

**RPIRG Board of Directors**  
**Meeging Minutes**  
**April 4th, 2008**

Present: Travis Maxie, Sarah Pederson, Shawn O'Dell, Mervin Phillips (Lawyer), Philip Adams (Chair), Erin Mulligan, Meghan Trenholm, Charene Claude

Call to Order: 3:07

**1) Go Around**

We closed the door at 3:13 because of the loudness of Kegarama downstairs.

**2) Lawyer's Presentation**

Our lawyer gave a short introduction of his involvement with work on campus. He talked about the legal ins and outs of our constitution. This was the first meeting the board had with the lawyer since incorporation. He described our constitution as a living document that is people-based, not a prescribed end, but a document for people to come along and breathe life into it.

**3) Walk for Darfur**

Lorell McDonald and Brit Mathews came to talk about the upcoming Walk for Darfur, a project that originated out of their attendance at the Millenium Scholarship conference in Edmonton. Walkers will meet in the middle between Saskatoon and Regina and walk home to raise awareness about the religious, ethnic, political upheaval in the Darfur region of Sudan. They are walking because of the significance of walking in Africa. They passed around a hand-out for more information. They discussed briefly what's happening in Darfur, what their project involves (weekly walks around Wascana, self-education about the issue and weekly meetings to share acquired knowledge and make it communal, a rally at the Bandstand in Wascana with African entertainment, food, storytelling, and opportunities for political activism. Politicians will be invited to participate. They're also doing high school presentations, showing videos, educating the kids. Each walker raises pledges and the money raised goes to War Child, a group whose mandate it is to support children and families. Walk for Darfur is working with Daughters of Africa, WUSC, SCIC, and they're talking to Amnesty International.

They're asking for 500-1000\$ from RPIRG. They're also getting funding from URSU.

They're going to hear from us after the 15<sup>th</sup> of May.

#### **4) Financial Policy**

Before the meeting Shawn passed around the proposed 3-page RPIRG Financial Policy, drafted by the Financial Committee. A policy will enable us to be accountable, transparent, more efficient.

There was a suggestion that there should be a chair for the financial committee who sends out e-mails and makes sure financial committee meetings happen every two weeks, to take the burden off Shawn.

We're going to put a limit of 100\$ in the petty cash clause. Meghan did the petty cash dance.

There should be a budget presented to the board.

BIRT the RPIRG board adopts the RPRIG Financial Policy with an ammendment to the petty cash clause limiting the petty cash box to \$100, and with a dialogue about creating a chair for the financial committee, to happen later.

Consensus reached.

#### **5) The RPIRG Library**

Phil told us he priced out shelves and accessories from Brennan which would amount to 475\$.

BIRT the RPIRG Board of Directors authorizes the spending of up to \$2,000 for the purchase of books, journals and magazine subscriptions for the RPIRG library.

Consensus reached.

He wants to have the foundations laid before he leaves for treeplanting in April, meaning he'll do as much as he can before he passes the torch. Travis volunteered to take over from him for the rest of the summer.

#### **6) Financial update by Shawn**

We asked questions about what items in the budget were. Shawn explained.

#### **7) New Office Workspace update**

It's a good thing we didn't buy a couch. We talked about the pros and cons of buying a laptop. Desktops are a lot better for design work.

BIRT RPRIG Board of Directors approves up to 600\$ for desk and chair.

BIFRT RPIRG Board of Directors also approves up to 800\$ for a computer.

Consensus reached.

The transition was today from the old board to the new board.

Meeting came to a close at 5:02.