

## **RPIRG Board Meeting October 14, 2008, 5:15pm**

### **Present:**

Nikko Snyder  
Charlotte Morrissette  
Glenna Coleman  
Billy Patterson  
Sarah Pedersen  
Erin Mulligan  
Charene Claude  
Travis Maxie  
Phil Adams  
Merv Phillips

Meeting called to order 5:20pm

### **1. Legal Concerns:**

Merv Phillips (our legal council) arrived, so we adjusted the agenda to cover legal issues first.

Merv outlined the legal issues RPIRG is currently facing:

#### **Issue 1. RPIRG agreement with URSU**

RPIRG needs to move forward with an agreement with URSU regarding the remittance of funds (student membership fees). Under the draft agreement, they are to remit funds by October 15, 2008. URSU is not bringing a resolution pertaining to RPIRG to their upcoming AGM.

An agreement with URSU needs to resolve our space agreement (they may want to either charge us rent or an administrative fee to administer the funds). It also needs to ensure access to accounting information from URSU regarding how many students there are and how much it costs them to administer our funding. Merv confirmed that we are entitled to receive funding for the summer semester, but without having access to information on how many student members we have and URSU's administration costs, we can't know if the funding we're receiving is the correct amount. We need further information from URSU in order to be able to move towards an agreement with them.

Next steps:

Merv requested that the board pass the following resolution in order to be able to move forward with negotiations with URSU:

The board of RPIRG authorizes Phillips & Company to obtain from URSU all payment and account information in respect of collected RPIRG member student fees and the cost for the RPIRG space.

Sarah Pedersen moved to adopt the resolution. Following discussion, consensus was reached.

Merv requested that we send him the minutes from the two meetings held with him in the Summer. (We need to find these.)

A meeting between Merv, representatives from RPIRG board, URSU and their legal council will need to occur at some point to proceed.

#### **Issue 2. Agreement between RPIRG and the University of Regina regarding disclosure of member contact information.**

RPIRG needs to adopt a PIDA (Personal Information Disclosure Agreement) policy regarding our use of member information in order to come to an agreement with the university about receiving access to member names, student numbers, mailing addresses, phone numbers and emails.

Merv suggested that this PIDA policy can be similar (but potentially less involved) to the existing policy (need to clarify this).

A meeting between between Merv, representatives from RPIRG board and the University's VP Admin will need

to occur in order to proceed.

### **Issue 3. Constitutional Amendments**

RPIRG cannot pass any business at an AGM without reaching a quorum of half our membership (approximately 5000). To change this to a realistic quorum, and to make any other changes to the constitution, we need to proceed with a proxy vote (completed through a direct mailing to students, which they can complete as part of their registration (need to clarify this)). To proceed with the proxy vote, RPIRG needs to address issues 1 and 2, to be able to access member information.

In the meantime, we do need to address the fact that we can't pass audited financial statements this year. The board needs to ratify the audited financial statements as soon as possible. Once this is done, Merv can draft a letter to Corporations requesting an exemption from approving our financial statements at an AGM this year.

Other items:

#### 2. Consensus process (clarifying roles)

We briefly reviewed the consensus discussion we had with Jim Harding with the board members who were not present at the board retreat. This included a discussion of the importance of the role of listeners to the consensus process, the need to incorporate space and silence into the process, and the plan to have staff play the roles of facilitator (including managing the speaker's list and keeping time) and clarifier (including vibes watcher and minute taker).

#### 3. Sarah Pedersen

Sarah came to address the board, but this item was tabled. She will either address the board via Basecamp or come to a future meeting.

#### 4. Annual General Meeting

This was clarified through the discussion of legal issues with Merv. There is no point holding an AGM this year because we can't reach quorum, but we urgently need to move forward with the process of board approval of the audited financial statements so that we can work with Merv towards receiving exemption this year through Corporations Branch.

#### 5. Board Elections (clarify roles and process, confirm dates)

Tabled

#### 6. Finance Committee update

Tabled.

#### 7. Policy/Mission statement Committee update

Tabled.

#### 8. Applications assessment Committee update

Tabled.

#### 6. Date of next meeting

We discussed the possibility of meeting Tuesday October 21, 2008. Date, time and location to be confirmed.

#### 7. Meeting adjourned 7pm