



Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 4, 2024

Present: Owen, Beah, Chelsea (joined at 6:18 pm), Miranda, Jewell, Kalani, Karina

Regrets: Mohammed

Absent:

Chair: Kalani

Secretary: Karina

Kalani calls the meeting to order at 6:15 pm

Kalani begins the meeting by acknowledging we are in Mi'kma'ki, the territory of the Mi'kmaq. As Treaty people, we are committed to reconciliation. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. As a union of students operating within a colonizing university, we must fulfill our responsibility to fight collectively and collaboratively for such outcomes as free and universal education, which are themselves aspects of the project of decolonization, as well as other outcomes which are in the interest of First Nations students at NSCAD. We recognize that Nova Scotia is the home to over 50 African Nova Scotian communities, whose culture, heritage and histories have been, and remain a key part of this province for more than 400 years.

Agenda: Owen motions to approve the agenda, unanimous. Motion passed

Minutes: Beah motions to approve last meeting's minutes, unanimous. Motion passed

Signatures:

Exec Member

Exec Member

Reports

Owen

Council Report:

- Attended Board of Governors Meeting
- Raised motions for Divestment and Disclosure with BOG
- Assisted in producing public facing content for the union, including advertising of Town Hall and BOG Sit-in
- Addressed issues that arose from the Sit-in including unordinary barriers to student access at the Port Campus, as well as email and phone contact with the Port Unit of the Halifax Regional Police
- Spoke on CKDU Radio the morning after the BOG
- Spoke with another journalist regarding the happenings at the sit-in
- Worked with SUNSCAD temp accountant while he was in Halifax, worked with Chelsea to facilitate records being transferred to a new accounting program
- Attended SUNSCAD Exec meetings
- Communicated with CIBC, waiting on one piece of information before we can completely disclose our finances
- Communicated with students and student unions at universities throughout “canada”, and some in Europe, regarding Divestment and Disclosure tactics, including student strikes

SUNSCAD Zine Press:

- Continued laying foundations at Al Zeitoun
- Slow progress but building a plan for the first run of texts, including poetry by a Palestinian student, a photo book archiving the visuals of Al Zeitoun, and texts about the state of student life at NSCAD as written by NSCAD students

SUNSCAD Restructuring Committee:

- In talks with Exec at KSU, The full SUNSCAD Exec met with VP External, VP Communication, and President of KSU
- Meeting with our attorney to look at the possibility of a joint contract on Friday, July 5
- Still planning to have new employee hired and in-office by mid-August
- Will present all contracts or major proposed employment decisions as recommendations to Council

Chelsea

Council Report

- Attended BOG meeting

- Worked with temporary accounting consultant to transfer financial records to new accounting software and building new system
- Met with payroll company to review subscription options
- Attended Exec meetings
- Created spreadsheet for Councillors to sign up for NSCAD committees
- Participated in SUNSCAD Town Hall
- Meeting with GreenShield
- Meeting with Courtney+Exec about orientation

Jewell

- Attended Orientation planning meeting with OSE
- Operating Instagram, posting job opportunities
- Started collecting and designing materials for postcards, contacting vendors
- Contacting clubs to see if they are willing to be part of our orientation

Beah

Council Report:

- Last Knitting Circle event went great

Feminist Collective Revitalization Committee:

- Work on this is slow

Mohammed

- N/A

Miranda

- N/A

6:27 pm- Owen motions to go in camera, unanimous, motion passed

7:30 pm- Chelsea motions to go out of camera, unanimous, motion passed

Beah left from 7:28- 7:30

Poll and Public Meeting

- Owen motions for the Textile Representative, Beah Learn, to facilitate a poll to be released to the SUNSCAD Council this Tuesday, July 9, to be looked over/edited, and to be released to students by Friday, July 12 via email using a secure polling program, and to hold a public meeting to review the poll results at Halifax Central Library on Sunday, July 21 at 12 pm, unanimous, motion passed

Workshop with John Hutton

- John and his organizing partner Vincent have done many info/training sessions on campaign managing for student unions in NS
- We would just have to cover their plane tickets, could ask CFS-NS to split cost with us
- Try to get a variety of organizers with art-school specific experience that can better speak to the needs of our students?
- Discussed contacting people who were involved with strikes/organizing work pre-pandemic- faculty, previous SUNSCAD Exec, CFS-NS members
- Chelsea suggests holding the workshop during Orientation week
- We could ask them to stay for a week and do a few sessions. What are we looking for in a workshop?

Chelsea motions to rearrange the order of the agenda, unanimous, motion passed

GreenShield renewal

- Miranda says most prescriptions are covered, gender-affirming care coverage is pretty good
- Owen asks Miranda if there is any criticism to bring to GreenShield when accepting the deal
 - Yes- they require a gender-dysphoria diagnosis (unnecessary and difficult barrier), don't cover medical equipment such as chest binders
- Chelsea motions to renew our GreenShield health plan with the condition that we make a pamphlet/document-based campaign to tell people about our gender-affirming care coverage and other coverage, highlighting the deductibles, unanimous, motion passed

Removing Resource Coordinator from Bylaws

- Owen motions to table this item, unanimous, motion tabled

General Meeting

- Needs to be done early in the semester to get enough attendance
- Would vote on the referendum and Bylaws
- Owen motions that we call a General Meeting for Friday, September 13 at 6:30 pm, unanimous, motion passed

Announcements

- N/A

Beah motions to adjourn the meeting, with discussion allowed to continue after, unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 8 pm