

SGA Meeting Minutes
2/12/2020

Attending: Co-President Leah Wenger, Co-President Seth Weaver, Vice-President Emma Yoder, Treasurer Hannah Nichols, Secretary Anisa Leonard, VP of Marketing Theodore Yoder, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatzky, Faculty Rep. Matt Siderhurst, Isaac Andreas, Rodrigo Barahona, Alyssa Breidigan, Chelsea Brubaker, Philip Krabill, Donald Lleshi, Rhonda Obaugh, Adam Peachey, Ruth-Reimer-Berg, Fibi Souleymane, Avery Trinh, Katie Zuercher
Absent: Administration Rep. Amy Springer, Student Life Rep. Shannon Dycus, Ariel Barbosa, Elizabeth Dagliano

1. Call to Order at 8:02
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 2/4/2020: Minutes approved.
4. Announcements
 - a. This month is Black History Month. There are various different events happening throughout the month. There is an email sent out with more details.
5. Old Business
 - a. BSA letter update
 - i. Leah and Seth sent out the letter last weekend. They received an affirming and grateful response from Maya. Leah shared that SGA can entertain the idea of a campus wide letter in the next couple of weeks.
6. New Business
 - a. Susan Schultz-Huxman
 - i. Susan has recently finished her third year here at EMU. Susan answers to the Board of Trustees which is made up of twenty one individuals who ensure financial health, set direction, hire personal, and nurture the University. Susan also interacts heavily with the President's cabinet working hard to help them succeed. Additionally Susan works with other private Virginia colleges, and reports frequently to the Mennonite Church. 60% of her job is supposed to be interfacing with the outside constituencies.
 - ii. Susan will be inviting SGA over for dinner in the near future
 - iii. Susan was asked what she took away from the MLK events.
 1. Susan appreciated the high level of participation at the events. Susan hopes MLK day will be embedded in syllabi. Susan's favorite event was the Sunday afternoon service at the Lucy Sims school. Susan regrets not being able to attend the student panel on race led by some BSA members. Susan is continuing the conversation with Shannon Dycus, and Celeste Thomas.
 - iv. Anisa asked about the decision to delay the announcement of the coming of Alicia Garcia until after Honors weekend for the sake of not starting controversy. Susan mentioned that she was not aware of this decision.
 - v. Seth shared that he was very appreciative of the space held by the student panel. Seth expressed gratitude, hope and desire for action. Leah affirmed this.

- vi. Hannah shared that she has been in a lot of conversations about Mark Sawin's presentation on memorialization. Hannah shared that there should be more discussions about the naming of buildings in Harrisonburg. Hannah shared that an individual was lynched in Rockingham County. The EJI has statues that they want to give to communities. Hannah was wondering if EMU had a place in that conversation. Susan shared that EMU getting involved in that really follows many of our core values.
 - vii. Susan was curious what students think about the use of the Tennis and Basketball courts at EMU. Susan reiterated many of the concerns which Dave King mentioned last week. One group of folks which advise Susan recommend locking the courts. Susan wants to know if students use the courts.
 - 1. Phillip shared that most of SGA was interested in keeping the courts a community space. Phillip got the feeling that a lot of students want it to be a community space, reiterating that EMU is a welcoming space and that the students want that to remain part of our identity.
 - 2. Chelsea shared that SGA thinks security is a valid concern, telling Susan about the ideas that were brainstormed including collaboration with security or posting signs. She also shared the concern that EMU might communicate racism because minority community members use the courts the most.
 - viii. Susan shared that EMU is working on incentives to keep seniors on campus. Susan is looking for ideas to further incentives to keep seniors on campus. Susan is also looking for ways to ease the re-entry for students when they return from cross-cultural.
 - 1. Isaac shared that the biggest issue is price. Chelsea shared that the 60 block is a lot of money. Donaldo elaborated saying that the 60 block is more money than individually buying meals.
 - 2. Adam shared that the hours food is available could be a deterrent. There are not very many hang out spaces.
 - 3. Anisa shared that the rules might keep people from staying on campus as a senior.
 - 4. Katie mentioned keeping the gym open later hours. Donaldo affirmed this.
- b. CAC Constitutional Revision
- i. The Campus Activities Council (CAC) is revising their constitution. This revision includes modification to member guidelines and voting procedures. Additionally the revision includes the addition of EMU's non-discrimination clause.

Motion (Donaldo): To approve the Campus Activities Council's constitutional revision.

Phillip seconds

Approve: 12

Against: 0

Abstaining: 2

Motion passes.

c. PPHS funding request

- i. The Pre-Professional Health Society is requesting money for headshots for juniors and seniors when they apply to Med-school or employment. PPHS talked to Cindi Gusler from VACA. They are requesting 250 dollars and will be using 150 dollars from their own budget to pay a VACA student \$20 per head shot. They will be taking photos of 10-30 individuals. In comparison, professional headshots usually cost about \$90. Students will also contribute some money for the pictures themselves. Alyssa gave a lot of insight into the realm of photography as the individual will likely be using EMU's equipment. The photo taking will not take place until April so SGA still has time to decide. PPHS is currently in a two year waiting period and does not yet have a formal budget.

ii. Discussion

1. Alyssa shared that the financial committee is pondering how this will directly affect the entire EMU community as the money will go to one individual.
2. Financial committee discussed matching their request for \$150 dollars.
3. Leah is curious if there is any way the photo taking will be open to individuals not in the club.
4. Donald shared this is a danger of too many people signing up for the photos that were opened to the whole entire community.
5. Adam mentioned that before SGA transfers money, perhaps SGA needs more information about the number of students utilizing this opportunity.
6. Ruth mentioned that it would be unfair to require PPHS to open it up to the whole community if PPHS is funding part of it with their own money.

Motion (Alyssa): To table the PPHS funding request until next week.

Phillip seconds

Approve: 10

Against: 0

Abstaining: 4

Motion passes.

d. Engage[men]t Funding Request

- i. Seth has come to SGA requesting money for an event entitled Engage[men]t which promotes healthy masculinity. The event which is a collaboration with JMU and Bridgewater will be Monday from 9-10. They are requesting \$100 dollars for food. They are expecting 10-20 people from EMU and also people from the other universities.

ii. Discussion

1. Matt Siderhurst finds it ironic that Kobe is the person being advertised, given that Kobe is not a healthy example of masculinity.
2. Hannah shared that Emily Powell, Jonathon Swartz and Leda Wenger are endorsing this event, thus she believes the discussion of Kobe is intentional and will be mindful of all aspects of Kobe's life.

Motion (Chelsea): To give Engage[men]t \$100 for their event.

Phillip seconds

Approve: 12

Against: 0

Abstaining: 2

Motion passes.

7. Open Floor

- a. Katie attended a convocation committee meeting. They asked a lot of questions thus she will elaborate more next week. However at the meeting BSA requested 5 people from SGA to help set up for the poetry slam tomorrow at 4pm in the Black Box. The Poetry Slam is at 7pm. BSA is also requesting individuals to attend the Soul Food night tomorrow.
- b. Donaldo will talk about the library committee later.
- c. Fibi shared that campus ministry is having a bible study Friday from 6-7 centered around the theme of love.

Meeting ended at 9:14 pm

Recorded by Anisa Leonard