

Minutes
R-PIRG Board Meeting
20 January 2012 - URSU Boardroom

OPENING ROUND

1. Check in – Call to Order
 - 1.1. In attendance: Andrea Nelson, Jon Petrychyn, Nathaniel Cole, Jenn Bergen, Anna Dipple, Carolyn Greve, Ashley Mantei.
 - 1.2. Regrets:
2. Requests for changing agenda items:
 - 2.1. Bergen requests 4.2 re: Election Bylaws be tabled to next meeting.
 - 2.2. Greve requests a discussion regarding RPIRG visibility be added to the agenda. Added as 5.4.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Meeting length: 5:15 – 7:00 PM
2. Consent to minutes of last meeting – **CARRIED**
 - 2.1. Petrychyn notes the incorrect spelling of Dan Shier's name.
3. Announcements
 - 3.1. Greve notes Chantel Hebert is speaking next Tuesday (24 Jan) at 7:30 on campus.
 - 3.2. Petrychyn notes the Carillon Cabaret is this evening at the Pump.
4. Acceptance of agenda – **CARRIED**
5. Acceptance of facilitator and minutes-taker – **CARRIED**
 - 5.1. Cole on minutes, Dipple as facilitator.
6. Next meeting date – 3 February, 2012 @ 5:15 PM

MATTERS OF CONTENT

1. Presentations
 - 1.1. none
2. Acceptance of committee reports
 - 2.1. Financial report (Greve) - Highlights some extra money is available due in part to a high enrolment. Working groups have only used some of the money available to them. A brief discussion on working group infrastructure follows. Greve continues: Apathy Into Action is on budget, and Generating Momentum expenses incurred by the PIRG were halved over 2010's event.
 - 2.1.1. Policy Report (Mantei) – The committee met and the election and by-election bylaws are solidifying, and will be available for board ratification next meeting. Cole notes that he is interested in changing the by-election process so that the board can elect and ratify any new board members in a by-election. Such a change requires constitutional change and would have to go to the AGM.

*Order breaks down, and a discussion into how to spend extra money begins. Awards and scholarships are discussed. No consensus is achieved.

- 2.2. Events and Marketing (Nelson) – Apathy Into Action is essentially ready to go, the committee is contacting groups on campus and promoting the event. Further discussion will happen during ‘Discussion items or issues.’

3. Staff Reports

- 3.1. Executive Director (Bergen) - Online form for Apathy into Action is ready and posters are up. The Memorandum of Understanding with the Community Research Unit is ready and will be discussed later in the agenda. Bergen updates the board on the Community University Gardens project: RPIRG was granted \$7000.00 by the University, which will fund a student coordinator for the gardens. The gardens will be located between the academic green and the Archer Library.
- 3.2. Outreach and Events Coordinator (Dipple) – The January newsletter is out. She notes that she has been ‘tweeting up a storm.’

4. Proposals or motions

- 4.1. Community Research Unit Memorandum of Understanding
 - 4.1.1. Nelson calls for friendly amendments to no dissent.
 - 4.1.2. BIRT RPIRG sign and ratify the MOU with the CRU, regarding Community Action Projects.

CARRIED

5. Discussion items or issues

- 5.1. Activism 101 – postponed due to poor timing with Apathy Into Action. The board agrees that it should take place sometime in the fall.
- 5.2. RPIRG’s Fifth Birthday (19 March 2012) – The board agrees the event should be for the benefit of a local organization. Ideas are discussed: balloons, steak night, bands, all-day cake, ‘pour a pint for poverty.’ Cole agrees to contact Alexis at the Owl to make arrangements for the event there. Going forward, the board agrees to serve RPIRG cupcakes during the day (and maybe evening), venue will have balloons with PIRG-related FYIs on them. Plan to have a programme at 8 PM – music, trivia, etc.
- 5.3. Apathy Into Action - Cole agrees to pick up snacks for Friday at Costco; \$250.00 budget. Set-up on Friday morning will be spearheaded by Nelson and Petrychyn.
- 5.4. Campus Profile of RPIRG – a discussion regarding the lack of visibility on campus. Possible solutions coming out of the discussion include meeting with relevant groups to educate them (Ambassadors, e.g.), and casual tabling in the Riddell Centre.

CLOSING ROUND

1. What went well, what can be improved? – Rounds during discussion would keep order better. When time permits, we tend to get off topic, but is not a problem at this point. Minutes need to come in more timely (within 48 hours)

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2. Miscellaneous – Petrychyn suggests an event highlighting on-going issues we've forgotten about, such as Attawapiskat, Gulf Oil Spill, etc. Reminder that RPIRG needs a presence at the Student Day of Action on 1 February and the URSU teach-in on 25 January.