

SGA Meeting Minutes

2/5/2020

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

Absent: Alyssa Breidigan

1. Call to Order at 8:02
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 1/22/2020: Minutes approved.
4. Announcements
5. Old Business
 - a. Dave King
 - i. The outdoor basketball court is used mostly between 4pm and 10pm and 98% of the use is done by those outside the EMU community. Dave met with various stakeholders in athletics, student life, and campus safety to form a proposal regarding use of the courts. The proposal, temporarily restricting the use to students. was brought to cabinet, however they were not receptive due to unfamiliarity with the courts. Currently no particular group has “ownership” of the courts. Dave is curious what students expect for those facilities given they are paying tuition.
 - ii. Theo shared that he grew up on those courts. He named the value of having those courts.
 - iii. Anisa shared that it was alarming that some softball players felt unsafe, additionally she shared it was concerning that no females were involved in formulating the report.
 - iv. Dave King shared that he is worried about outside community members coming into the gym. This opens EMU up to more liability.
 - v. Ruth shared that it seems more like a monitoring issue. She shared that it was a valuable space for the community, however she thinks it is more of a monitoring issue.
 - vi. Shannon mentioned that no formal Title IX complaint has been made. She also named that many who use the facilities are African-American or Latinx, she wanted us to be mindful of what message restricting access that might send.
 - vii. Hannah was curious about the recommendation of Sol Romero, vice Mayor. Dave shared while meeting with him they discussed possible collaboration with Waterman Elementary.
 - viii. Theo asked when the last time EMU put money into those courts. Dave shared he guesses it was about three years ago.
 - ix. Ruth asked what collaboration has been done with campus security thus far. Chelsea mentioned she was curious about the possibility of campus security incorporating the courts into their route.

- x. Rachel suggested collaboration between student groups and outside community members playing on the courts together. Phillip shared that he is really drawn to the idea of creating a shared community.
- xi. Hannah shared that intense monitoring who is on there treads on racism when enforcement is made subjectively. Anisa mentioned that it was really important to name the dangers of police brutality.
- xii. Fibi shared that we could ask where people come from, reaching out to them; creating a signup sheet. This will allow people to be accountable for their actions. Avery shared that we want to make the space as welcoming as possible for those who might want to use them and creating a sign up might hinder accessibility.
- xiii. Adam was curious how many courts there are. There are two tennis courts and one basketball court. Adam was wondering if there was a way to make the space part EMU and part community.

b. Letter to BSA

- i. Anisa shared that the letter seems like SGA is simply talking the talk. She shared that as a student of color she doesn't need more places to talk about her feelings. She wants to see more action.
- ii. Hannah mentioned that perhaps that SGA should reach out to administration about what the panel was about, she thinks there should be conversation specifically about process.
- iii. Shannon mentioned that some FAC/Staff who went to the student panel, had a follow up meeting and that they recognize their responsibility to what was heard. She shared that they are working hard to use "action words".
- iv. Ariel said she wanted to affirm the letter, she thought the words were beautiful. She mentioned that she said the letter should be kept and that SGA should be an observer and take notes to what is happening in response.
- v. Chelsea asked if it would be helpful to ask what BSA needs help with.
- vi. Ariel added that SGA should commit to show up to events.
- vii. Adam asked if perhaps making it an open letter would be more significant. Making the letter public might help the community hold each other accountable. Ariel said she would support two letters
- viii. Seth is asking the senate how they would feel about (1) writing a letter with explicit action language, (2) showing up to events this February (3) writing a public letter.
- ix. Phillip shared that it is our duty as student government to commit ourselves to bettering campus for everyone.
- x. Avery suggested adding an invitation for an ongoing conversation in the letter.

Motion (Chelsea): Send the letter with revisions of explicit language committing to allyship and continuous relationship with BSA assisting them in ways they might need.

Issac seconds

Approve: 16

Against: 0

Abstaining: 1

Motion passes.

Discussion

Ariel brought up the creation of a second letter so that students of color outside of BSA are able to know what is happening.

Seth invites the senate to ponder what they want in the open letter.

6. New Business

a. Internal Committee Check-in

- i. Finance: The committee is not time efficient. They are looking at how to move forward more effectively or other ways the committee can be of use
- ii. Forum: Ariel has been in conversation with BSA about how to be helpful. The committee is also considering doing something on gender/sexuality later this year.
- iii. Outreach: All members are now going to run the instagram. They are also thinking of ways to make the TV more accessible.

b. Hannah's update on financial matters.

- i. Hannah met with the business office and pulled up records from the past. Hannah noticed inconsistency with reconciliation. SGA has 58,000 dollars in roll over. The beginning balances for some clubs do not match the ending balances. Club's money was accumulating in the SGA rollover. Some clubs accumulated their own roll over but not everyone (only some clubs with roll over are aware of it). It is possible to remove the line which allows extra funds to go back into SGA roll over.
- ii. Should SGA no longer take back funds? Should SGA take back funds and redistribute it.
- iii. SGA will meet with USO and are attempting to come up with a process of making clubs aware of this financial situation.
- iv. Hannah is open to more conversation about specific clubs.

7. Open Floor

- a. Senators are to write questions for Susan Shultz Huxman who will be visiting SGA next week.

Meeting ended at 9:16pm

Recorded by Anisa Leonard