



Helena College Student Government Association

Minutes for 03/24/17 General Meeting

CTO AT 9:34AM

Roll Call: Holly Wendt (President), Amber Freeman (Vice President), Joy Wiggins (Business Manager), Caitlin Carroll (Secretary), Ben Nickol (Advisor), Quinn Kurokawa, Dalton Johnson, Will Leitke, Silas Easterling, Heather Young

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **03/17/17 Minutes:** Will moved, Amber seconded, to approve minutes as they stand.

NEW BUSINESS

- **IT:** Jeff Block (Dir. of IT) is requesting \$90,000 to upgrade 3 labs, which are upgraded on a 3 to 4-year rotation, in addition to \$230,000 to greatly upgrade the school network, which is upgraded on a 7-year rotation. There will be about \$100,000 left in the 'pot'. The money will come out of student fees separate from the student activity fee; they are not required to have permission from SGA, but would like to have SGA's approval. Caitlin moved, Joy seconded, to approve the funding. The motion passed unanimously. Caitlin asked that Jeff attempt to involve Computer Science students in the setup of the new systems.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Summer Orientation:** Admin would like as many student volunteers as possible at the Summer Orientation on May 23. Joy is in contact with Jonathan Drew in Administration and will provide updates.
- **Constitution:** Since last meeting's discussion of grade point requirement, other members brought up additional concerns, namely about the credit hours requirement for senior officers. Ben recommended waiting until next week to have a vote on the matter, both because of the additional possible changes and because he would like to discuss the changes with E in his meeting with her next week. Ben encourages members to apply for the positions they would like, regardless of the constitutional requirements, as one-time exceptions can be made.

The constitution currently requires accumulated credit hours totalling 18 at the time of election for both president and vice president. Ben recommended changing the wording to require the same number of credits, but at the time of assuming office. He asked members to pay special attention to the logic of what the constitution is trying to do and to try to keep changes in the heart of what was meant. Members agreed that Ben's proposed change of wording was in keeping with the original intent of the clause.

After members of the Constitution Committee decide on the wording of the amendments, Holly will send the wording to members present for a vote by email.

Update: The amendment reads as follows:

"Section 3. Qualifications and terms of Executive Branch Officers:

a. The Officers shall be enrolled for six (6) semester credits at the time of their election and shall maintain (unless exempted by a 2/3 vote) at least twelve (12) credit hours during their term of office. The officers shall have at the time of their election a 2.5 Grade Point Average and maintain at least a 2.5 G.P.A. during their term in office.

b. The President and Vice President shall have at time they assume office accumulated a minimum of 18 semester credits at Helena College University of Montana."

Dalton moved, Will seconded, to approve the amendment as stated above. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D)

- **Parking Committee:** The student representative on the parking committee has left HC. The student is responsible for helping to decide on parking ticket disputes, all done via email. Will volunteered to be the new student representative.
- **Cancer Fundraiser:** On April 7 from 11am-2pm, in the Student Center, the Veterans Club is having a bake sale and raffle fundraiser for a local family who is struggling with their daughter's (Will's niece's) cancer. Raffle tickets are \$1, and ticketholders can place their tickets in the pot for any of the 9 items available. Ticketholders do not have to be present to win. Will added that the Queen City Classic disc golf tournament on April 22 will also be a fundraiser for the family.
- **Officer Duties:** Section 4-7 of the constitution contain descriptions of officer duties; those applying for office are encouraged to review these. Holly spoke about the MAS time commitment. During legislative session, the time commitment is about 2 hours per week, but outside of session it may be 1-2 hours every other week, plus special events that may take more time. Ben added that the main duty of executive members is to be responsive at all times.
- **Officer Applications:** Applications for specific offices can be found on the SGA page of the website. Applicants should have their applications in by April 5 at 5:00pm.

STUDENT CONCERNS

- Dalton spoke to a student who asked for cigarette butt receptacles around the outdoors areas of campus. Ben argued that the school would not invest in infrastructure to aid in tobacco consumption. Caitlin added that SGA could set up small pots filled with sand, but SGA members would need to clean those up when it was time, as it would not be right to ask custodians to do so.
- Caitlin brought up the litter problem on and around campus; the litter that blows onto campus from Helena High. She would like to write a letter to the editor for either the IR or the HHS student newspaper.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- All graduation marshals gave their assent. Ben will contact the appropriate officials.
- MAS members weighed in concerning contacting their student bodies. Other MAS members also need to pass messages to their administrations in order to send emails to their electorate.
- The Starfish survey has been written. After Ben meets with E, it will be sent out to students.

ADJOURN

- Quinn moved, Silas seconded, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:37am.

Next week's meeting is at Airport Campus, Room 205
