

Summary of the Minutes of the March 23, 2016 General Meeting

Following a count for quorum the meeting is called to order by President Chris Lolas

General Orders

Approval of Agenda

The Federation heard a motion to approve the agenda

Moved by Forstner and Shurm.

The Federation heard a motion to change the order of the agenda by moving the WPIRG Referendum motion to the end of the agenda.

Moved by Sucholutsky and Paulin

Several members deliberate the motion. Members in favour argued that contentious motions should be near the end to maintain quorum for other items of business. Members opposed noted that schedule constraints might prevent them from staying to the end of the meeting.

The question was then called to cease deliberations

Moved by unnamed member and Enns.

The motion to cease deliberations was carried

The question to amend the agenda was called, and the motion failed

The Federation heard a motion to amend the agenda in order to move items six, the WPIRG Referendum motion, and seven, the Feds fee increase, below item nine, the by-law amendments concerning requisitions.

Moved by Wray and Paulin

Those in favour argued the importance of hearing debate regarding the by-law amendments.

The Federation heard a motion to hold a secret ballot regarding the motion to amend the agenda

Moved by unnamed members and Tang.

The motion to hold a secret ballot failed.

The question to reorder the agenda was called and the motion failed.

The Federation heard a motion to move agenda item eight, Councillor Removal by-law amendment, before agenda item six, the WPIRG referendum.

Moved by unnamed member and Patel

Those in favour argued the motions were related, and the outcome of one affects the other.

The Federation heard a motion to call the question on the agenda amendment, and the motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by member Nazir and El-Khatib.

The motion to call the question passed.

The motion to amend the agenda failed.

The motion to approve the agenda carried

Approval of Minutes

The Federation heard a motion to approve the minutes of the Feds 2015 Fall General meeting

Moved by member Wray and Forstner

There was no debate.

The motion carried

Election of the Board of Directors

The Federation heard a motion to elect seven members to the 2016-2017 Board of Directors

As per President Lolas' direction, eligible candidates were permitted to speak before the assembly.

The following members were formally nominated: Joel LeForestier, Fahad al Zaman, Tomson Tran*, Tristan Potter, Sacha Forstner, Jana El-Khatib, Fatema Boxwala, Alexander Wray, Caleb Voskamp, Heather Bone.

*Councillors for the 2016-2017 year.

Moved by Hamade and Shurm

Candidates Potter and Tran, as the only Councillors, were acclaimed to the Board.

Candidates gave opening remarks, and the assembly engaged in a question and answer period. Member Turner questioned the candidates on their knowledge of governing documents of the Federation. Member Koo asked the candidates who they represent.

The Federation heard a motion to call the question and cease the question and answer period

Moved by Nazir and Hopkins

The motion to call the question carried

Ranked ballots were distributed and the assembly cast their votes.

Ratification of 2016-2017 Executive

The Federation heard a motion to ratify the executive-elect; President, Vice President Education, Vice President Operations and Finance, Vice President Internal as Chris Lolas, Sarah Wiley, Brian Schwan, and Deanna Priori, respectively.

Moved by member Melanson and Boxwala.

The question was called and the motion carried

Feds Fee Increase

The Federation heard a motion to increase the Feds fee by one percent (\$.60) in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Moved by member Wray and Pollin.

Board Chair Wray noted that CPI increases are standard practice to match the rising costs of the market.

The question was called and the motion carried 219 to 90 to 38

WPIRG Referendum

The Federation heard a motion to hold a referendum on the following question: "Should the automatic \$4.75 WPIRG fee be made Opt-In by removing the fee from Quest and making it manually and optionally payable in another form". The referendum vote shall occur from September 21st to 23rd and the campaigning period will start 1.5 weeks prior to this.

Moved by Paulin and Patel

Several members were permitted to deliberate the motion. Those in favour argued that a referendum would allow all students to have a say in the fee. Those opposed described and spoke in favour of the activities of WPIRG. Discussion continued around the financial impact of a referendum on WPIRG.

The Federation heard a motion to call the question.

Moved by member Paulin and Abramovitch.

The motion to call the question passed.

The question is called and by a vote of 157 to 244 to 18, motion fails. Members Sacha Forstner, Jake Riesenkonig, and Chanakya Ramdev were noted as abstaining.

The Federation heard a motion to recount the votes

Moved by Grant and unnamed member.

The question was called and the motion for a recount failed.

The Federation heard a motion to recess for five minutes

Moved by Forstner and Boxwala.

Following recess President Lolos announced the names of the 5 at-large seats for the 2016-2017 Board of Directors; Caleb Voskamp, Jana El Khatib, Fatema Boxwala, Sacha Forstner, and Alexander Wray

Feds \$1.35 Fee Increase

The Federation heard a motion to increase the Federation of Students fee by \$1.35

Moved by Vice-President Hamade and member Gerrits.

The Vice President, Education gives a presentation on the political advocacy strategy of Feds and provides detail on the stakeholder relations officer position

Several questions are answered by Vice President of Education. Members argued for an improved strategy to fee increases in the future

The Federation heard a motion to call the question and vote on the motion to increase the fee
Moved by unnamed member and Paulin

The question was called and the motion to end deliberation passes

The question was called and, by a vote of 139 to 50 to 13, the motion to increase the Feds fee passes

Councillor Removal By-law Amendment

The Chair of the meeting noted that the member submitting the motion declined to move the motion. Without a mover at the meeting, the motion was not heard.

Referendum Requisition By-law Amendments

The Federation heard a motion to to the table pending edits by the Board.

Moved by Chair of the Board Wray and member Sucholutsky.

The Chair of the Board AJ Wray offers that the proposed By-law amendments should be strengthened and re-introduced at a future general meeting

The question was called and the motion to table carried

Budget Committee Elections

The federation heard a motion to nominate eligible members to the Budget Committee

Razan Quaod, Matthew Gerrits, Alexander Wray and Steve are acclaimed

Honorary Lifetime Memberships

The Federation heard a motion to approve Honorary Lifetime Membership nominees

President Lolas explains the nomination process

VP McCready nominates Dr. Barbara Schumacher, seconded by VP Yasin. Dr. Schumacher was a long-time Director of Health Services, and championed many student-facing projects, such as the Health Services expansion and assisting with the Federation's Health plan.

The question was called and the motion carried

VP Hamade nominate Alexis Hunt. Seconded by member Forstner. Former member Hunt served as the Federation's Parliamentarian and Council Speaker, and assisted with countless governance-related projects within the Federation.

The question was called and the motion carried

Adjournment

The Federation heard a motion to adjourn

Moved by member Forstner and Nafir

The question was called and the motion carried

Meeting was adjourned