meetings for bosses, orientation chairs, and president, and lessons from this and past years should be taken into consideration when planning trainings.
 - Frosh should involve council more, so that the responsibilities could be divided, help reduce the stress, and help everything run more smoothly.
 - A new letter should be written up for the next meeting not discussing performance but for improvements for the next year.
- Motion to exclude the letter from the meeting minutes records by Kazi Mridul. Seconded by Cindy Truong. Discussion. 4-0-3. **Motion Passed.**
 - Motion for these meeting minutes to be taken into consideration when planning for future Basic Frosh Leadership trainings by Ryan Valerio. Seconded by Hasan Baig. Discussion. 0-3-4. **Motion Fails.**
 - After meeting minutes have been written and reviewed, then council shall decide whether to take them into consideration for the next year.
 - Suggestion for the next meeting's minutes with the improvements instead of the reviews should be taken into consideration instead.
 - Motion to have the master's office close up the JCR and JACs at 4:30 PM until monitors have been hired and trained by Kayla Lascasas. Seconded by Natan Simchovich. Discussion. 6-0-1. **Motion Passed.**

Ratification of Minutes:

- Motion to ratify meeting minutes #7, with the amendment of YFS' day of action for the fight the fees initiative being November 2nd instead of September 2nd, by Cindy Truong. Seconded by Joey Fahd. Discussion. 6-0-1. **Motion Passed.**
- Motion to ratify meeting minutes #8 by Cindy Truong. Seconded by Sarah Pecile. Discussion. 5-1-1. **Motion Passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Next Meeting: TBD.