

Gateway Student Journalism Society

Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024

Opening

The regular meeting of the Gateway Student Journalism Society was called to order at 7:04 p.m. online and in-person by Emily WILLIAMS.

Present:

BROOKS, Sam
TEELING, Katie
WILLIAMS, Emily
SMITH, Jonas
POLENCHUK, Lily
WATAMANIUK, Adrian
BAJWA-ZSCHOCKE, Anna
CRAIG, Lee
FASSONE, Lale

Absent:

JICKLING, Sophie
DAUM, Evan
FLAMAN, Levi
THIESSEN, Nathan

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by TEELING.

Seconded by BAJWA-ZSCHOCKE.

There are no votes in opposition.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by TEELING.

Seconded by CRAIG.

There are two abstentions and no votes in opposition.

Reports to the Board

TEELING presents the Editor-in-Chief report.

TEELING says late January and early February were busy because of preparation for the DFU campaign and SU election coverage. Says that the majority of election Q&As are done, and that she's been working with POLENCHUK to have the SU executive report cards ready for publication. Says that regarding elections, with SMITH and Isabella Yue leaving to help with the campaign, a lot of work has gone into making sure that coverage is still well-rounded. Says that POLENCHUK will be taking photos in place of SMITH, and supervising the deputy photo editor. Says that Dylana Twitney and BAJWA-ZSCHOCKE have created their coverage teams and completed training. Says that along with POLENCHUK, she's been working on statements, and she's been working on the contingency plan. Aside from elections, she says that POLENCHUK worked on the purity test all of January and early February. Says she and Yue launched the readership survey at the beginning of February, which has received almost 450 responses. Says that everything is up to date with corporate information and documents, and a bank account should be up soon. Says that this weekend, both her and Twitney attended NASH86.

SMITH presents the Executive Director (ED) report.

SMITH says that he's in the discussion phase of acquiring ads for the newsletter, and there's a contract deal confirmed with the SU for an ad in the newsletter as well, in return for advertising the readership survey on Perks. Says that for marketing and outreach, Yue's been doing a great job with the readership survey, and he and Yue are preparing for their leave to help with the campaign. Says that his main focus has been working on the campaign's website.

POLENCHUK presents the Managing Editor (ME) report.

POLENCHUK says that she primarily worked on the purity test, and that she's finalized her election dissection panel. Says that her and TEELING have created a publishing schedule for elections.. Says that the line editors have been doing a good job of getting diverse content out, which can be seen in the trending articles. Says that there are consistent volunteer signups as well as pitch email sign ups.

WILLIAMS presents the Finance Committee report.

WILLIAMS says that she filled in as interim treasurer at the finance committee meeting, because THIESSEN and FLAMAN are absent as they're running in the SU election. Says there was a break-in in SUB offices including The Gateway office, and the safe and checks were stolen, causing the bank account to freeze. Says that TEELING and SMITH have been trying to get a new bank account open, and that a new one has been made, there are just a few last things to do and BMO has just been slow.

WILLIAMS presents the HR Committee report.

WILLIAMS says there haven't been any HR incidents, so the committee hasn't met.

POLENCHUK presents the Governance Committee.

POLENCHUK says that the committee hasn't focused on a lot except for the audit requirements in bylaw, which will be discussed shortly.

SMITH presents the DFU Subcommittee report.

SMITH says the committee will hopefully meet later this week.

New Business

For approval: GSJS Bylaw Amendment Audit Requirements for AGM

BROOKS presents the GSJS Bylaw Amendment Audit Requirements.

BROOKS says that for context, The Gateway's AGM is coming up and bylaw can only be amended by membership. Says it's good practice to review proposed changes to the board, and then let membership know that the board has seen and approved it. Says that since The Gateway is under the Societies Act of Alberta, there are certain financial requirements that are required to maintain nonprofit status, and an annual requirement is some sort of financial review. Says that this does not require a full audit, which are way more expensive. Says that the committee is looking to change the bylaw's requirements for an annual audit to an annual financial review. Says that this still means an audit can be done at any time, but financial reviews are still done by professional accountants and are less expensive. Says that this change would put The Gateway in a more manageable position considering the organization's size. Says that the committee is looking for endorsement from the board before the AGM.

BROOKS motions for the board to endorse the bylaw amendments to Article 10 to change The Gateway's audit requirements to a financial review.

TEELING seconds.

The motion passes unanimously.

Adjournment

TEELING motions to adjourn.

BAJWA-ZSCHOCKE seconds.

The board unanimously votes to adjourn.

The meeting is adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lily Polenchuk