

VSA Council Minutes

March 2, 2008

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

2. Attendance

Proxies: TA, Strong, 2011.

Guests: Adam Accardo (NSO), Evan Altshuler, Andrew Bennett, Travis Craw, Hannah Ewert-Krocker, Brian Farkas (Miscellany News), Mark Goreczny (CCAC), Juliana Ma, Katy Mixer (Ski Team), Sophie Muschel-Horton (Ski Team), Scott Pascal (Ski Team), Caitlin Rinn (NSO), Jamie Rosen (President's Assistant, Uganda Project), Charlotte Roy, Sally Slade (NSO), Guan Trout, Brooke Widman, Allyson Won (Founder's Day).

3. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes from February 24

No objections were made, and the consent agenda was adopted as presented.

4. Reports

a. Campus Community Advisory Committee

A representative from CCAC reported that the committee has met once this month and once the previous month. They discussed the Campus Community Shuttle program, and the possibility of adding more stops, including to Stop and Shop and the train station. The representative made note that there are fliers at the Info Desk about the community shuttle stops. The committee also discussed what should be done during the Raymond Ave construction next year, because many of the local businesses will be negatively affected as a result of the construction. The representative mentioned that the school actually owns the Delforno Deli across the street, and reported that there will be parking issues all along Raymond Ave.

For the rest of the semester, the committee will be working to encourage discussion on items on the agenda from last semester. Student Life suggested that the committee discuss Vassar's ownership of the Dollar Store and Laundromat, and the upcoming renovation of Juliet's Cafe.

b. Founder's Day

The Founder's Day committee had one general interest meeting two weeks ago, but it was not well attended due to weather issues.

In order to determine the theme, the committee sent out a campus-wide survey to determine possibilities. Afterwards the committee consolidated the list of possibilities to a Top 10, and as a committee voted on a Top 4. A second survey was sent out to the campus, and the winning theme chosen was Candyland, which was announced at the second general interest meeting last Tuesday.

The committee is encouraging student bands to audition for a Battle of the Bands, and is discussing what movie should be screened on Founder's Day. Two possibilities are the Candyland movie and Willy Wonka, although the committee is open to suggestions.

c. Arlington Special Events

A representative from Arlington Special Events reported that the group has talked about the town's community, the upcoming construction on Raymond Ave, and Parents' Weekend. They are also discussing the new Bookstore issue, because Barnes and Noble technically owns management of the campus bookstore, but is not involved in the day-to-

day aspects of the store. Their contract is up for bidding, and both local bookstore franchises and national franchises will likely bid. In general, the representative reported that the new bookstore is very exciting.

d. Food Committee

The Food Committee representative reported that tomorrow was the big day, when the three finalists for food services were coming to campus. The three finalists were Aramark, Sodexo, and Park Hearst. The Food Committee is meeting with the companies, in order to ask them questions on behalf of the interests of the student body. The three main important issues identified by the committee are food quality, sustainability, and the meal plan structure. He clarified that what is meant by a new meal plan style; the new plan will not affect how students get their food, but only how they pay for the food—it will be a new style of payment, not a new style of services.

Other issues being addressed include the addition of Nutella to the ACDC, which is a big hit, and a discussion of the Kick Coke campaign. Reed Dunley from the Kick Coke campaign went to the committee asking for support for their cause, and while the committee liked the idea, they were uncomfortable with supporting a general blanket statement of Kicking Coke from the campus.

e. Finance Report

Finance presented Council with a VSA Financial Report.

f. Exec Report (Activities)

Activities reported that the V-Card machines are currently on hold, due to various miscommunications. They will be available soon. He also reported that there are currently discussions being held in the aftermath of the Girltalk performance, including crowd control at campus events, alcohol policies, and bringing off-campus performers to Vassar. Additionally, he announced that the two-week rule (which dictates that programming reservations need to be made at least two weeks in advance) is being strictly enforced.

g. ViCE Report

Evan reported that there is a very big event coming up, about which rumors are currently going around. The act will be coming on April 11, which is Parents' Weekend. ViCE is currently engaging in a conversation about what will be the largest space available for the act, and is talking about possibly moving Athletic plans around to utilize Walker. They are facing the challenge of having to accommodate everyone while still making the space feel full. Evan made note that there will be a significant effort made to accommodate Vassar students buying tickets before the general public.

ViCE is also still programming Jazz Nights, will be hosting an After Hours Founder's Day concert featuring an American singer/songwriter, and is working on planning for next year's staff. There will be open selections for the staff, and the new ViCE Exec Board will be decided after April 20 submissions and voting on April 27. Anyone interested in getting involved with ViCE can go to the General Body meeting on the Sunday after the full week of classes following Spring Break.

5. Certification of Gaming Club

Activities moved to certify the Gaming Club. 2010 commented that he saw no reason to certify the organizations, and a representative from NSO agreed, saying that it would be more advantageous for the gaming organizations to work together. All of Council voted not in favor of the certification, and the motion failed.

6. Capital Budgeting Allocations

Finance moved to adopt the Spring Capital Budgeting Allocations, on behalf of the Finance Committee and Exec. All of Council voted in favor, and the motion passed.

7. Allocation of \$1000 from Council Discretionary to Uganda Project

Finance moved to allocate \$1000 from the Council Discretionary Fund to the Uganda Project. Activities moved to amend the allocation to \$3130.09.

Cushing moved to consider multiple options. Only Main voted not in favor, and the motion to consider multiple options passed. Cushing then suggested Option B, to amend the allocation to \$2100, which would fully pay for one student.

Vote on Amendment to Uganda Project allocation:

Abstentions: TA.

Option A: Activities.

Option B: All else but Main.

No: Main.

Result: By vote of 20-1-1-1, Option B was selected.

All of Council voted in favor of the allocation, and the motion passed.

8. Allocation of \$500 from Political and Community Action to H4H

Finance moved to allocate \$500 from the Political and Community Action Fund to Habitat for Humanity. All of Council voted in favor of the allocation, and the motion passed.

9. Appointment of Lea Wiemann as Board of Elections Co-Chair

President moved to appoint Lea Wiemann as a Board of Elections Co-Chair. All of Council voted in favor of the appointment, and the motion passed.

10. Appointment of Andrew Chang to Board of Elections

President moved to appoint Andrew Chang to the Board of Elections. All of Council voted in favor of the appointment, and the motion passed.

11. Appointment of Evan Trost to Board of Elections

President moved to appoint Evan Trost to the Board of Elections. All of Council voted in favor of the appointment, and the motion passed.

12. Appointment of Juliana Ma to Science Facility Planning Committee

Operations moved to appoint Juliana Ma to the Science Facility Planning Committee. All of Council voted in favor of the appointment, and the motion passed.

13. Appointment of Dean of the College Search Committee

Operations moved to appoint the Dean of the College Search Committee, including Morgan Warner, Charlotte Roy, and Hannah Ewert-Krocker. Student life abstained from the vote, all else of Council voted in favor, and the motion passed.

14. Action regarding Ski Team

Activities moved to un-freeze the activity of the Ski Team. All of Council voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Activities moved to fine the Ski Team for \$100, under Article B-2, for non-compliance with Activities and Finances requests. A representative from the Ski Team objected to the fine, because the organization until recently did not realize the issue was a matter of punishment, instead of a purely financial matter. Council members engaged in a discussion about whether a fine is necessary. Activities moved to call the motion to question; all of Council voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Vote on Fine to the Ski Team:

Abstentions: None.

Not in Favor: Noyes, TH, Strong, SoCo, Main, TA, Town Students, 2010, Cushing, Lathrop, Raymond, 2011.

In Favor: Jewett, 2008, Ferry, Joss, Davison, 2009, Activities, Academics, Operations, Student Life, Finance.

Result: By vote of 12-11, the motion failed.

Activities moved to censure the Ski Team. All of Council voted in favor of the censure, and the motion passed.

15. Announcement of Fines

Finance announced that the following organizations have been fined \$25 failure to turn in an Organization Report: ASU, Barefoot Monkeys, Democracy Matters, Homework Club, Investment Club, Knights of CommuKnitty, PHOCUS, Polo Team, QCVC, SAU, Ski Team, STAND, The Limit, Troupe, UNICEF, Vassar Swing, VOX, Water Polo, Woodshed, WVKR, Yateyfiyah, Class of 2011, Davison, Main. Additionally, the Ski Team has been fined \$50 for failure to turn in an Ideal Budget.

Council then engaged in a discussion about the nature of organizations that are repeatedly fined, and what can be done to remedy this.

16. Amendments to Article I of the VSA Bylaws

Operations moved to amend Article I of the VSA Bylaws. All of Council voted in favor of the amendments, and the motion passed.

17. Amendments to Article VII of the VSA Bylaws

President moved to amend Article VII of the VSA Bylaws, regarding the timing of elections. All of Council voted in favor of the amendments, and the motion passed.

18. Amendments to Article III of the VSA Bylaws

Operations moved to amend Article III, Section 15, E-7 of the VSA Bylaws, as presented by the Constitutional Review Committee. These amendments were only introduced at the meeting, to be voted on at the following week's meeting.

19. Open Discussion

- 2008 announced that 84 days remain until commencement.
- Jewett announced that she is the head of the Review for the ROC and B&G, and reported on the status of service requests.
- Joss reported that Heaven and Hell occurred last night, and was a very successful event.

- Operations announced that House Secretaries should be preparing their event spreadsheet to send to her this week.
- President announced that there would be a meeting on March 23, after Spring Break.

20. Adjourn

The meeting concluded at 9:15pm.