

SGA Meeting Minutes 10-31-18

Attending: Treasurer Ben Zook, Co-President Nicole Litwiller, Co-President Mario Hernandez, Secretary Luke Mullet, VP of Marketing Abigail Shelly, Vice-President Paul Kayembe, Faculty Rep. Vi Dutcher, Administration Rep. Amy Springer, Justice Allen, Anisa Leonard, Ruth Reimer-Berg, Allison Shelly, Austin Tomlin, Ariel Barbosa, Leah Wenger, Emmanuel Kampanga, Hannah Nichols, Seth Weaver, Emma Hoover, Donald Lleshi, Xavier McCants, Susan Schultz Huxman

Absent: Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatzky

1. Call to Order at 8:03pm
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 10/24/18: No objections. Minutes are approved.
4. Old Business and Announcements
 - a. No more SGA board outside of the cafeteria!
5. New Business
 - a. President Susan Schultz Huxman visited SGA this evening!
 - i. Susan shared some general updates about how she is feeling and what the president's cabinet has been discussing. The enrollment is up this year and this freshmen class has a very high average GPA.
 - ii. Ben shared that he hopes that school spirit/pride is increased.
 - iii. Paul shared that he hopes conservative voices can be given space and appreciation on campus.
 - iv. Emmanuel shared several ideas for EMU's strategic plan
 1. dealing with conflict rather than sweeping things under the rug and implement restorative justice,
 2. The honors program is geared toward white Mennonites. He has spoken other students and feels that raising awareness of this program could potentially help enrollment.
 3. Taking care of faculty amidst their loss and low morale after the budget cuts.
 - v. Austin shared that he appreciates that Susan attends athletic events.
 - vi. Seth shared that there is a strong tennis community here at EMU. Susan said that they hope to have the tennis team by 2020.
 - vii. If you would like to contact Susan about anything else, send an email to pres_office@emu.edu
 - b. Convocation Themes idea drive for the spring semester (Allison)
 - c. Update on University structural changes
 - i. Vi gave an update on the academic restructuring. The biggest changes are that the heads of the schools will now be called deans and for there to be a dean of students. They also are considering implementing roles for these deans that function across the different schools (to promote more exchange between schools).
 - d. Financial Committee

i. ESW Funding Request

1. James Paetkau and fellow ESW members are requesting **\$316.72**.
The Project: Building a 9-square court
2. **Their reasons for why we should fund this event:** Our proposal is not necessarily concerned with one event but rather building a space on campus that would hopefully be a place of community and game playing for all students at EMU in the future. We are submitting this proposal to build a 9-square in the air structure in the lawn behind Parkwoods. 9-square is a game that is a mix of volleyball and foursquare. It is played in a structure that is made up of 9 squares about 7 ft in the air. The goal of the game is to not allow a ball to enter your square and hit the ground. Engineers for a Sustainable World would host a build day, once the materials were purchased, where we would accept any volunteer labor to help us put together this structure. Additionally, that day we would break in the structure by hosting the first games of 9-square here at EMU. The goal of this project is to create another space on campus where students can get together and spend time with one another. Perhaps in the future a 9-square tournament or season could be integrated into our intramural sports and offer a new opportunity for students to engage in campus activities. We do not have a specific date for our event currently but would like to do this even sometime mid-November.
3. **Additional Important Details:** The balls will be stored in bike shed. Lance at facilities thinks the location by Parkwoods will be fine but still needs to get an official okay. The game is relatively easy to pick up and moves quickly (can include lots of people). They will be making it relatively portable, so they'll be able to take it elsewhere on campus if need be.
 - a. **Cost Breakdown:** PVC pipes (\$155.60), PVC fitting packs (\$40.49), rebar (\$11.70), balls (\$31.00), storage (\$20.00), pizza (\$40.00), tax (17.93)

Financial Committee Recommendation: The committee is in consensus and recommends that the senate gives ESW the full **\$316.72** with the recommendation that their construction kickoff event takes place in a central/inclusive location.

Motion (Emma): Give ESW **\$316.72** for the construction of the 9-square court.

Ariel Seconds.

Discussion: Immanuel expressed concern about how (and who) this 9-square court. He suggested that we require them to give us a report on the use of the court.

Amended motion (Ben): Give ESW **\$316.72** for the construction of the 9-square court with the stipulation that they have the kick-off event in a central location and that they pursue using the court in intramurals.
Ariel seconds.

Approve: 14
Against: 0
Abstaining: 3
Motion passes.

6. Open Floor

- a. Emma attended the cross-cultural committee. She shared some about the summer cross-culturals (Puerto Rico was way overbooked and Mexico was way underbooked). They are still looking for a leader for the Middle East trip.
- b. Immanuel shared that Jim Smucker got in contact with the police chief. They will be setting up a time for him to come to EMU soon.

7. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 9:06pm
Recorded by Luke Mullet