

RPIRG Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Feb 8th, 2008

Call to Order: 3:10

Go Around: how are you?

Agenda Amendments and Time Restrictions

1. **Nathan Seckinger:** nathan wished to approach the RPIRG Board to update them on the CUQSC that was held in Montreal in January. Attempt to secure the conference for 2010 were not successful, although much progress was made, and GBLUR has a good chance of securing this conference for 2010 at the 2009 conference.

Nathan wished to have clarification as to where the funding that was approved by the RPIRG Board of Directors is now standing. He would like to know if the funding is still available for securing this conference into the future, or if GBLUR will have to approach the Board again to retain funding from RPIRG.

After his brief presentation, he wished to leave the decision up to the Board, and would like to hear back soon when a consensus is reached on this issue.

2. **Rundown of Roles in Consensus.** A brief refresher on the the roles designed for consensus decision making.
3. **Fiscal update:** brief rundown of finances by the Admin Coordinator. Hard copies of budgeting and january expense reports handed out to the Board.

4. Committee Updates:

a) Financial Committee: no formal meeting last week. Although more information about the Global Payment Mastercard was received from the bank. It is the reccomendation of the finance Committee, based on the info about the card, that RPIRG goes through with getting the Global Payment Mastercard.

RPIRG Board agrees – Consensus reached.

It is also the reccomendation of the finance committee that RPIRG switches to the “Maximizer account” in order to reduce bank fees and collect interest on the balance.

RPIRG board Agrees – Consensus reached

b) Application Assessment Committee: Brief rundown on the last meeting with this committee. Application assessment is going swimmingly!

c)Conference Update: Brief update as to progress on the conference. Everyone is encouraged to talk to people about this conference and to get people interested and registered. Ward Churchill has been secured for sure for the 13th of march. Still looking for more submissions from people for workshops and presentations.

d)PR: Brief rundown. Looking to do movie nights to get people out to PIRG events that aren't Board meetings, as they are not designed to be fun (although some of us love them so much!).

e)Mission Statement: a draft copy was worked out, and will be finalized soon!

5. **jeanette**, in addition to being a hard working Board member, will be doing a brief internship with RPIRG for her Alt Media class. This class will help her learn about a non profit groups, and provide the group with an increased media reach on a smaller budget. She looks forward to working with RPIRG, and has some ideas already brewing that will help RPIRG get its name out there.
6. **Speakers:** There is a potential to bring in a couple of speakers for the price of expenses. This is a good opportunity to bring in Derrick Jensen, while working alongside community groups to make it happen. There is also the potential of getting David Noble to come to the UofR to speak, although arrangements are not solid yet.

Is the RPIRG board interested in bringing these speakers to the Uni in March?

Yes, the board is interested. A go around of the table showed that all were interested in bringing in these speakers, although more info on costs will be need for a spending decision.

7. **Bookshelves:** Still waiting for book lists for the library. Request that \$500 of the budgeted library costs go toward getting bookshelves for the office as soon as possible.

The RPIRG board agrees – Consensus is reached.

8. **Discussion** on getting a couch for the office stalled, as there are concerns about the lack of room in the RPIRG space already. Need to be sure about this, as there are consequences for the space with this decision. More info will be needed, and more time taken on this issue.

9. **Next meeting: Feb 29th, 2008**

10. **Go around: what did you think of the meeting?**

Adjourned: 4:30