



ResSoc General Assembly Minutes

Date: March 24, 2024

Assembly Commenced: 7:08 PM

Assembly Adjourned: 8:13 PM

Victoria Hall A Wing Conference Room (Vic A011)

Minutes are tentative until approved by the Assembly.

Attendance:

Staff Member	Report Submitted? (y/n/l)	Attendance (y/n/e/v/l)
President: Nathan Beckner-Stetson	Y	y
VPSO: Alison Wong	Y	y
VPRO: Teagan Schuck	N	y
CFO: Katarina Krivokapic	N	e
HRO: Grace Cao	N	y
PMO: Ava Desouza	N	e
HP (Adelaide-Ban Righ): Eileen Danaee	Y	Y
HP (Brant): Ivan Iankovitch	N	n
HP (Chown): Haarini Suntharalingham	Y	Y
HP (David C. Smith): Yousef Ghasemzadeh	N	Y
HP (Endaayaan – Tkanónsote): Ben Hodgins	Y	v
HP (Gordon-Brockington): Marco Leung	Y	n
HP (Harkness): Yaein Kim	Y	e
HP (Jean Royce): Retaj Alam	Y	Y
HP (Leggett): Amin Meghdadi	N	v
HP (Leonard): James Sprung	Y	Y
HP (McNeill): Katie Sewell	N	Y
HP (Morris): Alexis McLaughlin	Y	Y
HP (Victoria): Jana Amer	N	e
HP (Waldron): Melissa Ban	N	L
HP (Watts): Ryan Cheng	Y	Y
Intern (President): Trisha Kotakonda	N/A	Y
Intern (CFO): Ian Tsang	N/A	n
Intern (HRO): Aliza Tiwana	N/A	y
Intern (PMO): Leah Potashnyk	N/A	y

I. MOTION 1: Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: HP Suntharalingham



Seconded by: HP Danaee

In favour: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried

II. MOTION 2: Approval of the Minutes from [Date of last GA]

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: HP Ghasemzadeh

In favour: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried

III. Chairperson's Business

Approval of minutes was missed last week, so this motion will approve the past two meeting minutes.

IV. Reports by Executives

a. President's Report

I just am wrapping up some things such as west campus renos, getting dons building t-shirts, and more administrative work. Thank you everyone for everything you've done this year.

b. VPSO's Report

Mostly administrative boring stuff and inventory is almost done, next year's execs should be good to go, and the transition is going well

c. VPRO's Report

I've been helping HPs wrap up the final events, a few big ones happening this week. After this is done, I will be transitioning the VPRO for next year.

d. CFO's Report

N/A

e. HRO's Report

I've just been doing meetings, emails, and organizing. We had our social yesterday and I've been doing thank you gifts for everyone. I will be working on transition manuals for next year, and tomorrow will be the linked in workshop.



f. PMO's Report

N/A

V. Intern Reports

a. Trisha – President's Intern

This year I worked with Nathan on administrative tasks, and I worked with Kingston transit and learnt advocacy.

b. Ian – CFO Intern

N/A

c. Aliza – HRO Intern

I learnt a lot and worked on staff appreciation, social, and elections committee. I learnt a lot about ressoc and student advocacy

d. Leah – PMO Intern

I worked on large scale events with the PMO and marketing these events and running the ressoc Instagram account, making posters, and brainstorming ideas.

VI. Committee Matters

a. CAEC

We met the last week and revised the changes being made to the by-laws with everyone voting in favour.

b. Finance and Audit Committee

N/A

c. Hiring and Elections Committee

We have been working on the workshop and we will be working on initiatives for the future.

d. REC

We met one last time to talk about last minute things and we are just putting everything into a document.

e. Sustainability Committee

Unfortunately, we were not able to meet until before now, so we are unable to complete our initiative.

f. EDIIA Committee



N/A

VII. Reports by Members

a. Addy-Ban Report

I will be working on my party event tomorrow, with a pop theme. Throughout my role I learnt to manage a budget and work with my house council to plan events. I have run 6 successful events; I am particularly happy with my valentine's event.

b. Brant Report

N/A

c. Chown Report

We finished our second event, a sustainability night which was successful. Currently I am working on an egg hunt event that has been postponed. I will meet with my house council once more. This year was a great learning experience, and I was able to work on multiple committees where I worked with reslife. I hope to continue my work with ressoc next year.

d. David C. Smith Report

I was really happy to work with everyone and I learnt a lot about formal meetings and planning events.

e. Endaayaan- Tkanónsote Report

I finished my second event this semester, a St. Paddy's give away. I am planning my final event with HP Sewell.

f. Gordon-Brockington Report

N/A

g. Harkness Report

N/A

h. JRH Report

Since the last meeting I have focused on harm reduction initiatives. I have also addressed concerns of dietary restrictions. This year started off rough at JR, we have ended the year well by helping students find comfort.

i. Leggett Report

N/A

j. Leonard Report



Since the last meeting I helped with the ResSoc formal. I worked with Chown for the egg hunt. I worked with many students and internal committees.

k. McNeill Report

Since last GA I have run my St.Paddy's event that was very successful and I am planning my final event with HP Hodgins. This year I have gotten to run many successful events and meet lots of students, and I have met and talked with my house council a lot who were very helpful this year.

l. Morris Report

I ran my St.Paddy's with HP Amer and Hodgins which was very successful, running out of supplies. I am currently working on my final event where crave will be coming to Morris tomorrow. I am going to meet with my house council once more. Morris overall had a good year with minimal issues. House council has been very supportive, and I have enjoyed my time meeting with them. I ran many successful events.

m. Victoria Report

N/A

n. Waldron Report

I hosted my last event with Chown and Harkness which was very successful. I am looking forward to my last meeting with my House Council. This has been my second year in ressoc, working on the elections committee, working with house council and running events for the students of Waldron. I am glad my work was able to have a positive impact.

o. Watts Report

I have finished my events for the term. I had some great events with lots of student's attendance and lots of collaboration.

VIII. Question Period

N/A

IX. MOTION 3: Final Reading of Constitution Update

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: VP Wong

President Beckner-Stetson: No changes have been made since the last time and CAEC has approved the changes. This vote is based on your house council and students' opinions.

VP Wong: Did anyone's house council have anything to say?

HP Ban: The students were really positive and enjoyed the opportunity to read the constitution. They liked the changes and thought they were reasonable



In favour: 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried

X. MOTION 4: Final Reading of By-Law Update

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: VP Wong

President Beckner-Stetson: Last time was a very high-pressure environment. There are a lot of changes to the by-laws so I would like to have discussion. Regarding these changes, everything important was highlighted. There was a concern that house council elections were no longer a thing which could lead to less student involvement, and concerns about ressoc being known as an association across campus. The elections by-laws were changed quite a bit due to issues we had this year. Something else that is big is that officers were not written in to have a vote although they have been voting members.

In favour: 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried

XI. MOTION 5: Final Reading of Office Administrator By-Law Update

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: VP Wong

President Beckner-Stetson: There have been some concerns about the position, one question was about compensation. In the document it says \$45,000 a year. This is an extremely valuable position and adds a lot to the organization. A GM which is a step up get roughly \$60,000 which I felt we wouldn't be comfortable with. However, in my consultation, in the \$30,000 range we would only be getting a bookkeeper, and we need someone with more expertise. Some issues came up with CAEC where the Office Administrator would be taking some of the CFO's role. This however is good because there has been issue with payments not being made and things not being paid attention to. Because of this we need someone who is not a student and who is a professional that has been in the workforce that has experience. There are jobs me and the CFO have to take on other jobs that take our attention away from our main roles. For all of these reasons I think this a vital role for the organization. WE are not determining what contract or job description looks like, this just makes it possible to implement in the future.



HP Cheng: Is this a one-year contract or more long-term

President Beckner-Stetson: This is up to the incoming team; I would suggest making it a trial first before moving to a more permanent role. I would suggest looking for someone who is retired or near retirement to allow for more long-term retention.

VP Schuck: Who is hiring them? Core exec or hiring committee?

President Beckner-Stetson: I am actually unsure, and I think this again would be up to the incoming exec team with HRO involvement.

HP Sun: I thought the constitution said something about the president hiring the individual.

President Beckner-Stetson: I'm not sure I would have to look into that. The president would definitely be involved in this process.

VP Wong: At bare minimum I would suggest the president, VPSO, and HRO are involved in this process based on practical experience. Just a recommendation

Intern Kotakonda: It does say that it should be hired by the president

President Beckner-Stetson: This doesn't mean the president is the only one involved, just that they send out the documentation

HP Suntharalingham: Will they work through the summer?

President Beckner-Stetson: The way the role works in other organizations is they have a certain number of hours they work throughout the year. They can load the hours disproportionately throughout the year. At times they will be working more than other times.

In favour: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1

Result: Motion carried

XII. MOTION 6: Approval of Auditor MNP for 2023/2024 Audit

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: VP Wong

President Beckner-Stetson: Every year we must have an auditor. We are required to refresh the involvement of MNP every year as per the by-laws. This is the vote to do this. We have not done this over the past couple of years and this is important. The last time we received an audit in 2021 by MNP.

In favour: 13

Opposed: 0



Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried

XIII. MOTION 7: Reduction of Residence Society Fee

Moved by: President Beckner-Stetson

Seconded by: VP Wong

President Beckner-Stetson: Another thing we need to do every year is approve the fee. We have not done this in a very long time. We can change the fee 5%. We have lots of room to move this fee. Keeping in mind we are at the end of March and these numbers include up to February 249,000. This doesn't include larger expenses. We will have spent 350,000, and we have received 480,000 and will be receiving more at the end of the year. It is harder to raise the fee than to lower it which is why incremental decreases may be good to see what impact the changes will have. It is important to reduce the fee when things are getting more expensive for everyone taking the pressure off of students.

HP Cheng: Has there been any consideration of the new role?

President Beckner-Stetson: Including more HPs and with the new role it was still feasible.

President Beckner-Stetson: Is anyone concerned with the reduction amount?

VP Schuck: I think this is a good reduction

Officer Cao: why is it harder to raise the fee and not lower it?

President Beckner-Stetson: It would be putting more pressure on people to raise the fee in larger amounts. It is harder to formulate an argument to raise fees.

VP Wong: With queens always adding clubs and organizations it will be a welcome change to lower the fee.

VP Schuck: ResSoc fees can't be opted out of like other fees as well.

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 2

Result: Motion carried

XIV. Discussion Period

a. Elections Overview and Reflection

President Beckner-Stetson: I promised everyone we would have a general discussion about elections. We had two people run for president and VPRO, and only one running for VPSO. We received complaints regarding individuals in the process which surprised and disappointed us. The spirit of the elections is for students to decide who runs the



organization. There are circumstances where we will have to remove individuals from the processes. We are all here for the same reason and we all want the same thing. Anyone running wants to improve students' lives. If you submit complaints, there are expectations with what happens with complaints. Rulings should not be questioned because someone was not disqualified. This year made us realize there were issues with the by-laws. I hope next year the elections go smoother and I want the spirit of the elections to be to prop each other up and not put each other down. I wanted to give this opportunity for questions

HP McLaughlin: What if there is a case where someone running did something very bad and the students weren't aware of this so the students voting were unaware of the harm.

President Beckner-Stetson: That's a good question. It is not necessarily appropriate to share staff conduct with elections and incoming exec, it precludes someone changing and improving themselves. Organizations like the journal who provide people with information. The journal only publishing things said by one candidate doesn't paint the whole picture. If a situation is bad enough, maybe there should be something visible to help explain that such as statements made. You want to respect employees' chances to grow as individuals or cloud judgements.

VP Wong: If it were in the middle of an election and something happens that is bad enough, some sort of statement would be issued but would be quite vague. There would already be gossip and as an organization we don't need to add to that.

VP Schuck: The decisions on who is eligible to run is made by the elections committee and we would hope they make informed decisions.

HP Suntharalingham: For the hiring committee do they go through a hiring process?

President Beckner-Stetson: The elections team used to always be external but has in the past few years been pulled internally. This year the process we did is me and HRO interviewed the elections team with the goal of one external person and two internal as internal people will have knowledge of ResSoc and then the external person can be unbiased. We focused on ethics during hiring and how people administered punishment, we did not go into the rules as much as we wanted them to read that on their own. Future recommendations could be to vet candidates' knowledge of the rules. It is important to have external people as internal members will have inherent bias. The trend of bringing people outside of the organization needs to continue.

XV. MOTION 8: Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: HP Alam

Seconded by: President Beckner-Stetson

In favour: 13



Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion carried