SGA Formal Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, October 27, 2013

The meeting began at 8:33pm.

I. Minutes

Minutes from last week were passed.

II. Executive Board Report

Wayne Kim – Thanks for coming at 8:30 on a Sunday night, we appreciate it, thank you. Story Time Nov. 3 with Trevor Shorb, asking Dan to compile dorm pres areas of interests so that we can start having subcommittees during informal meetings. Reaching out to class pres as well, sending out follow up regarding board of trustees meeting, can’t talk about what exactly happened at the meetings, but will be sharing as much as possible.

Cole Yaverbaum – thanks community for coming, we really appreciate it. updates: putting together budget event where we/Lori break down the way SGA uses budget, how it’s been used so far in a public space, also in touch with Doug Terp about school wide budget, letting students know how that is used. Wayne and Cole working on accountability working group, beginning to plan, making a video about affirmation, student and administrative interviews, circulating as soon as it is made, needs people to sign up for CVC haunted house next weekend, counting on volunteers.

Madeline Hunsicker – Story Time, Trevor Shorb, tomorrow night, BIPR is co-hosting with PCB the PC Coffee on Halloween costumes, What Matters to me and Why - Jared Beers, Mary Low coffee house, Oct. 28 at 12

Kelsey Cromie – nothing for tonight

Shane Rogers – Colby united project November 10 - 1 PM, IMPACT Colby Training- November 9, new initiative called Everyone has a Story, reflecting on identity and Story Time, handed out after story time, project and more details to come

Dan Sunderland – dorm president October check ins almost complete, time to schedule November meetings, schedule your times, meeting with Kim Kenniston about info on motions for tonight, included in the addendum, HFAC has been really productive so far, motion 3 will need to be looked at, motion 1, that is what HFAC is discussing, more thorough report later. Last SGA meeting of the month, DP of the month goes Emma Clay for the ability to take a goal she set out in the beginning of the year, run with it, take initiative and make it happen so early in the year...DPs have been great this month, informing people, taking on projects, hard decision, if it isn’t you it isn’t because you didn’t do a great job.

Lori Ayanian – no tablecloths and water at formal meetings, saving 75 dollars a week, looking at buying our own tablecloths to keep forever, Lori won’t be collecting water receipts, bring your own water. Cole is working on getting in touch with Doug, SGA will talk as well, Lori wants to make budget more transparent about how finance committee decides, each week she’ll send out info on what they’ve approved, at meetings she’ll give heads up, last week they approved funding requests for: CCEP for talks and treats, Colby 8 to go to other schools, Colby Muslim group for dinner, film society for a film, International club for food festival, the Libel, Outside Colby, Mock Trial and Model UN conferences, SGA conference, Dorm President events, Express Poetry open mic night

Nick LaRovere- mix it up retreat happened, was a positive awesome event, 20+ students attended, accomplished goal of establishing community and bridging barrier between international and domestic students, discussions on Colby divides, campfire discussion, cooked a
meal together, one on one discussions (dyads) positive reviews, asked for more retreats, events, some of the first years said best week on campus yet thanks to everyone who made it happen

**Philip Hussey** – report from Nick will be included in minutes, motions are due Sunday before formal meetings, they’ve been coming in late, hard to organize what is coming when we don’t have the information at exec meetings, on decorum, there was no dress code this evening, discussed with the executive board, we don’t like how we go into the room in Dana all dressed up, exec board is dressed up because of the Lovejoy Convocation, if you have questions or items to discuss, feel free to bring it up, discuss with us

**Carey Powers** – was not present at the meeting

**III. Dean’s Report**

There were no deans present at the meeting.

**IV. Community Forum**

**Kate Connolly (apartments)** - thank you for talking about dorm damage so much, for those of us who live in the apts and are seriously affected it really means a lot, wanted to voice support for the motion to spread out vandalism across campus, many feel as though that is a fair way to distribute costs and damage, support for that and for the apts, think that would be an important thing to do

**Hannah Schaffer** - echo what Kate said, support that as well

**Owen Shrewinsky** - freshmen there not by choice, paying those dues and had no option in that situation, tried to change dorms and it isn’t possible, affected by dorm damage, support the motion

**V. Old Business**

**Motion 1:** I, Emma Clay of East, propose that The Colby Strippers: Diabetes Education and Support becomes an official SGA club.

**Eric Douds**, name comes from the test strips that they use to test blood sugar, 8 PM Tuesdays in Diamond, looking for more diabetics, working with Health Center to identify them, the goals of the club are to work in the classroom with teachers for diabetics, accommodations are not discussed, medical overlaps, talking about future conversations, open debate, resources about type 1 diabetes in general, resources in health center, conversations with CAs about having people with the disease in dorms, spark open conversations in community and talk to diabetics one on one

**Tionna Haynes** - how much support do you think the health center can give you in terms of money and materials?

**Eric Douds** - Dr. Berkner has sent things our way, putting sugar tablets in medical dispensaries, nurses don’t know too much, about 15 diabetics on campus, trying to make them more aware, want info released with health center support

**Kelly Ling** moves to question

moved to question

motion passes unanimously

**Motion 2:** I, Timothy Gallagher of Williams, propose that the Italian Club become an official SGA club.

**Emma Reuland** have clubs for other languages, thought one should be there for Italian, films, music, culture, food, everyone is welcome, fun time, love Italian food, watching movies

**Marshall Donner** - moved to question

moved to question

motion passed unanimously
**Motion 3:** I, Daniel Meyer of Grossman, move for SGA to recommend the expansion of the Alfond Residency Forfeit Policy so that someone who vandalizes any dorm within their first three years at Colby forfeits their chance to be included in the Alfond lottery for their senior year, subject to the same stipulations included in the original policy.

Daniel Meyer: talked about in HFAC, Dan went to talk to campus life, and original Alfond residence hall forfeit policy passed but never went into effect.

Dan Sunderland: SGA created, edited, debated, passed policy but never followed up with campus life, went to get a copy of policy, looking at effectiveness and expansion, campus life had heard little of it, dean's office had heard nothing, there was no follow through, all motions are passed on to appropriate locations, but policy is not in effect, Dan is trying to find original language, doesn't exist in it's entirety in any SGA location, Kate Connolly was a big help before hopefully she can help continue discussions now, since there is no policy to expand, suggestion of a retraction.

Kylie Vanburen: moves to table the motion seconded motion 3 is tabled.

**Motion 4:** I, Jacob Kandel of Sturtevant, move that SGA take from the table the motion to recommend to Campus Life that all residence hall vandalism be split equally across campus for a trial period of one semester.

Dan Sunderland: discussed a lot at formal meeting as well as at HFAC, research on topic, wanted to share the research and HFAC’s recommendation on motion, can be rejected or accepted, turns out that after talking to Dean Johnston and Kim Kenniston that the policy isn’t new, has been brought up before, Kim Kenniston was asked to review data from previous years to see how much this would affect costs, how much each student would be billed, per student cost would be under $10, talked about billing that amount, current policy is they don’t bill under $10, more expensive to bill under 10 then it is to get that money back, it is more complicated than monetary returns.

Michael Loginoff: moves to question (bring back from the table) seconded motion brought back to the table.

Dan Sunderland: business office/data information, HFAC recommends that this policy not be passed because of the financial implications and how impractical it is to bill this system, thinks it is great to get everyone involved and that this sparks lots of conversations which is great, Dean Johnston reported that report rates are at 70-80%, Dan is working to get harder numbers, residence hall vandalism damage is sent to campus life, separately when people claim or report damage, those names are sent to Dean Johnston for disciplinary roles, at the end of the semester information is passed to campus life which infractions are claimed/who needs to be billed, these infractions will be charged appropriately, unclaimed are charged to dorms.

Jacob Kandel: main opposition is financial burden, now main burden is placed on the college, that’s why HFAC doesn’t want to do it, thinks that we need to focus on how we act as a community when we’re all in this together, isn’t our fault the college doesn’t want to bill.

Michael Loginoff: questions - if campus life has had this brought up before why hasn’t it been implemented, Colby covers anything under $10, how would that be affected, looking towards culture shift and less of an honor code system, having peers around them hold them to higher standards so they aren’t breaking things, thinks that is important, what message are we sending, backing ourselves or contradicting?

Kelly Ling: still in favor, things aren’t working and haven’t been, what is the harm in changing it up and seeing how it works, promoting idea of accountability and community and thinks its crap that people go into other dorms and don’t have to pay, much more fair to split costs, even if each person pays less you still have to pay, report rate the deans are stating, skeptical of that fact.
Will Qualey- residents, last formal meeting this was made into a social class issue, those who can’t afford to pay high dorm damage choose to live in Chem free, freshmen didn’t choose to live in heights, so do people off waitlist, why should they have to pay if they didn’t commit it, dorm damage is act of aggression, not fair to ask residents to defend their turf to people already setting out to break things, victim blaming mentality

Marshall Donner- echo Kelly, what do peer institutions do? dorm damage isn’t something they complain about all the time, the $10 issue which is the argument against is a crap argument against it, if it is too expensive to bill for $10 then you should find another way to bill

Elliot Marsing- does this include off campus residents? [as it is, does not include off campus] financially this is a solution to a problem that happens everywhere on campus, this is only a bandaid on campus, even if we vote this in, please represent constituents, we need to look into the reasons for why vandalism happens

Nick LaRovere- thanks community for coming to speak, make sure we do hear their concerns, there is a similar policy on campus amongst the CA community, CA total is split per person amongst CAs because it is a mission of their community to work to stop vandalism, not just looking out for your dorm but also looking out for the whole campus, solution for res hall vandalism, recognizing that it isn’t a dorm by dorm issue but rather an issue that engulfs the entire campus community, logistically we shouldn’t say no based on logistics, what we pass isn’t law, but recommendation, representing students we can still pass something and show our support

Kylie Vanburen- is motion 5 supported by HFAC [came out of discussions with HFAC] thinks that is a factor of something that would happen, residents opposed because cost was a deterrent, but this is about what it means to act on campus

Landon Summers- Chem free does not support this, possible solution to getting this to work with chem free dorms, could we do the trial period without Chem free and see what happens [Kelly Ling point of information- this was already voted down when people tried to exclude Chem free] then reiterate that people who live in Chem free dorms don’t go into other dorms and commit vandalism, as a trial without Chem free see what happens, does it tear apart community, does it work, is it a great idea that works well with Chem free can be included as well

Tim Gallagher- important to include this, serious about change, if it comes down to if we can viably charge it, if we recommend it and campus life strikes it down, at least we’ve shown we’re serious

Dan Sunderland- answering questions, done some research, peer institutions - res vandalism not as huge an issue at many colleges, Kim says out of all the schools she has worked out it is an extreme issue in comparison, Colby bills only for damage that actually happens, other schools ask you to put a housing deposit down or count it as part of tuition or something like that, other ways to incorporate that kind of thing, if campus life says we will split cost but business office says they can’t bill, and no one pays, then college will end up absorbing costs of $10,000 a semester on vandalism, thinks college won’t support it

Andrew Ferraro- if they’re going to incur 10,000 a semester they will find a way to charge us, disagree with incorporating SWOLE and Chem free, don’t agree with that, could break things sober also, making an assumption linking it with alcohol too, can live in Chem free/SWOLE and drink too

Karolina Serhan- thinks we’ve talked a lot and issues have come from it, concept of accountability, spreading across campus means no accountability, met with class council, really rare that sober kids commit the damages, find it frightening to confront someone that is committing vandalism, don’t know how they’ll react, fear factor in confrontation

Emma Clay- HFAC is working on doing research on why damage happens, PR campaign so students are aware of facts and numbers surrounding dorm damage, how much money students are out every year, hopefully campaign will start in next couple weeks, big factor in choosing to live in Chem free is vandalism and not having to pay for it [Dan Sunderland point of information-numbers you can see online right now don’t include the majority of claim numbers until the end of the semester, numbers are higher than they will be, HFAC working on getting hard numbers to do PR campaign on this]

Connor Clancy- fundamentally disagree, takes away ultimate incentive to commit dorm damage, if i have to pay then i won’t do it, not working, make assumption you’re hitting the pockets of
parents not students, many wealthy, well off families with ability to pay off fees, thought process is
lets hit a student's time, make them do community service, spend time with PPD, clean up the
mess they make, look at the incentives, reducing cost means no reason not to do it, cost
significantly reduced, accountability factor, sending a message that says we're covering up a
problem, not finding a solution to the problem, move to question
seconded
move to question
13 yes
18 opposed
2 abstentions
motion fails

Tentative Motion 1- I, Emma Clay of East, move that SGA recommend to Campus Life that the
Life Safety Violation fine be changed from $500 per violation per dorm to $5 per violation per
person in that dorm in cases where the person responsible has not been identified.

Marshall Donner moves to make motion 5

Tent. Motion 1 → Motion 5

Emma- this is an HFAC recommendation, life safety violations are exit signs etc, now any dorm is
charged $500, cost comparisons, $5 is decently equal amongst the dorms
Richard Lund- does that include off campus students?
Emma Clay- no
Marshall Donner- likes this, thinks it goes with arguments that increased price of exit sign is
disincentive, sick and twisted, go for most expensive things, make biggest impact, likes that it
increases by a dollar and decreases by 12, thinks most people can afford an extra dollar a
semester, don't think it is a huge hit to take, only 5 dorms negatively affected, 15 positively
Tara Tischio- in the majority of dorms this works out, representing Dana, largest dorm, Dana,
AMS, Alford, Heights have the most damage, are dorms that have parties, are dorms that are
getting hit the hardest, can we consider doing a cap at $500 for dorm, less then that then it could
be $5 per person
Kelsey Cromie- Apartments have already had many instances of this, even 10 per semester
means an extra $20 added to their already hard fine, think about them also when you vote
Kelly Ling- this adds insult to injury, seniors live in the larger dorms, think this isn’t good for us
Dan Meyer- I hear you, I’m on HFAC, but remember that for people in the smaller dorms, one
instance puts people well over the ten dollar threshold, in Dana currently you can have 3 of those
without a cost, similar ideas to Marshall
Dan Sunderland- bad math, should be $2 a person more in Dana, thinks Tara’s proposal is
interesting, something we didn’t think about at HFAC, then Dana billed same amount, but any
dorm under 100 would get more fair across the board, I think that is an interesting amendment if
you all are for it, I am for it, point we were trying to get at in HFAC is to make it fair for smaller
dorms, I think the cap idea is interesting
Annie Kettler- if the CAs split things, is it less than $10 per person
Nick LaRovere- nope it’s more than $10
Annie Kettler- what happens to vandalism that doesn’t occur in residence halls?
Dan Sunderland- costs aren’t billed, college absorbs all costs, college doesn’t make money off
fine money, used for other fines, Colby doesn’t do this to recoup money however, that needs to
be made clear
Annie Kettler- we’re talking about cost as an incentive not to commit dorm damage, thinks it’s
sad that we need an incentive not to do it, a lot of these incidents occur under the influence, if
people are really considering the incentives, impaired judgment means lack of consideration,
would it be possible to come up with some type of option to choose to pay dorm damage or do it
in terms of community service
Cole Yaverbaum- echo what Annie says, no big question about what causes dorm damage, pretty certain it’s alcohol, we could talk about it, on this motion, i do support it, regardless of if it passes, grateful to HFAC for bringing it up, now these #s are out to community members
Will Qualey- missing furniture counts, Taylor has $1200, not all damage is caused by alcohol
Michael Loginoff- would like to ask HFAC to generate another sheet that brings into account Tara’s option of a cap, numbers guy would like to table to continue discussion, I move to table the motion.
Dan Sunderland- if you factor in Tara’s amendment, if someone amends, then dorms that are underneath $100 people will be charged $5 per person, dorms over 100 will be billed the same way, dorms under 100 will save money, dorms over 100 will be billed the same way as always
Marshall Donner- thinks more discussion needs to be had, would love to devote informal meeting, moves to question on tabling
seconded
Motion is tabled

VI. New Business

Michael- moves to adjourn
seconded
Emma- tonight is last night for dorm wish lists
The meeting ended at 9:45pm.
Definition: Life Safety Violation fine:
The Life Safety Violation fine is charged in cases where life-saving equipment has been purposefully damaged. The category of life-saving equipment includes but is not limited to fire exits, fire extinguishers, and sprinkler systems. This fine includes the actual cost of replacing the damaged property (both component and human resource costs). The purpose of the fine, other than to cover the replacement costs, is to deter the vandalism of these specific fixtures because they are necessary to prevent loss of life in case of an emergency.

Current Policy:
The Life Safety Violation fine is $500, charged either to the individual who claims responsibility (or is reported) for the incident, or split between the residents of the dorm. The money generated from the fine is used for other campus repairs. The college has never made pure profit from these fines.

Current Dorm Occupancies:
Dana – 169  Mary Low – 77  Piper – 38
AMS – 153  Averill – 61  Drummond – 37
East – 123  Johnson – 61  Pe-Wi – 33
Off-Campus – 119  Taylor – 54  Treworgy – 31
Heights – 107  Williams – 45
West – 101  Leonard – 44  Total – 1818
Foss – 89  Marriner – 43  Mean – 72.2
Coburn – 89  Sturtevant – 39  Median – 61
Woodman – 82  Pierce – 39  Range – 139

Cost Comparisons
Current Fine per Person per Violation
Dana – $2.96  Go-Ho – $16.67  Mean – $6.93  Median – $8.20
Projected Fine per Violation
Dana – $5.00  Go-Ho – $5.00  Mean – $5.00  Median – $5.00

Current Fine per Dorm per Violation
Dana – $500  Go-Ho – $500  Mean – $500  Median – $500
Projected Fine per Dorm per Violation
Dana – $845  Go-Ho – $150  Mean – $361  Median – $305

The Bottom Line:
Dorms with over 100 residents will pay more per person per violation (up to $1.04 more) and dorms with under 100 residents will pay less per person per violation (up to $11.67 less). Students who are reported or claim responsibility for an offense will still pay the entire $500 fine.

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1 Off-campus is included here because this year’s number is higher than average for the college. After the Roberts renovation, this number will decrease, spreading the difference throughout the campus. The mean without including off-campus students is 70.8, meaning that the mean projected fines would be off by +$7 per dorm at most.
Mix It Up Retreat

Colby's inaugural Mix It Up Retreat was held from Friday Oct. 18, 2013 through Saturday, Oct. 19 at the beautiful Pine Tree Camp in Rome, Maine. Over 20 students attended, and participated in activities intended to foster a stronger sense of community on campus, specifically between international and domestic students. Some examples of these sessions included small and large group discussions on what divides us at Colby, dyads, a campfire discussion with SGA Co-President Wayne Kim, and cooking a meal together.

Reviews of the event have been very positive. We, the attendees, entered the retreat as individuals and left as a community. We learned a lot about ourselves, looked for tangible solutions to making Colby more welcoming and multiculturally literate, and had a fun time doing it. The retreat went so well that some students suggested we host another one in the Spring, that we make a Mix It Up Club, and that we host more Mix It Up Style events on campus.

In the short term, our future plans our to continue to host similar Mix It Up style events on campus to spread what we learned on the retreat throughout our Colby community. As well, we have already began looking into hosting another Mix It Up Retreat in Fall 2014, and potentially in Spring 2014.

Please let me (Nick LaRovere) know if you have any questions or critiques!

Thank you to SGA, the International Club, Students, and the Dean of students for making the retreat possible.