



SSMU LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

1. Call to Order: **18:23**.

The meeting is called to order at **6:23 PM**.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker presents the land acknowledgement to the Councillors.

3. Attendance

The Speaker conducts attendance.

4. Update on/Approval of last Council's minutes

President Tojiboeva amends to change "VP Internal" to "Councillor Khopkar" on page 4 of the Council Minutes. Seconded by the VP Internal. The amendment passes with all in favour.

The minutes are approved.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

Councillor Tarrabain motions to amend to move the environment representative report to the next meeting. The motion carries.

VP Internal motions to approve the agenda. Seconded. The agenda is approved.

6. Guest Speakers

7. Announcements (5)

VP Earle congratulates SACOMSS on celebrating their 25th anniversary today.

Councillor Chan announces that the AUS is having their town hall on Monday November 20 from 5:30-7:30 in the AUS lounge to discuss governance.



Councillor Dinh explains that POTUS received a new office after the last one burned down over the summer.

Councillor DeMoulin announces that IRC is hosting their first free food event.

Councillor Jiao invites all of Council to come to the Pots and Pans game on Saturday, with the Martlets playing at 4 and the men playing at 6.

Councillor Campbell announces that the EUS successfully held their first GA in a long time, and held quorum the whole time, passing amendments to 8 bylaws.

The VP Internal announces that the SSMU regrets to inform everyone that the VP Finance has resigned, effective today.

The Speaker announces that voting will not be done by clickers because they aren't working, so individual links are being posted to the Council Facebook group. Those who are not part of the Facebook group but are proxies should ask the members they are proxying for for the link.

8. Question Period (5)

Marina from the Daily asks how the VP Finance's work will be carried out in their absence. VP Koparkar responds that the executive team will be discussing how tasks will be delegated, with the hope of having bylaw elections to have a new VP Finance by the winter semester.

Councillor Junejo asks what will happen to the funding committee. VP Earle responds that it will continue as usual, with VP Earle as the supervisor of the VP Finance staff. Councillor Junejo follows up, asking if club reps will be put on the finance committee like last year. VP Earle invites the Councillor to send them an email.

Councillor Chan asks how members at large will be selected for the accountability committee. The Parliamentarian explains that an application was posted online 2 weeks ago. They will be overlooking applications for members at large.

Councillor Campbell asks why voting is taking place over Facebook, and how the links are being shared with proxies. The Parliamentarian answers that they are voting via the link on Facebook because Turning Point is a mess, but they are aiming to have this figured out by next council. For those proxying, if possible, other Councillors will share the links with them.

Councillor Lametti asks the VP External why they were on the No Committee for the referendum question regarding increasing GA Quorum to 350, when this also included the



names of two members of Council who resigned last year amid controversy. The VP External answers that when the names were posted, they thought that they were fake, because they didn't know many of the people listed were on the committee. It turned out that it was real, and they were incredibly upset, and the VP External wants to make it clear that they would not have signed if they had known that Igor Sadikov and Ben Ger's names were on that committee. Basically they had about half an hour to gather 10 signatures to form that no committee, and it's really important that all students have the right to form a no committee should they so choose. The VP External was comfortable putting their name there only if it meant they didn't have to campaign actively, which they felt would be inappropriate. The VP wanted them to be able to form a no campaign but wouldn't campaign actively for them at all.

Question period elapses.

9. New Business

- a. Motion for Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors to Undertake the Selection of Future Board Members Anonymously;

VP Spencer reads the motion.

The proxy for Councillor Anderson asks for confirmation that removing names is with the goal of removing identifying information, and motions to amend "candidates' names" to "candidates' names and other identifying information where possible". The VP External says the amendment is friendly.

Councillor Dinh asks if this means that at the GA, people would not know the names they are ratifying. VP Spencer clarifies that this would just apply to the nominating committee when they are reviewing the initial applications. The second part is an interview so that part couldn't be anonymous, but the first part would be anonymous. After the interview, the nominating committee would recommend these names to the Board, and then they get ratified at the GA. The VP invites any other suggestions on decreasing bias, but this is a first step.

Councillor Campbell asks if there is an official policy or written document that explains the process for nominating members, because if not, this should be added. The Parliamentarian, as chair of the nominating committee, says there is no policy.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson repeats their motion for amendment now that we have moved out of Question Period. VP External repeats that it is friendly.



Councillor Zhou asks what happens in the instance where there is an aspect of someone's identification, like a departmental position that only one person holds. For instance, if a departmental executive applies and the committee knows this person, would they be discredited for this? The VP External responds that this is just their own idea, but is open to if anyone thinks differently, but basically no, that shouldn't be removed. But what needs to happen is a policy should be created on how this happens. The VP UA is working on equitable hiring within student staff, and this needs to be extended. In terms of the larger conversation over what should be redacted, anyone who has a relationship with a candidate should disclose that to the committee, so there are other things that should be put in place beyond just anonymous applications.

Councillor Lametti asks, if no policy exists, who should be responsible for elaborating it. Once that is considered, they would encourage Council to get an amendment going that gets the ball rolling on this. VP Oke reiterates that there is a job opening going on right now for an equitable hiring position who will look at exactly these things, so right now this would be an interim step to deal with cases that come to us now, while we look at sustainable and equitable practices in the future.

VP Earle asks the Parliamentarian if the Board of Directors doesn't just follow the same hiring process as SSMU staff, so wouldn't it fall under that policy? The Parliamentarian replies that all the candidates were reviewed on Smart Recruiters and then interviews were done by phone either by the chair or two members of the committee. Questions were provided by the HR coordinators, and after interviews the candidates were evaluated with a points system based on who was the best fit for the position, and then a decision was made.

Councillor Campbell has a point of personal privilege, asking for the text to be made larger.

Move to vote by link posted on Facebook group. With 27 votes in favour, none opposed, and no abstentions, the motion is approved.

b. Motion to Call for a Special Referendum Period;

VP Spencer reads the motion.

Councillor Lametti says that the beginning of the proposed nominating period has already been passed and asks how it will be modified. VP Spencer says this now needs to be launched into a broader conversation. It was possible to have this happen, but



the VP is uncertain now, because they burnt out last week. To be able to pull off these time periods, the lobbying at the board would have had to happen, and the legal review, but in VP Spencer's opinion there is not time for legal review at this time. That being said, they leave it open to Councillors if they still want to go forward with this, but a lot more work would have had to be done and this was only being done by the VP External, who wasn't able to put in the necessary work last week, and apologizes for this.

Councillor Mackinnon wants Council to ask themselves whether it would be appropriate to have another vote right now when there is a series of votes that have been going on since the beginning of the semester, and students are overwhelmed with all the voting, and this might be a rushed decision that is not appropriate right now.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson asks if there would be enough time in the following semester to complete the necessary steps so that the changes could be implemented in time for the GA or other planned votes, referenda, etc. VP Spencer responds that this is what gets into the wider conversation. Spencer is really frustrated that there has been so little information between offices and a lot of the information communicated in the CEO report sent today was not communicated to the VP despite the VP being totally available, and they want to start a conversation within this Council.

Councillor Zhou motions to extend QP by 5 mins. Seconded by Councillor Chan. The motion passes.

The VP External continues. VP Spencer recommends as a mover of this motion that this isn't approved now and is instead moved to next winter. But then a very long conversation needs to be launched about how we govern internally. There are a lot of students on campus who are very frustrated, including us, and we need to look at what we hold as our values within SSMU governance and what we value a democracy. We need to look at if we can have that conversation in this council or if other forums need to be looked at. It can't just be left to whoever is willing to pick this up, because it's unhealthy and it doesn't get done. There needs to be a broader decision from Council about whether we are going to start this broader conversation on governance, and the VP believes it needs to be done at this group because these are elected representatives, and asks Council if they are willing to start that process.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson asks that given there are multiple amendments, and given the comments made by the Deputy Provost today, whether it is possible to



strike a committee that would be able to review everything. VP Oke responds that building off of the past comment, committees are helpful, but the VP would encourage someone to put the responsibility on someone to put together all of the options that Council can act on moving forward, so that these can be brought to Council for further discussion. So, they would need to find out whether we need to go to legal review first, where the money would come from, what the infrastructure is, etc, so that there is a baseline for discussion to move this conversation forward.

President Tojiboeva asks for clarification on the context. VP Oke replies that committees are an option but not the only option, so they suggest a mandate for someone, probably the executive, to put together a list of options.

Councillor Oke motions to extend QP by 2 minutes. Seconded by Councillor Bulger. This motion carries.

Councillor Zhou prefaces their question by thanking the executives for all the hard work that they do, especially now with all of the amendments and referenda, and they recognize that the workload on executives is disproportionately high. They would say maybe moving forward with a commission for an outside group or student interest group that could be aided by faculties could be a way to deal with creating a list of options.

Councillor Campbell asks if Council could mandate the Board to create a committee. The committee seems like it should be a Board committee, just based on the way that Quebec law works.

Councillor Campbell asks in a point of parliamentary inquiry why there is a time limit on Question Period time. The speaker responds that this is in Robert's Rules.

Councillor Junejo motions to extend QP by 2 minutes. Seconded by Councillor Campbell. Motion carries.

The VP External explains that they believe this could happen at the board level, but they encourage it to happen at this level to ensure that there is adequate faculty representation and student consultation, which is best facilitated by Council. There could be Board representation on the group created by Council.

Councillor Campbell asks if a joint committee can be made that would report to both committees. VP External says this would be possible, but wants to return to the VP



UA's idea of giving someone a specific mandate to look at exactly these options, and to talk to Councillors around the table.

Proceed to debate.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson thinks it would be appropriate to amend this main motion to mandate SSMU executives to take this and look at options in terms of how this should be dealt with. They recommend the VP Internal and VP External be the ones mandated to do this.

Councillor Lametti agrees that the course of actions mentioned are appropriate and they endorse that. They would also like to speak about why it is not a good idea to move forward with the special referendum and how to prevent this. It seems that the main issues were with time and with accountability. In the future, the proposed amendments could be made public, and it should be ensured that movers know about changes to their motions and that all the correct signatures have been obtained.

Councillor Zhou says the executive portfolios will be swamped, especially with the recent resignation, and says that we should confirm that the executives are okay with putting in the tremendous physical and emotional labour and if not, that the legislative council has much more resources to undergo this.

Councillor Campbell agrees and suggests that perhaps a Councillor volunteer agree to take this role on, especially since the executive is now covering the work of two missing members.

The Proxy for Councillor Anderson commends the point made by Councillor Zhou that the executive committee is extended at the moment, however their understanding is that the work would simply involve looking at options and presenting options to Council, and wouldn't involve actually creating the committee, so it would hopefully not be exhausting work.

Councillor Koch says that considering one of the issues is that Elections SSMU wasn't properly consulted, and the people put a lot of work in, and the VP External shouldn't be too hard on themselves. Considering the Board has a lot of the final decisions on this, shouldn't they be the ones working with Elections SSMU on this?

VP Spencer agrees that for the actual committee all of those voices should be on board, but in terms of finding the options and presenting this to Council, this should be mandated to the Executive, with the understanding that the VP External might be



asking for support in other projects with the executives. They also recommend that the VP UA is added to this mandate.

Time extended by 5 minutes by Councillor Junejo. Councillor Chan seconds. Motion passes.

The VP External wants to make the point to thank everyone who is willing to do the labour, because this is really what they wanted to gauge, however they also want to drive home that executives are paid, which makes this labour more accessible to them. Thank you to everyone who volunteers to do this, but there also needs to be a conversation about paid and unpaid labour in this union.

Councillor Zhou motions to call the question. The motion passes.

Voting by link in Facebook group. With 3 in favour, 20 opposed, and 5 abstaining, the motion is defeated.

Councillor Lametti motions to suspend the rules of Council to add a fifth point on the agenda for a motion to mandate the executive to take action. Seconded by the Proxy for Councillor Anderson. 2/3 majority needed. With 27 Councillors in favour and 1 out of the room, and 0 opposed, the rules of Council are suspended.

The motion is added to the agenda.

The Council is called back to good order.

- c. Motion Regarding the Council Nominating on the Special Committee on Anti-Semitism;

President Tojiboeva reads the motion.

Councillor Demoulin asks for more detail on what the representative would be doing on Council. The President responds that they would be representing Council and would be reporting back to Council with the recommendations that come from the committee.

Councillor Campbell asks where the full terms of reference for the committee are. The President explains that they are under the tab of October 29 on the Board of Directors page on the SSMU website.



VP Oke asks for clarification as to why the committee was struck under the Board of Directors and not under Legislative Council, where it seems it might fit better just based on its scope. The President responds that a Board member came up with this motion and it was seconded and voted on, but it is only here for this year, and next year it could be struck under Legislative Council. It is primarily a committee for stakeholders to discuss things that the Board and Council could then take into account.

Proxy for Anderson asks who the Councillor would be. The President says this is the next question and asks who would like to be nominated.

Councillor Koch has knowledge and passion about this and would be happy to be the Councillor nominated to the committee.

Councillor DeCunna asks if it was stated anywhere that the committee will only exist for a year. The SSMU President is verifying and will get back to the Councillor.

Councillor Campbell says that the committee sort of reports to both Council and the Board, but in 1.3 and 1.4, they report only to the Board and not to Council. Campbell asks why this is the case.

President motions to extend. Seconded by Campbell. Motion carries.

The President says this is a good idea and will bring this to the Board to amend the terms of reference to include this. Councillor Campbell asks if this could also be made a joint committee.

President Tojiboeva says they aren't sure what exactly this entails, but it sounds like it could be done.

The Proxy for Anderson says there seems to be one Board and one Council member already, so how is that different from a joint committee? Councillor Campbell says a committee is ultimately accountable to the group from which it stems and the Board is the only one who can change the terms of reference, but if it is under Legislative Council too, then Council can have more oversight and ensure it is doing what it was meant to do.

The Proxy for Councillor Anderson says there are already 4 Council members on the Board, so Council is already represented. Councillor Campbell says this is not the case because the new board hasn't been ratified. The current composition of the Board



does not have the 4 council representatives it is supposed to have, but coincidentally has one or two.

Councillor Lametti moves an amendment to add a be it further resolved clause that legislative council asks the committee to present their findings at council in the winter semester. Seconded by Councillor Campbell.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson asks if, given that the committee has already been struck under the board, the council has the authority to do this. Councillor Lametti explains that Council can't mandate the Board, but this amendment is to ask them nicely.

President Tojiboeva says that at the next Board meeting the terms of reference can be changed, making it a joint committee and adding this amendment.

VP Spencer asks if the language of the amendment can be changed to mandate the President in her capacity as chair of the board to bring these amendments forward to the Board. This amendment to the amendment is friendly.

Councillor Dinh says that since Councillor Lametti is a mover of the motion, this amendment could be friendly if all movers are amendable. All movers say it is friendly. The motions has been amended.

Proxy for Anderson motions to call the question.

Councillor Decunna asks if a nominee has to be selected first.

The speaker says that calling the question is out of order until a nominee has been chosen.

Councillor Koch volunteered to be the councillor on the committee.

The Speaker asks the three movers of the motion if the addition of the councillor's name on the motion is friendly. It is. The motion now lists Councillor Koch as the nominee.

Councillor Lametti motions for a two minute recess. Proxy for Anderson seconds. Motion to recess passes.

The speaker calls the meeting back to order.



No debate or motions on the floor.

Move to vote on main motion. With 23 in favour, 1 opposed, and 2 abstaining, the motion carries.

d. Motion to Amend the Standing Rules;

Councillor Lametti presents the motion.

VP Spencer asks how the Councillors must be notified of the documents. Councillor Campbell responds that they suggest through email, using the council@ssmu.ca list. President Tojiboeva asks if it can also be added to the drive or Facebook so that proxies can access it. Councillor Campbell responds that it could be put through Facebook and Council. The motion is friendly amended to add that Councillors be notified through Facebook and Email.

The proxy for Councillor Anderson asks if it is wise to specify the medium considering mediums will change over time. Councillor Campbell answers that it is important to specify something, and standing rules are only valid for one year, and they don't foresee Facebook collapsing before April. It is important to specify at least something to keep people accountable.

No debate.

Proceed to voting by link on Facebook group.

Councillor Campbell asks if the names of proxies have been recorded so that their names are correlated to who they are representing. The Speaker responds that they are asked to specify their name on the attendance sheet.

With all Councillors in favour, none opposed, and none abstaining, the motion carries.

e. Motion to Mandate the Executive Committee to Look Into a Committee on Governance

Councillor Lametti reads the motion.

VP Spencer asks if it is possible to change the be it resolved to bringing forward options rather than coming forward with a specific route being taken. Perhaps several



options can be presented, each with their terms of reference. This is an amendment and it is friendly.

Councillor Zhou adds on as a third mover.

VP Earle asks the executives and the movers if any one person wants to spearhead this initiative, since Earle knows they will not have the time to do the work and won't want to take credit on behalf of the Board. The President suggests that it could be joint between the President and the VP External. VP Spencer wants the names to be External, Internal, and University, because the President is taking some leave. The President would still like to be on the group coming up with options, especially to bring a perspective from the Board. The amendment is withdrawn so that it still reads "executive committee".

Councillor Campbell wants to amend the list of people working on this to add their own name. This amendment is friendly. It now reads "executive committee and Councillor Campbell".

Councillor Oke proposes a friendly amendment to say in the second be it resolved clause that legislative council mandate the VP External to coordinate the creation of the motion being brought forward.

Councillor Chan motions to recess for 5 minutes. Seconded by Councillor Bulger. The motion passes.

Meeting called back to order. Motion with new amendments is projected on the screen.

Councillor Campbell says there is no list of Council members who want to be involved, when the motion says there is one.

Councillor Decunna asks if proxies can join this group. VP Spencer says not for this group, but yes for the committee that comes out of this.

FYC, President, and Engineering, VP External, VP Internal, and VP University Affairs are the list of Council members who want to be involved and will be coordinated by the VP Executive.

With 25 in favour, none opposed, and none abstaining, the motion carries.



End of new business.

10. Reports by Committees

a. Executive Committee (5)

President Tojiboeva presents the report.

Councillor proxy for Anderson asks what the catering fee is. VP Earle responds that the catering services that SSMU can provide for events are limited, so the fee will be waived for groups that SSMU can't cater to.

b. Steering Committee (5)

Councillor Dinh presents the report.

c. Clubs Report (5)

Councillor Chan presents the report.

d. AVEQ-UEQ Fall Congress Report (5)

VP Spencer presents the report.

e. Francophone Affairs Committee (5)

President Tojiboeva presents the report.

11. Councillor Report

a. Councillor Buland Junejo, Clubs Representative

Councillor Junejo presents the report.

Councillor Campbell asks if the Councillor would like to know more about the funding committee. Councillor Junejo responds that this would be favourable.

b. Councillor Jamal Tarrabain, Environment Representative

Moved to next meeting as per the amendments to the agenda.



- c. Councillor Nishat Syed, Dentistry Representative

Councillor Syed presents the report.

12. Executive Reports

- a. VP (Finance) (3)

- b. VP (Student Life) (3)

VP Earle presents the report.

- c. VP (Internal) (3)

VP Koparkar presents the report.

- d. VP (University Affairs) (3)

VP Oke presents a translated report in French, with the English version projected on the screen.

- e. VP (External) (3)

VP Spencer presents the report.

Proxy for Councillor Anderson asks what impact the MPs Spencer spoke to will have at McGill. VP Spencer responds that they are interested in knowing if something like Title 9 should be implemented nationwide in Canada. What has gone wrong provincially is that a lot of policies that mandate sexual violence policies do not also include measures for accountability.

- f. President (3)

The President presents the report.

Councillor Decunna asks for clarification on what 300 pages are being summarized. The President clarifies that they are looking at creating an executive summary of the Board of Directors documents to make them more accessible. President Decunna follows up asking if these documents are already publicly available. The President responds that they are, but to make them more accessible they wanted to summarize the information.



Councillor Campbell asks what is happening with the Board of Directors membership considering the old Board should have ended their mandate. The President explains that they sent an email last week explaining the situation they are in, and that is all they have at the moment in terms of information. Basically, up until the Judicial Board provides a resolution on this matter, they aren't able to do anything, because it is the J-Board's duty to deal with this decision. The President doesn't want to rush this because they are working with their own internal deadline. Councillor Campbell follows up asking how it is possible that there is no more information than the President's 2-sentence email. What is the Board debating? What is the process? Do they have a timeline? How long will they be in limbo? What led to the decision to keep the current board? The President responds that in the interim order they said they want to have a hearing, and after this hearing we will know the next step. The members are being held over because as a Board they are obligated to follow Judicial advice. The President has been told that the latest deadline for resolving this issue is the end of this semester.

13. Confidential Session

14. Adjournment 21:18

VP Koparkar motions to adjourn. Seconded by Councillor Chan. Motion passes. Council adjourned at 9:18 PM.


Muna Tojiboeva, SSMU President

Dec. 5th, 2017


Catharina O'Donnell, Recording Secretary