

# Minutes, USG General Body Meeting

March 4, 2020



Undergraduate  
Student Government  
*At Michigan Tech*

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
  - Motion to amend last week's minutes to reflect that BOT presentation is at 10 AM and not 10 PM.
    - i. Second
    - ii. Motion Passes
  - Motion to amend the current agenda to state parliamentarian is internally elected and not appointed.
    - i. Second
    - ii. Motion passes
  - Motion to amend the current agenda to add Student Commission Meeting and BOT Update to president's report
    - i. Second
    - ii. Motion passes
  - Motion to approve agenda and minutes
    - i. Second
    - ii. Minutes and agenda approved
- IV. Recognition of Visitors – Thanks for coming!
- V. Officer Reports
  - President (*Melanie Thomas*)
    - i. SBG Action Plan Follow Up
      1. Action plans distributed, deadline to present plans to comply is before SBG budget hearings.
    - ii. Non Motorized Transportation Committee- Follow Up
      1. Analyzing survey results
      2. Working with Dr. Adam Walstead to interpret data and release a plan
    - iii. Cultural Events Fund Meeting
      1. Met on Friday from 3-4 PM
      2. African Night
        - a. Requested money for performers, gave requested amount
      3. ISA request upcoming after Spring Break
    - iv. Health Insurance Meeting
      1. Committee is examining several health insurance packages to make available to students.
      2. Working with GSG to determine what the
    - v. E-Board and At-Large Election Results
      1. President
        - a. Larkin Hooker-Moericke
      2. Vice-President
        - a. Lauren Spahn
      3. Secretary
        - a. Natalie Wohlgemuth
      4. Treasurer
        - a. Harley Merkaj

- 5. At-Large Representatives
      - a. Sydney Dankert
      - b. Jake McDowell
    - vi. Student Commissions Update
      - 1. Attempting to access revolving vending machine near food pantry to stock with fresh sandwiches.
      - 2. Investigating plan to put a refrigerator with healthy food options in Library available late at night
      - 3. Facilities has begun implementing hooks in bathrooms for backpacks.
    - vii. Board of Trustees Update
      - 1. Teacher evaluation
        - a. Original teacher evaluation proposal stated that comments submitted by students should go to department chairs.
        - b. Proposal was amended to give more time for USG, GSG, and Senate collaboration on the topic of student comments.
  - Vice President (*Zbigniew Bell*)
    - i. Transition documents
      - 1. Please make sure to get your transition materials in line for the next body!
    - ii. Binder materials
      - 1. Speak to Ziggy with questions/comments/concerns about binders.
  - Treasurer (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
    - i. RSO Budget Hearings
      - 1. Hearings are over, roughly 40 hours.
  - Secretary (*Zachary Olson*)
- VI. Advisor Reports
  - Beka Horsch
    - i. Enjoy Spring Break!
    - ii. Body Positivity Workshop
      - 1. Monday, March 16 at 1:00 PM in MUB Alumni Lounge B
    - iii. HuskyLead: Feedback Loops
      - 1. Monday, March 16 at 5:00 PM in MUB Alumni Lounge A
    - iv. Husky Hour at 4:00 PM in Library East Reading Room
      - 1. Tuesday, March 17: Seize the Awkward
      - 2. Wednesday, March 18: Sleep Habits
    - v. Student Leadership Award Nominations Open
      - 1. <https://www.mtu.edu/student-affairs/interests/awards/>
      - 2. Nominate yourself or others that you feel are doing a great job!
  - Stefani Vargas Krause
    - i. RSOs will be emailed by Beka and Stefani with required updates, documents submitted, and HuskyLead info this week.
  - Bonnie Gorman
- VII. Standing Committee Reports
  - Events (*River Leverage*)
    - i. Spring Break Bus
      - 1. Sold out within 1 minute of opening.
      - 2. John Nowosad would like to meet with E-Board to discuss plan for next year's buses.
  - Judiciary Committee (*Jack Mitchell*)

- Political Affairs (*Sydney Dankert*)
- Public Relations (*Natalie Wohlgemuth*)
  - i. Members of the Week
    1. Bryce Walbrun
    2. Zbigniew Bell
- Student Affairs (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
  - i. Cycle Project
    1. Document in USG Drive in Student Affairs Folder detailing basket locations and set up a system to restock menstrual products in bathrooms.
    2. Collection of products will be kept in the office.
    3. Women's Leadership Council and Wellness are collaborating with USG to stock the bathrooms.
- Ways and Means (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
  - i. Initial recommendations for RSOs are available for review in the USG Drive under the WAM folder.
  - ii. Potential to change with appeals.
  - iii. Statistics
    1. Average request: \$4600.00
    2. Average allocation: \$2170.00
    3. Projected SAF allocation: \$375680.00
    4. \$342000.00 allocated thus far.
  - iv. April 8 is the deadline set for Advance, Reserve, and Opportunity Funds.
  - v. Document is editable but please do not edit it!

#### VIII. USG Liaison Reports

- Graduate Student Government
  - i. New rules regarding graduate student stipends make it more difficult for Masters' students to receive funding.
- Interfraternity Council (*Leif Olson*)
- Panhellenic Council (*Sydney Dankert*)
- Inter Residence Housing Council (*Tej Bergin and Ellie Sempek*)
- Houghton City Council
- Parent's Fund (*Zbigniew Bell*)
- Senate (*Zbigniew Bell*)
  - i. Teacher evaluation proposal tabled until next meeting.
  - ii. Programs that have not seen activity in over 5 years have been eliminated.
  - iii. 20 new programs accepted into the university in the last 18 months.
  - iv. Met with Jeff from CTL to discuss dates for action on teacher evaluation proposal.
- Diversity (*Harley Merkaj*)
- Student Commission (*Melanie Thomas*)
- Friends of the Library (*Zofia Freiberg and Emily Mattson*)
  - i. No report
- Library Director Search (*Zofia Freiberg*)
  - i. Final meeting on Thursday.
  - ii. Participating on a search committee is very hard work, need to educate future members on the responsibilities of being part of one. This is part of a potential transition document.
- JED Campus (*Jordan Craven*)
  - i. Working towards goals diversity and awareness on campus.

- H-Stem (*Colleen Toorongian*)
  - HIDE Voting Booth (*Jordan Craven*)
    - i. Backend available for USG to create questions.
    - ii. Program intended to be testable by the end of semester.
  - Non-Motorized Transportation Committee (*Harley Merkaj*)
    - i. Meeting next week.
  - Experience Tech Fee (*Zbigniew Bell*)
  - Other Liaisons
- IX. Unfinished Business
- X. New Business
- Resignation of Parliamentarian
    - i. Jack Mitchell resigns from the position of parliamentarian.
    - ii. Colin Schaefer motions to accept the resignation of Jack Mitchell
      1. Second
        - a. 15 in favor
        - b. 1 opposed
        - c. 3 abstentions
      2. Motion passes
  - Internal Election of new Parliamentarian
    - i. John Nowosad nominates John Nowosad
      1. Been on the body for four years
      2. Knows the rules
      3. Would run the meeting
    - ii. Jack Mitchell nominates Sydney Dankert
      1. Certifications/experience in parliamentary procedure and Robert's Rules
      2. Well-Versed in constitution and is working on constitution revision.
    - iii. Melanie Thomas nominates Connor Weber
      1. Connor Weber declines the nomination
    - iv. Zbigniew Bell motions for two-minute recess to count votes
      1. Second
      2. Motion passes
    - v. Internal election of Parliamentarian by secret ballot
      1. Sydney Dankert elected as parliamentarian.
  - Motion to close College and Class Representative Nominations March 18, 11 PM.
    - i. Second
      1. 18 in favor
      2. 0 opposed
      3. 1 abstention
    - ii. Motion passes.
  - Opportunity Request Rowing Club Requested: \$5,250.00
    - i. WAM recommends \$2,500 in BBC
      1. Funds for a used boat.
      2. Request will be in the office.
  - Carry over Reps
    - i. 2nd year
      1. Zachary Olson motions to nominate Jordan Craven as 2nd-Year carry-over Jordan Craven
        - a. Second

- i. 19 in favor
      - ii. 0 opposed
      - iii. 1 abstention
    - b. Motion passes.
  2. Sydney Dankert motions to appoint Jordan Craven
    - a. Second
      - i. 19 in favor
      - ii. 0 opposed
      - iii. 1 abstention
    - b. Motion passes
- ii. 3rd year
  1. Leif Olson
    - a. Declined
  2. Colin Schaefer
    - a. Declined
  3. Zachary Olson motions to nominate Zachary Olson
    - a. Nomination accepted
  4. Leo Stelmaszek motions to nominate Zofia Freiberg
    - a. Nomination accepted
  5. Discussion of tabling appointment to next meeting
    - a. May not be feasible due to the way election is scheduled.
  6. Zbigniew Bell motions to move appointment of 3rd Year Carry-Over Representatives to open floor pending response from Leif (absent).
    - a. Second
      - i. 19 in favor
      - ii. 0 opposed
      - iii. 1 abstention
    - b. Motion passes
- iii. 4th year
  1. John Nowosad motions to nominate Zbigniew Bell.
    - a. Nomination accepted
  2. John Nowosad motions to appoint Zbigniew Bell.
    - a. Second
      - i. 19 in favor.
      - ii. 0 opposed.
      - iii. 1 abstention.
    - b. Motion passes.

XI. Open Floor

- 3rd Year Carryover Representative appointment
  - i. Emily Mattoson requests nomination speeches.
  - ii. Nomination Speeches
    1. Zachary Olson
    2. Zofia Freiberg
  - iii. Internal election of 3rd Year Carryover Representative by secret ballot.
    1. Zofia Freiberg elected as 3rd Year Carryover Representative

XII. Closed Session

XIII. Announcements/"Remarks for the Good

- Student Comments

i. Implementation of SDC guest passes

1. Declined by SDC

ii. Process funding requests more promptly.

iii. Food at meetings

- Thanks to WAM, Advisors, Sydney, Jordan, and Larkin for their work on Budget Hearings.
- Thanks to Beka and Stefani for their participation in Budget Hearings
- BSA is hosting social picnic with cultural organizations on campus. Details and dates forthcoming. All are welcome.
- Congratulations to New E-Board.

XIV. Adjournment

- John Nowosad motions to adjourn
- Adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Zachary Olson  
Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Government