

SA Minutes for August 14th, 2009

Meeting convened: 11:35 a.m.

Present: Beverly Bayer, Zachary Cole, Kim Grinnell, Steve Heddericg & Deb Meehan

Summary

Each member of the SA shared their own ideas on how to better incorporate the college into the community at large, and suggested ways in which students could feel like they were truly a part of the school. SA members proposed putting on events that would both entertain and educate students, and make U Rock more than just a place they head to a few times a week. Another theme was communication, in regards to how U Rock interacts with the students and how it passes along information. Much of discussion centered around social networking sites; how to use them more efficiently, how to make student interaction with the U Rock Facebook page easier, etc. Finally, we discussed new supplies that should become available in the fall, as well as new opportunities provided by the school's soon-to-debut additional space.

Discussion

We received an update by Bev on questions U Rock had posed to one area business; we'd tried to have them create our school IDs so that students who wished to have such an ID wouldn't have to make the trip to Augusta. We learned that the lamination process wouldn't work with our IDs, and Kim suggested that students who wish to have an ID could have their picture taken by a member of the U Rock office. We then might be able to send the photos to Augusta and have the IDs created there.

We're putting out "feelers" in regards to a possible David McCullough lecture. As in our last meeting, all members present responded positively to the notion of holding such an event at the Strand Theater, as that venue has hosted similar lectures in the past. Every member shared their enthusiasm for such educational lectures to become an annual event.

Bev mentioned her efforts to spruce up the U Rock Facebook page, and others agreed that the

page needs to showcase more than general school updates. Bev proposed that we could share photos Steve will take of the new space on Facebook, so that students will be able to see it before the fall semester. Deb and others mentioned that we might soon split up community news and student news, since the new space will have its own bulletin board. Plans of this sort haven't been finalized as of this meeting. Deb made the motion that (for now, at least) U Rock won't establish a Twitter page. Kim seconded the motion.

Kim proposed setting up an online calendar to keep students up-to-date.

Deb made a request for \$1000 in new furniture, which will be placed in the addition. Kim seconded the motion, and all SA members were in favor. Deb also went over our new policy, beginning this fall, of limiting excessive cell phone use that distracts other students. A notice will soon be placed at the front of the school.

Steve made a motion about ordering 100, 2GB memory sticks, for the fall semester, that students will be able to purchase for \$10. Apparently these new sticks can hold much more information than the sticks U Rock has sold previously. Kim seconded the motion, and all members were in favor.

Bills sent to the Student Association will be paid, and the new balance is \$5,049.41.

Deb will look into changing the college URL to "urock.com" for easier student access.

Deb and Bev both suggested typing up a former letter that we could hand out to area businesses, in hope of obtaining student discounts. Area libraries and eateries were among the places mentioned.

In a not-so-shocking decision, the SA making sure that frozen treats will be provided for the first week of school, and began working out the logistics of such a feat. Enthusiastic students were assured that a multitude of varieties will be provided.

We touched on our long-term plans, including volunteering at Knox Long Term Care facility this winter.

Lastly, Steve established a new fall starting time (2pm every available Friday) and set the next summer meeting for next Friday at 11:30 a.m. Issues like a possible U Rock barbeque will be hashed out then.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Zachary Cole, Secretary

STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 21ST, 2009

Meeting convened: 11:42 a.m.

Present: Steve Heddericg, Beverly Bayer, Zachary Cole and Deb Meehan

Summary

Although a quorum was not met, each of us went over our plans, and in general we followed through with items discussed during the August 14th meeting. There was no major theme; it was more of a roundtable discussion where members could share ideas and insights. Some of the discussions focused on what exactly we (the SA) will be doing in the fall, and how we should go about doing it. Topics brought up included the U Rock URL change, the possibility of a McCullough lecture and our continuing efforts to improve the college's ties with area businesses.

Discussion

Last week's minutes were accepted, even though both Deb and Bev pointed out that they were both misidentified at certain points. Zachary, the previous week's note taker, mumbled an apology and promised that his future notes will show a closer relation to the actual meetings.

Bev drafted a letter, which she shared with the SA. Her letter is designed to be shown to businesses around town, in order to obtain a student discount. She explained that, at Augusta, they merely go through a list of businesses and call each one. Deb suggested that the letter be forwarded to the area Chamber of Commerce's e-newsletter. Steve mentioned that businesses should feel like they're establishing a better relationship with the school.

Deb sent an e-mail to McCollough's assistant about a potential lecture. The assistant pledged that she would advocate on behalf of the college, but that Mr.

McCollough is swamped with work for the remainder of this calendar year.

Deb brought up the issue of a possible second URL address for the U Rock website, which she says would be do-able. The proposed address would be “urock.edu”.

Steve asked about the \$1000 furniture purchase, and Deb replied that it was an internal transfer of money. Steve also wondered if we’d yet picked a date for the U Rock picnic. Deb explained that she hasn’t, but that such an event would have to take place before the end of October due to weather concerns.

Steve also queried whether or not the new Google e-mail accounts would be mentioned in Orientation. Bev said that they would, and Steve asked if we’d be able to get a reaction for students. Deb then pointed out that many students just starting out with Google Mail will have an easier time than veteran students making the transition from Horde.

Deb threw out the idea of making up special “Ask me about the SA” buttons for members to wear, but final plans weren’t hashed out.

Over a bit of noise from the other room, Deb mentioned that workers were going through the lobby wall during the meeting, and that they’d be done in time for the start of the Fall semester. The rest of the furniture will arrive by the second week of September. She also pointed out that the cell phone notices have been put up—students, you have been warned.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 for pizza consumption.

The next SA meeting will be held on September 4th at 2:30 p.m.

Student Association Minutes for September 4th, 2009

Meeting Convened: 2:05 p.m.

Present: Beverly Bayer, Steve Heddericg, Kim Grinnell, Deb Meehan, Zachary Cole and Michelle Blum

Summary

Promotion was a big topic during this meeting—how the SA and student government promote themselves, and how we “promote” information (like our new cell phone policy) to better inform students. Issues discussed were the new U Rock URL address, a joint SA/DSGA informational meeting, and developed plans for the first of what we hope to be many free film screenings for students. We also discussed ways to get younger students the flu immunization shots they need.

Discussion

Kim voted to accept the minutes for the August 21st SA minutes. Steve seconded.

We discussed the alternate U Rock URL, which is urock.maine.edu. Students who type in this address will be automatically re-directed to the University College at Rock website.

Steve informed us that we’ll soon be selling the new memory sticks at ten dollars apiece.

Bev told us that she spent ninety dollars on the ice cream sandwiches and freeze pops available to students for the first week.

About the new addition to the campus, Steve asked how classes will change. Bev explained that larger classes, like Professor Vail’s English 101 course, will be moved into one of the new, larger rooms.

Steve shared with us one of his efforts to remind students that cell phone use is prohibited on-campus, and suggested (half-jokingly) that the screensavers could be altered to display a message against cell phone use.

At that point Ted Berry dropped by to tell us what the DSGA, the student government for distance students, has been up to. We learned that there was a General Assembly on September 25th, and that the DSGA has their own Blackboard site. The DSGA will next be meeting on September 14th, from noon to one o’clock. He suggested that we assist in an event to promote the DSGA, who plan to spend forty dollars on food for an informational event. During the September 14th meeting, the Chairman of the General Assembly will call in.

Bev chimed in, saying that places like the UMA bookstore site are only vital to distance student, because Augusta students have easier access to the store. She went on argue that it’s important for students to get together, and have a voice to change policy. The General Assembly has a lot of power at UMA, and distant students are often outnumbered.

Elaborating on that point Ted told us that, in one meeting he sat in on, what to do with over thousand dollars was voted on in under ten minutes.

Bev pointed out that, since distant students give money to Augusta, we have some say in how that money is spent.

Steve wanted to know how many Ted expected to show up for the DSGA promotional event, and Bev insisted that it would have to be advertized. She also suggested that Ted choose a firm date for the event.

Deb (who had joined the meeting after dealing with business elsewhere) suggested setting the promotional meeting for the times between classes. One suggestion was that it be held on from 12:30p-1p in one of the new rooms.

Steve made a motion for spending twenty-five dollars to “feed the masses” for the joint DSGA/SA promotional event for Tuesday, October 27th at 12:30 p.m. Zach seconded the motion. Changing topics, Deb relayed that “urock.maine.edu” will now be used on the phone, and Steve let us know that since an alternate URL has been chosen, he’ll be able to order the memory sticks (which will have the address across the side.)

Mentioning flu vaccinations, Deb explained that (due to many factors, including the number of vaccinations available) we’ll only be able to offer vaccines to students eighteen to twenty-five years old. All classes will have Blackboard component in case of school closure due to H1N1. As a protective measure, the college has placed hand sanitizers in each room. Zach suggested that lab assistants wipe down the keyboard at the end of every shift.

Bev asked how much the immunization will cost, and Deb said that she’ll try to find out. Bev also suggested asking Rockland nurses if they’ll give free shots to in-town residents.

Deb shared that the college will try to set up a clinic for the first round of flu shots. Steve brought up the fact that Pen Bay did offer free flu shots at RDHS last year, and that the line went out the door.

Going back to an earlier topic, Kim asked if we should try out anti- cell phone screensavers, and Deb informed us that IT could do it.

Bev told us that she was buying six new clocks, since some of the older ones aren’t working. She went on to explain that the atomic clocks...turned out to be atomic bombs.

For the suggested campus barbeque, Steve volunteered to flip burgers, and Kim told us that she could whip up promotional posters. A date still hasn’t been nailed down.

Deb asked us if anyone would be interested in a movie night on some Friday. The response was enthusiastic, and many suggestions were tossed around the room. We finally settled on the film “Sicko” to be shown on September 18th from 6p until 9p, for free. We also picked two different door prizes to be handed out before the film.

Steve also mentioned the idea of a health care panel, gathering local experts to discuss the issue, possibly for October 2nd. Panel plans weren’t finalized, but the movie is a go. If the “Sicko” screening is a success, we’ll screen “Into the Wild” on October 14th.

Next meeting is set for Fri. Oct. 2 at 2 p.m.

Steve motioned to adjourn at 3:50 pm. Kim seconded.

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STUDENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 2ND, 2009

Meeting convened: 1:58 pm

Present: Steve Heddericg, Kim Grinnell, Beverly Bayer, Ted Berry, Zachary Cole, Kim Raye

Summary

Discussion

The previous meeting’s minutes were accepted by Steve, and seconded by Kim.

The flash arrived in September. Steve suggested keeping the drives in their plastic sleeves to prevent dust buildup inside the drive. We discussed placing more signs in classrooms.

Into the Wild is playing on October 16th. Zachary suggested promoting next screening more in-class, and to target younger students. Kim said that she’d update the “Sicko” poster design for the new film.

Ted came in to discuss the UMA trip to Boston, which will take place on Friday, November 6th. The bus leaves Augusta at 7 am. Bev added that, one year, students went to a duck trip, and during another took a tour of the city. Ted asked the SA to pay \$15 for Rockland students, essentially making the trip free for U Rockers. Guests, however,

would still have to pay \$40, and this won't be covered by the SA. After a moment of confusion in regards to what exactly was being requested, Steve made the motion to cover the cost of attending the Boston trip for every U Rock student. Kim seconded. Steve took a group vote, and we all voted in favor.

Steve explained that John Carbone has resigned from the SA, due to an internship he's undertaken in the Catskills. Questions were raised about whether or not we needed a VP, as well as whether or not we should look for a younger VP. Kim said that she would fill in for the time being.

Since Ted won't be in Rockland on the Oct. 27th, he wants that day's SGA presentation rescheduled. He also pointed out that there's a lot going on in October. He proposed a new date—Tuesday, October 20th. The event will take place from 12:30-1pm. Steve made the motion, and Kim seconded (while also promising to make posters for the event.) Bev said she would help host the event.

Bev also got into a discussion of U Rock buttons available. Members promised to find out the dimensions of the buttons.

Steve relayed to us that the previously planned date for the ice skating trip has been booked by another group. We'll pick a new date in early December. We plan to ask Deb about potential dates.

Bev proposed that, for mid-terms, we could do a "Crazy Hat Day". Adding to the discussion, Steve mentioned that pizzas would be available the following week, from Wednesday to Wednesday. Steve made a motion to provide the required pizzas.

Zachary mentioned that some students were demanding hot cocoa be made available alongside the tea and coffee, and Bev promised that cocoa will arrive later in the month.

We then had a visit from Kim Raye, who had a presentation to give. She wants to establish a U Rock/high school mentoring program, and hopes to influence teens undecided about college. She's asking volunteers to spend our hour a week with a Rockland high school student. There's a sign-up sign on the main student lounge's bulletin board.

Steve chimed in, asking when the program would start. Raye responded by saying that it

will begin as soon as possible, and explained that the HS students would be coming to U Rock.

Steve asked in parental permission would be needed. Raye said that she wasn't sure, but would look into it. Some members suggested that these students could be invited to the Movie Nights, and Steve mentioned that a local paper should be contacted once the program gets off the ground.

Raye explained that she plans to continue this program past this semester.

After Raye's presentation, Bev brought up an elderly community watch program, a sort of buddy system to check on older folks. Volunteers call those on a watchlist at least once a week to check in.

In other new business...

Steve asked about a U Rock decal. Bev expanded by saying that one would have full name of the university, whereas the other one would just have a logo. She also said that the college might give them away.

We also tossed about some ideas for Finals Week, the 14th to 18th of December. A massage for students was one suggestion.

Kim suggested that each month should have a vague theme. She suggested that November's theme should be "community."

On a final note, Steve revealed that the Market Basket wishes to be involved in the student discount plan.

We affirmed that the next meeting would be held on November 6th at 2 pm. This meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm. Steve made the motion to adjourn, and Zachary seconded.