



# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

1. Call to Order: 18:06;
2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker reads the Land Acknowledgment to the Councillors.

3. Attendance

Attendance is done by the Speaker.

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

The Speaker asks the President to give an update on the Council minutes from last week. The President explains that the recording secretary resigned last week and now two new recording secretaries have been hired this week and the minutes are currently being done by Michal (GM Assistant) and will be completed for next council meeting.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to amend the agenda by VP External, seconded by Councillor Bulger: to add to the agenda that a speaker from AVEQ will come to make a presentation. The Speaker asks if everybody is in favor; there are no objections; this motion passes.

The Speaker passes to motion the adoption of the agenda. All are in favor. This motion passes.

Motion to take a 2 minute recess by the Speaker while we get the projector to work in the room. This motion passes.

6. Guest Speakers

- a. Jordan Steiner, Lester Asset Management

Mr. Steiner is the portfolio manager for Lester Asset Management. Mr. Lester is also present at the meeting. Mr. Lester is also a finance professor and involved in investor management programs at McGill. After the bookstore on McTavish closed, Mr. Lester was contacted by students from McGill as an



investment project. Mr. Lester sold his company to Mr. Steiner, and proceeds by giving the microphone to Mr. Steiner to give the presentation.

Mr. Steiner explains that their firm manages \$300 million. They have accounts all over the country. There's not many firms like this, maybe 2 or 3 more. Mr. Steiner explains that social responsible investing concerns applied to SSMU to fit with our views. The returns that they've done for the past 10 years. They've been given a mandate to keep 40% in stocks and 60% in bonds. Mr. Steiner then gives a presentation about the Executives who sit on the board in their company and then asks if anybody has any further questions.

VP Finance asks why the portfolio is mainly Canadian. Mr. Steiner explains that it's mostly Canadian and if something happens to the stock market in the US and the Canadian market increases, then that will be great for SSMU. Mr. Lester also explains the Canadian market happens to be their expertise. They feel that they know management companies in Canada and they can add more value.

Councillor Anderson asks if the company consults with SSMU on what to invest in. Mr. Steiner explains that every year, the company sits with VP Finance and ask what would be the best for Council and they do what the client wants, as SSMU is the boss.

Mr. Lester explains that they also sit with another student association in a different university who have somewhat of the same mission as SSMU and it actually resembles that of SSMU. Mr. Lester states that if the client asks the company to buy from a stock of a coal company for example, they will decline as it is not socially responsible.

Councillor Mutoko asks what would occur if something happened; how would people get their money back. Mr. Lester explains that there was never a bond fail thus far and that we shouldn't really worry about that. Mr. Lester explains that they already had a somewhat of a bad experience a few years ago and hopefully that does not happen again. Mr. Steiner explains that all the money is stocked in National Bank and no money is being kept in their offices, so they do not have access to that money, on SSMU does.

Mr. Steiner thanks the Councillors for their time.

Since there are no further questions on the floor, the Speaker thanks Mr. Steiner and Mr. Lester for their presentation.

b. Sara Halickman and Uros Milekic, Fuller Landau

The Speaker presents the next guest speakers.

The guest speakers were the auditors from FL from May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. Mr. Milekic was also the auditor last year for the SSMU.



The first qualification and the most important is the cash transactions. The auditors cannot be there every single day to make sure that all the transactions are in place. The second qualification is the SSMU Daycare finances. This will not be presented during this presentation. The cash equivalence of May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017, \$8.6 million dollars versus \$7 million in the prior year; that increase was generated by the surplus of the past year.

Capital assets = \$750,000

Capital expenditures = \$250,000 = pretty consistent from year to year.

Accounts payable = due to health and dental plan reserve fund. Increase there.

The biggest item of revenues is Student Fees. Student-run Café ceased in May 2017, in 2017, it had a \$80,000 loss.

There are also notes about financial statements and describes and annotates any numbers that are shown to Council during this presentation.

The Speaker opens question/answer period.

Councillor Campbell asks about the last sheet of numbers, the revenues are significantly higher than last year and she wonders what the difference is and what happened for the increase to spike. Mr. Milekic explains that there's been some changes in expenditures and other things that's why there was an increase in revenue.

c. Amelia Brinkerhoff, Bike Facility

The Speaker presents the next guest speaker. Amelia Brinkerhoff from the Bike Facility and a few of her colleagues begin their presentation.

Amelia works in the McGill Office for Sustainability. Paul Gunther. Johnathan Nordland is always present for funding purposes.

In the University Centre building, they would like to set up a bike facility. Essentially it would increase bike usage around campus. It would be a year-round safe bike facility. There would be 350 spaces and there would be a heated ramp for ice and snow, showers and lockers facilities that would be gender neutral. This project move the FLAT Bike space into the Bike Center. There would also be space for storage for Players Theatre.

Paul Gunther presents about the Bike Facility. Parking became somewhat useless and it became a storage space in the garage. In April 2016 SSMU asked a question to its members if they want a Bike Facility and 83% said yes. There would be different memberships, for showers, for lockers and for bikes. There would also be a division of 1/3 for students, 1/3 for staff and 1/3 would be flexible for seasonal members. This will be funded by capital funds that would be equally shared by the university and the SSMU. Any deficits would be shared by both parties. Project membership fees would be between 13-26\$ per semester for bike, 13-15\$ for showers and \$10 for admin. 1.9 million dollars for the project. University and facilities will fund half of that amount. Sustainability project fund will fund \$300,000. SSMU funding? How is the SSMU going to get \$800,000? IRF Fund. Internally restricted fund. It would only be used for the



university Centre. It would have to be matched by the SSMU and it requires university approval. This fund is currently identified by the SSMU of 800,000. But it's been used for repairs of bathrooms and things like that.

About 11% of the McGill community has been recognized as regular bike commuters. They would like to have bikes being locked safely instead of to trees or elsewhere. April 2015 Legislative Council was already talking about this two years ago. Last year, the execs applied for SPF fund for this project. It would increase amount of safe parking and decrease the amount of theft. There would also be winter cycling and the showers would also be available for those who would like to take a jog during the day and would like to access the showers with the memberships.

Sustainable space as the bike facility: year-long consultation about this and the project came up a lot and the McGill office for Sustainability felt that it would be a great initiative to act against climate change and action.

They have worked with SSMU Executives for the past 3 years and now they would like to present to the legislative council about the project because they have a deadline that is coming up. However, they would need a MoU by October 31<sup>st</sup>

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks what would be the timeline for the project if it does get approved: the VP Operations of this Bike Facility is here to present about this topic. If we want to merge all the projects together, it would have to be August 2018, it would have to be the same time frame as the HVAC project. Motion to extend question period by Councillor Bulger, seconded by Councillor Wilson.

Councillor Anderson asks about the survey that was done; it included staff and students. Councillor asks why they wouldn't have more space for students in the Bike Facility when it was mentioned by the guest speakers that there's a lot students who lock their bikes in unsafe spaces on campus. Paul Gunther explains that if demands drop for a certain group they would increase it to give spaces to staff or vice versa to students.

Councillor Bulger questions if they would be partnering with the OSD and accessibility offices and for off-campus students. Paul Gunther explains that the bike facility would definitely partner with OSD. Every space in there is accessible.

Councillor Wilson asks how they would go about to providing opportunities for students, such as first-come first-serve type of service? Paul Gunther explains that they have not covered these basis yet and is unsure of how they would go about doing this.

Motion by Councillor Mansdoerfer to extend 5 mins, seconded by Councillor Zhou.

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks who would cover the facilities cost? Paul Gunther explains that university would cover the entirety of the maintenance.

Councillor Mutoko asks how they would convince people to park their bike for money when they can do it for free, and how they would convince people who shower at the gym to shower in the bike facility for money? Guest speaker Mike explains that as a biker he would explain to people that instead of their boke



getting rusty outside especially in the winter, they would have a safe space and a locker for their bike accessories.

VP External asks why the university, who doesn't want to provide any money would invest in a space for 350 people when only about 110 of them would be students who would have to not only pay for the fees to fund this project but also for the fees for their membership and why would we want to invest into a project of \$1.9 million when it may be that the SSMU would have to look for another building? Paul Gunther and Amelia explain that investing into this project would still allow for cyclists to get benefits from this. Paul Gunther explains that even if we would have to have a new building for the university center, it would still be a good investment for those cyclists and members who would want to use those facilities.

d. Krista Houser and Francois Miller, McGill Office of Sustainability

Krista Houser was here to present 2 weeks ago. Francois Miller is also present about the referendum question here.

Krista does a recap of what SPF is. New project that was launched a few days ago is the Free Little Libraries for students and staff to borrow, share and keep books in the boxes all over campus. SPF started through a student movement in partnership with the administration. The fee would be for 0.55 Student fees will be matched if the referendum passes for the next 5 years.

The Speaker opens the Question/Answer period.

President asks if it's only a \$0.02 increase on the fee from last year. That is confirmed by Amelia.

Councillor Mutoko asks how it works when the fee is taken from each student. Amelia explains that it would only be for students who take up to 15 credits per session.

There are no more questions. The speaker moves onto presenting the next guest speakers.

e. Kristen from AVEQ

AVEQ has been around for the past few years. It was Emilie Fortier, former VP external who was very involved in AVEQ about 3 years ago. Advocating for all students across Quebec, Anglophones and Francophones. Focus on solidarity, social justice, etc. All the discussions include the members during the assemblies. There's a lot of campaigns going on: accessible education and climate justice.



Research assistant Sophia presents: health insurance for international students and how that plays into accessibility and education. Some other research includes tuition deregulation and university funding model.

Kristen also talks about mobilization: how to plan a campaign, how to talk to the media, providing resources, etc. Advocates for the rights of students, mostly provincial and educational issues.

Question/period begins.

Councillor Lametti asks why there are no minutes available from previous meetings on the website. Kristen explains that they are usually sent right away to organizations.

Councillor Mutoko would like to motion to extend question period by 7 minutes, seconded by Councillor Demir.

Councillor Anderson asks if they were voted down during the GA in SSMU. It is explained that the new team that is coming June 1<sup>st</sup>, AVEQ has expanded more and there's more staff and there's a lot more going on and a lot of research going on. Political advocacy also became significantly important.

Councillor Mutoko would like to know how much are the fees that we would pay for this? It would be \$3.50 per semester/student and it's indexed. The fee would mostly go to payroll; executives, full-time staff, etc.

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks how they are compared to other students associations. Sophia explains that the other student organizations have about 75,000 students.

Councillor Zhou asks what percentage of the annual fee goes specifically to payroll. This year it's close to 60-65% that will go to payroll but in the future years they would like to keep it to 50%.

Councillor Mansdoerfer motions to extend question period to 5 more minutes, seconded by Councillor Zhou.

The President asks how they would divide the needs and interests of other universities. Sophia answers that there's different groups in different universities that have different needs. AVEQ will make sure that they will be research done and recommendation will be shown. Half of the staff is in Montreal and the other half of the staff is in other regions doing research and making sure that everything is being taken care of.

Councillor Campbell asks what the process of leaving AVEQ is. Kristen says that we can just write them a letter saying that we don't want to be associated with them anymore.



## 7. Question Period (5)

Councillor Thayalan asks the Speaker a question regarding BDS to the President. If she was one of three justices, what motivated her to do this? The President asks that she had no financial gains from this.

VP Spencer asks if we will receive any statements of the Board of Directors minutes or decisions that have been taken. President answers that she sent out an email to all councilors.

VP Internal asks why if section 7.1 states that the chair of the board of director must present a report from the board of directors, one hasn't been completed on time? The President replies that she was not aware that she needed to prepare one.

George Gabriel: Arts faculty student asks why the Minutes from the Board are not posted online. The GM explains that the Minutes are posted on our old website, as we were in the process of working on launching the new SSMU website where all the Minutes would be available.

Motion to extend question period by 2 minutes.

Councilor Anderson would like to know when the new website be launching? The GM explains that the website will launch next week but in the meantime we will post the minutes on the old website.

The Tribune's journalist Audrey would like to ask to know why the Board of Directors resolution book has not been updated in over a year. Councilor Anderson says that she doesn't know why it wasn't updated in over a year. The President explains that she will address this issue so that the resolution book will be updated. The GM also explains that it hasn't been updated because the Minutes were not approved until recently.

## 8. Announcements (5)

President met with Lassman Studios to renegotiate the contract

VP Internal: met with faculties about the beer contract

Bulger: elections for AUS VP External

VP University Affairs: changes in Quebec legislation for health insurance so there's been effects on health services on campus - cannot provide HPV and flu shots for certain groups as well as meningitis.

VP External: publishing Our Turn action plan press release will be happening here on October 11.

## 9. New Business

### a. Motion Regarding Nominations to the SSMU Board of Directors - APPROVED

VP internal would like to motion to nominate VP Student Life, Jemark Earle, to be considered as a Director for the Board of Directors.



Councillor Anderson asks VP Internal to confirm whether or not a director would volunteer to step down? VP Internal explains that yes, a director would have to resign, as this was discussed during the last board of directors meeting.

Motion to move to voting procedure by the President, seconded by VP Internal.  
Default voting. Voting will be conducted right now and each clicker is associated with each person.

81% in favor. This motion passes.

b. Notice of Motion Regarding First Year Council Fee Referendum Question

The notice of motion is noticing council that we will present this motion but voting will be for the next two weeks.

c. Notice of Motion to Bring the Question of AVEQ Affiliation to Referendum

Councillor Lametti asks why we are going into referendum so soon when it was voted down after 2 years? VP external explains that now students will be more informed.

Councillor Zhou asks why we are going into referendum again and also why we will be having a non-opt out fee and also why students would vote yes when during the presentation they didn't show much has changed in the past 2 years. VP External explains that they have been working on a lot of new projects with AVEQ lately but also it's important to remember that we are a Quebec University, sexual violence survivors were able to say their stories at a conference and represented.

Councilor Wilson asks why the fee is not opt out able. VP External explains that it's a union and it works in the same way that SSMU works.

Councillor Chan moves to a motion to amend the wording of winter 2018 to fall 2017, seconded by Councillor Bulger.

d. Notice of Motion Regarding Renewal of the SSMU Ambassador Fee

VP Finance presents this notice of motion.

There are no points of motion on the floor.  
Moving onto the next motion.

e. Notice of Motion Regarding Sustainability Projects Fund Fee Referendum Question





VP Finance presents the SPF referendum question notice of motion.

There are no points or motions on the floor.  
Moving onto the next motion.

**f. Notice of Motion Regarding Peer Support Centre Fee Referendum Question**

VP Finance presents the SPF referendum question notice of motion.

**g. Councillor Committee Allocations**

**10. Reports by Committees**

**a. Executive Committee (10)**

The President presents the Executive Committee Report with decisions that have been made from May 2017 to September 2017.

**11. Executive Reports**

- a. President (3)**
- b. VP (University Affairs) (3)**
- c. VP (External) (3)**
- d. VP (Finance) (3)**
- e. VP (Student Life) (3)**
- f. VP (Internal) (3)**

**12. Adjournment: 22:02.**

Motion by councilor Zhou, seconded by VP Internal.

Muna Tojiboeva, President

2017-10-13

Michal Chernov, GM Assistant