

MCSG Minutes 10/14

Attendees

James L	Biftu T	Cole W	Aman I	Abaki B
Jennie K	Akila C	Chris P	Michelle K	Alexx Ha
Diego T	Ari H	Rick B	Peace M	Seth LK
Steph M	Konnor F	Jenny G	Rothin D	Heather J
Nandita E	Tejas S	Caroline D	Suveer D	Sana N

Jim Hoppe & Joan Maze- advisors

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>meeting begins 19:04<

:04 KF: First are a few quick Mmsg announcements. Now we have a guest, I'll let Rothin introduce him.

RD: A couple weeks ago we talked about getting a member of the Mac-Groveland council to come by and answer questions. Here is Eric to fulfill that role.

:05 Eric R: Hi there everyone. Some quick background on me, I moved to St Paul a while ago from the Minneapolis district. The council system there and in this city are a bit different, for one the history is different. In 1970 the St Paul city council decided to create more subcouncils to promote civic engagement. We don't have full authority on all the decisions but by and large the city council votes by our recommendation. Our votes advance things up the chain of command and that's how things get done. Here in Mac-Groveland we are known as innovators for many of ideas have been implemented city-wide. For example we came up with new ways to recycle. The organist collection you guys may have seen popping up around the city came from us. We also do a lot of work with resolving tensions in the community, and frankly much of those tensions come out of student-resident problems. We deal with many social host violations and the like. The amount of problems in this area prompts me to reach out to y'all, and since we have an intern at the committee he told me how to get in touch. MGCC meetings are always open to the public, you should come by. We have many committees you can attend. We have also been discussing having a liaison between our councils. Any questions?

:12 AH: Thanks for coming. What would you say is the student relationship to the community?

ER: I often don't hear much direct feedback, mostly I get a mix of positive and negative responses. We are currently writing our 10 year plan and student housing rates come up a lot. Some people in the community have had bad experiences and refuse to let them go. Mostly what is brought up is student social host violations, people under age drinking at parties. Students don't like this crackdown either. This kind of thing keeps happening, and many parties feel ignored. We try to strike a balance. A problem to this is we don't have much in the way of a diverse board, most of the members are old and established. Some perspective would be good. You can help by getting in contact with us in order to have more successful events.

:16 RB: I have questions related to the organist collections, what is the level of participation in the community? Also are there plans to expand this kind of stuff?

:18 ER: The collections are still new in the community but numbers have been very good so far. We've had over 150 people participate so far for sure. There haven't been many volume issues as of yet, there are 7 sites for organic dumping and it has no

additional cost attached. I'm not sure how it could be more widely implemented. We're also have more pressure for trash hauling.

:21 RD: In the interest of time lets ask questions directly to Eric.

RB: We need livable, sustainable communities. A rep from us to your board would be helpful, right?

SLK: I agree

:22 TS: What are you talking about?

RB: I'm discussing large issues, things that dovetail with MGCC issues. We should have a structure in place to talk about this.

RD: We do have space for an additional work-study position.

:23 ER: This all sounds great, we'll take anybody you want to send.

JL: Can we have a position for a role of liaison? A single rep could be too broad?

:25 ER: I'll have to check, we may have to amend our bylaws to accommodate that. We have monthly meetings, the board meets every 2nd Thursday, the eviro board is every 3rd Thursday at the edcombe recreation center at 6:30pm. All the info is on our website.

:26 JL: We can advertise these meetings so students can be prompted to attend.

JK: We can do much better for advertising this.

AH: We have community classes, some rep from MGCC is good.

:28 ER: We have lots of reps, if y'all want to run for seats you can, there are a few vacant ones right now.

JH: Thanks very much for coming.

RD: I'll keep you all informed about this work study position. Now a message from the Lecture Coordination Board.

:30 LCB: We're talking to Ezra Klein about appearing on campus soon. Maya can't make it unfortunately, so we'll have a meeting soon for possible speakers for next semester. Our final offer was \$18,625. The speech from Ezra will be on Nov 9th.

:31 SN: What is the plan for the other speaker?

LCB: Winona La Duke and the current CEO of the Onion are two possibilities. If those don't work we have a list compiled of people to contact.

AC: Are you still trying to work within 4 main topic areas?

:33 LCB: Yes, we want a speaker that has to do with either the arts or poverty. We want to stay in the bounds that we set.

KF: Alright thanks for coming. Ok we have another speaker now, its Ezra who was in charge of putting together the border wall project.

DT: Great. The first question I know we all want the answer to is: What happened?

:34 Ezra: So y wall was approved back in May for the Old Main location. It was going to be 100 foot fence with student art and impressions on it. We were told a few weeks ago that the administration was concerned about the placement of the wall, citing trigger possibilities and student reactions. We tried compromises, other locations that even though not as visible would still be available. As you all know, the school moved the wall and student activists moved it to its originally planned location on Old Main. There was a lot of miscommunication with this issue so I hope to help.

:37 SLK: When you say the administration, who do you mean exactly?

Ezra: Brian Rosenberg and Kathy Murray.

JG: What do you mean by compromises? And what was the response you got after the wall was moved?

:38 E: The faculty and I worked together to find other places. A smaller fence was proposed, as well as having signs put up leading to the bigger project. We thought about moving it inside instead. We could have built obelisks as markers instead with the help of Mac Shop, that or a 2-D boundary & signs. All the compromises were rejected w/ little explanation. Kathy Murray said they don't regret the decision, and was critical about people not having a choice to see it.

:41 SN: Were there any plans for trigger warnings?

E: in the process of working on this I spoke to many people and orgs that compromise students that could be triggered and they all were excited for the erection and very disappointed when it failed to materialize.

:42 AH: Maybe we could set up a procedure to stop this from happening.

E: Holding an open forum about the issue could help. The problem is every issue is case-by-case.

:44 DT: I think we should figure out a way to avoid this.

:45 AH: A procedure for how something could be untriggered could help.

PM: Are there any guidelines or administrative opinion that could be useful?

JH: There has been administrative opinions, mostly the policies in place are about defining and protecting protests and art expression. Again it's a multifaceted issue.

:48 RD: This was a great project. How can we establish networks with the school and student body so we can get involved when it comes to a problem like this?

JH: One this we do is make this gov a place to turn to when the system breaks down. Other than that there are already plenty of ways for the student body to contact the administration.

:51 AH: we need a direct line to the administration.

JH: It seems that Murray didn't know it was going to be such a major issue that would require student involvement. We don't need our voice in every decision they make, just as it is vice versa.

:52 JL: We need a symbiotic relationship. The wall move is a good example of how media influence can affect student opinion. Also when is presidential approval required for student projects?

:55 JH: If reservations gets a message for students wanting to use a space differently then usual then that's a red flag that goes up to the rest of the administration. Exclusivity is important. This was more a provost decision and it stemmed from many problems that arose over the summer like Palestine and Ukraine and the rest.

:57 JM: This was also a departmental event. They agreed that moving the wall was a form of silencing but also thought it was a better place. Lots of avenues for project approval exist, so opening up a new one isn't the best thing to do. Perhaps putting more lanes together would be better.

:00 SN: We need to create a better way to help students make their voices heard. A link on the website to suggestions and feedback or on FB could be good too.

:02 DT: Stuff SSRC could do to help, also this situation could be used to reach out to the administration. We can invite people to comment on both sides too.

:03 CD: Other things should be addressed as well, like the smoking ban. We should bring someone in to discuss that too.

RB: We're talking about art being through standard avenues, it kind of defeats the purpose. Art should be spontaneous, should be more free to express itself. It shouldn't be penalized for doing exactly what it is supposed to do which is challenge our worldview.

JH: Responding directly to you Ari, there are many ways that exist at this moment but they aren't super effective.

:08 JM: Art is spontaneous but it shouldn't be that spontaneous. Not in regards to tough conversations but being polite. Other people live on campus too and we need to keep each other in mind. Mac is a place that values uniqueness, but structure is important too. We can work on guidelines but a lot goes on behind the scenes. Elzas program is a good example, the IGC played a big role. That's why it was overruled.

:16 Richard: Hello, I helped move the wall so maybe I can give some input. We were worried about how student activism can pair with the administration. We can make simple changes to help. I'm not sure when it comes to reservations handling the space, but MSCG can work on connecting all the channels to work more effectively.

:20 KF: Alright this is a good discussion but we are running low on time.

SM: We have had a good discussion but we also need to act. Lets keep the original goal in mind.

:22 DT: We're a bridge between the two groups so lets work on that. Thanks for coming Elza.

:23 AB: Now we have some more guests.

Brett and Mary Jo: We're in a neuroscience senior seminar and we want to raise awareness for alzheimers. It impacts lots of people so we want to organize a fundraiser & open the community chest for the organization Hilarity for Charity.

:25 AB: SSRC decides to not fund this event since it's a fundraiser and the CC shouldn't go towards outside organizations. We need to set a precedent.

:26 JL: That's a good idea. Who have you talked to in the neuro club about this?

Brett: I've talked to a few people and they all seem on board.

JL: They might have money you could use. The problem is we aren't allowed to donate to charity, and since funding our event would be doing that indirectly we can't give you money.

:28 RD: Also this isn't just about a precedent. It's a formal bylaw violation. We can't loan money for charities, just like political campaigns. The young dems have to get their funding elsewhere as well.

AH: Perhaps if you didn't have a fundraiser, instead have an awareness event.

Brett: That's the goal but we also need to raise money. We need to sent a message of support to those suffering.

:31 JK: Are there any other depts. That can lend you guys money? Nothing comes to mind to me right now.

NE: Also where exactly is this money going? Are you trying to just buy moustaches?

:32 JM: You could have the event without the moustaches and just axe people to give money. Other orgs can also front the money that you need.

:33 PM: Can we give out a loan?

Brett: We'd be cool with a loan. I just don't know how much money we could make.

SD: Hold on why moustaches? Did it come from Hilarity for Charity?

:34 CD: Yes. Also how many moustaches could you get for \$500?
RD: This is a logistics problem. If this is an appeal then we need an overturning of the SSRC recommendation. Then another motion will be needed. For a loan this group will have to come back again with a new submission.
JK: Not necessarily, under \$500 allocations are ok. Its still an appeal.

:37 PM: Whats your time scale?
Brett: We have until the end of the week.
HJ: I think that \$1000 is too much and \$250 is much more reasonable.
AC: I agree. Are there any other fees?
Brett: No.

:38 NE: What is your plan for spreading awareness?
Brett: the color purple is our color for mental health issues and alzheimers. Having purple Fridays can encourage discussions. This is a way to support people mostly. Also flyers and table tents & computer screens in the library... banners could do a lot too. We also want a surplus of moustaches and we'll return money that we spent.

:41 JM: It'll be confined. Go to the reservations and library.
KF: Anyone want to make a motion? In that case we'll move on... wait.

:42 NE: I move to overturn the SSRC decision.
2nd Diego
SD: What else can they do?
JL: They can't use the money even if hey get it, its against the bylaws.

:44 HJ: Skip me, nevermind.
RD: Guys this is a violation. A loan could be the way but that has yet to be proposed.
AH: I move to amend the current motion in order to make it a loan.

:45 RD: No, first we need to figure out whether to overturn the SSRC decision.
SN: Hold on, what to you guys want? A loan?
Brett: A loan seems to be the best option. This does mean less money will go to charity though.
HJ: We need to think about how this decision will set a precedent for others looking to give to charity. Also I still think \$500 is too much.
CP: Would giving out free moustaches work instead?

:48 Brett: We really want a donation, we're not charging anyone for the moustaches.
KF: Before we go any further we need to give ourselves more time. I move to extend bylaws to have a 9:30 ending time.
2nd James
RD: M2Q
24 for, 0 against, 0 abstain

:50 RD: Alright, what you just said changes a lot. I think SSRC should speak, right now the motion on the floor is to overturn their decision.

:51 JG: How big is the CC? Oh, its \$5000 per semester.
HJ: We have a lot more requests coming in so that money will disappear quickly.
SLK: The fact that the moustaches aren't mandatory money transactions changes nothing, we stand by our decision.

:53 AC: You guys will have to advertise this pretty well for it to be a success.

PM: \$1000 in staches is too much. Would you guys be willing to lower your expectations?

:54 JL: This needs to be clearly expressed. Also lets not start a habit of overturning committee decisions.

HJ: I agree but we need to discuss funding first.

:55 NE: SSRC did not know that the moustaches could be given away. Does this change your minds?

AB: No.

CP: No.

SLK: No.

:57 JL: Lets keep moving forward guys.

AH: Remember that a loan could still work.

SD: I move to question on overturning the SSRC.

2nd Chris

3 for, 22 against, 0 abstain

:59 JL: Ok lets keep going. Next is the charter of the AFA. I move to approve their charter.

2nd Seth

JL: M2Q

24 for, 0 against, 0 abstain

:01 AB: We had a request to bring a guy to talk about security on campus. They need money for the plane and hotel. The total request was \$1200. We decided to reject this request, this is the same guy who came last year. Also it is a departmental event that shouldn't get funding from the CC.

:02 SD: Where is the speaker from? New york.

AB: OK, great. Since there are no objections, we can move on. Voices for mental health came by last week, there is a nonaffiliated student that is talking about having the school host mental health training classes. It would cost \$1500 per class. Also the money would go toward promoting the events. They're also having meetings soon to discuss the 24 hour call center for mental health issues. Basically it's a check up meeting. Also, remember that Cozy Up with MCSG is happening this Friday.

:07 JK: People want another speaker to come to campus, the cost would be \$800. We decided to approve \$760, we think that should be enough to make it happen. I move to approve this amount.

2nd Suveer

:09 AB: They're not collaborating, and there is no specific topic of discussion. This group should reach out to broaden the focus.

SD: Why \$760?

:10 JK: The bylaws limit how much we can spend.

RD: I M2Q

22 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain

JK: Alright moving along. We'll recommend \$1000 to pay for security for the visceral breakdancing meetup. I move to approve.

2nd Rothin

AH: M2Q

22 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstain

:11 JK: The art history club has not been responding to my emails. Also there is a Kagin this Friday!

JL: SOC w/ media board meeting went well. 2 orgs did not show up. 1 org is now ok, the constraint is defunct at this point. I move to uncharter these orgs in question.

2nd Rothin

BT: M2Q

21 for, 1 opposed, 0 abstain

:15 JL: There is a small issue for recruitment into thistle and chanter, they're finding it harder to put stuff together. I proposed that they could merge but they don't want to. There was a similar idea pushed last year and it didn't fly.

RD: How different are the two? Maybe we could do more to convince them

SN: Moving on. We had 22 Jump street last week, it went really well. The petting zoo was great. Dirty Dancing is now on sale for \$10, its going on this Thursday. This weeks movie is a rom com. Valley scare tickets are sold out. We're also looking for a new campus coordinator.

:17 AH: AAC, we had a bridge meeting. Feedback on our performance helps so keep it coming.

JH: Next week we'll have President Rosenberg attending.

Various Announcements

>meeting ends 21:21<