

SASSH July Board Meeting Minutes

Ciara Rahming (**CR**), Isha Chawdhry (**IC**), Natasha Noto (**NN**), Lisa-Marie Tontodonati (**LMT**), Thomas Nguyen (**TN**), Ellis Park (**EP**), Marium Khan (**MK**), Aisha Zubair (**AZ**), Sani Bediako (**SB**), Harjas Toor (**HT**), Meia Mathura (**MM**), Angus Li (**AL**), Kashaf Alvi (**KA**), Andrii Shumilin (**AS**), Lucas Paliouras-Loureiro (**LPL**), Sara Xhango (**SX**), Ricardo Valderrama (**RV**)

Late Arrival(s):

Regrets: Ciara Rahming (**CR**)

Chair: Claire Cornacchia (**CC**)

Manager: Josel Angelica Gerardo (**JAG**)

Secretary: Marlene Love-Lee, Victoria Trukhina

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Item 1.0 - Call to Order (3:00PM)

CC: We are going to go ahead and call the meeting to order, can I get someone to start with the approval of the Agenda?

SX: I would like to amend the Agenda to strike item 5.0 and 5.1 out of the Agenda.

CC: Item 5.0 and 5.1 about the Honorary President, we want to remove. We are now going to vote to approve the amended Agenda with the removal of items 5.0 and 5.1. **SX**, if you wanted to let people know there is a particular reason for moving these items today. I'm sure people on the Board know but just as a reminder.

SX: First of all, we were going to have a presentation with a potential candidate, but they were unable to attend this meeting and I feel like it's best presented at a time when we have more information on not only what Honorary President is but also potential candidates.

Item 2.0 - Approval of the Agenda (3:04PM)

Motioned by: CC

In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Item 3.0 - Community Care Toronto [Presentation] (3:07PM)

CC: Thank you. Hi, Kristen, McKenzie and Lauren, welcome to the board meeting tonight. Welcome to the SASSH Board Meeting, my name is **CC**, I Chair the Board. I'm just here to make sure that your presentation runs smoothly, that you are well respected giving your presentation and that everything goes according to the plan, for lack of a better term. If this is your first time presenting at a SASSH Board Meeting, the typical routine is that folks' presenters will have about 10 minutes to present, then that will be followed by about a 5 minute question. Where this SASSH board can ask you folks questions directly, about your presentation and then you will be welcome to leave the meeting and head out into what will be a wonderful weekend hopefully. I will contact you at the earliest convenience regarding that decision. So does that sound OK to you folks? Perfect. And I think you should be able to share your screen so whenever you're ready, you can go ahead and put your presentation up and get started. OK, sounds great.

Kristen Cordeiro: Good afternoon all. My name is **Kristen Cordeiro**. I'm an incoming third year Criminology student and the President of Community Care Toronto.

MacKenzie Fleming: Good afternoon my name is **Mackenzie** and incoming student History student and Co-President of Community Care Toronto.

Lauren Martinez: My name is **Lauren Martinez**, I'm an incoming Business student and the Vice President of Marketing. Unincorporated nonprofit organization back in October of 2020 for the mission of Community Betterment, supporting unhoused and marginalized populations of Toronto were made at the forefront of our organization by becoming a recognized student group under the Society of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities at Toronto Metropolitan University. We want to expand our mission to include student engagement. Students attending Toronto Metropolitan University, the homelessness crisis is an issue that is ever present to us and I'm sure that the

following students have passed. In fact, it is very difficult to walk around downtown Toronto without coming across a member of the population. There must be 80,000 on Hudson visiting Ontario alone, most being located in Toronto who are struggling to access many basic essentials like food, water and shelter. It is because of this reality that we decided to create Community Care Toronto and began to organize our first character initiative which took place in December of 2024. Starting last October, we were able to raise \$1,300 and gather 15 volunteers from the TMU Faculty of Arts. Doing so allows us to create 60 care kits including essentials such as food, water, and has which we successfully distributed around from. Following this, we applied for TMU Student Initiatives Fund figuring \$4,000.

MacKenzie Fleming: To continue developing this initiative, create awareness to buy items to create up to 240 care kits they see, which we recently distributed in Toronto alongside volunteers from this union community. Community Care Toronto will benefit. And our executive team which we plan to expand to more members of the Faculty of Arts to offer experiential learning opportunities that drew previous initiatives to ensure that executions are done safely and effectively. Care kits, where students will get hands-on practice and interact with members of the Toronto community, getting to see their impact and difference in people's lives and real times. Other stations from previous student volunteers. Volunteering with us. One volunteer shared. Caring about Community Care Toronto and what they stand for as a Student Life organization is truly inspiring. The whole experience was very positive and I would not hesitate to volunteer again, Another stated. Volunteering with Community Care Toronto provided me with hands-on experience working with homeless and marginalized communities, interacting with these people and hearing their stories. Organization. Physically distributing to and speaking with these communities were completely different experiences. People were so kind and grateful to us as we headed up the case and the media appreciation will not be forgotten. Distribution events we have learned to develop effective precautions and procedures to ensure that ourselves and our volunteers are well protected. Our volunteer safety regulations are as follows for each distribution, withholding mandatory safety training for all one hears. This includes important information and ground rules. Almost distributing or giving out any personal information, we inform everyone to stay aware of the environment in people's body language to avoid approaching unsafe areas. Volunteers are not to enter or remain in any environment that they do not feel safe or comfortable in. We also emphasize the importance of treating each person who is offered a hit with respect and professionalism will still be. Market distribution days are rather dependent and we provide first aid word volunteers which includes water and juice.

Lauren Martinez: For a low budget, are we sure that there are always at least one to two executive groups? Prior to the event date, volunteers provided the contacts of the executive in their team. The exact time and location that they will be meeting the group will be followed through the distribution day. In addition to these distributions, we also want to support students and their leadership and social justice journeys, providing educational seminars and workshops which feature experience in working with marginalized communities. The aim of this is for speakers to draw on experiences to educate students on various social issues and folders and the most beneficial ways. To get involved and support these backers communities. Students of the Faculty of Arts with leadership with his leadership skills and opportunities. This not only reflects positively upon the students on our team and our volunteers, but also on the societies, arts, social sciences, on humanities and the Faculty of Arts at Staying in our organization is one that aims to support change makers and contribute. Social justice initiatives while taking the necessary precautions to support their safety is being. This aligns with sashes for values of maintaining an environment of in facilities diversity, equity and accessibility. By creating open particular opportunities for students it is allowed to get involved with social justice, moving the challenging barrier of. Selective application process is.

MacKenzie Fleming: Community relations, professional networking opportunities and interactions with populations were supported will provide experiential learning opportunities through distributions and educational

training to ensure that students will save and be confident. Physical and mental. Materials such as water, juice, volunteers and allowing them to refrain from any areas that they may not feel entirely comfortable with. Here to freely express any thoughts, concerns, and suggestions for themes through feedback forms and question periods in our training sessions. This community also provides the opportunity to support other Faculty of Arts and SASSH associations as a potential collaborator and events and initiatives that focus on student leadership development and community engagement. Community Care Toronto acknowledges that funds received from the Society of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities must be usefully for the benefit of Toronto Metropolitan University students and must not be directly donated to Communities External of our University students and must not be directly donated to communities, external stimuli as previously mentioned, or the 2025 when the semester we were granted \$4000 containing the student.

Lauren Martinez: Distributions within the 2025 - 26 year. Additional funding items will come from fund raising such as ticket cost in food sales, including through drives. Any funds that were received from SASSH will be entirely within the TMU community. This will go towards the operational, marketing and catering cost of the author mentioned community. Seminar events that we. Estimating that we hold one larger scale educational seminar alongside fundraising events, we project our yearly cost will not be approximately \$1200. This is accounting for about 600 points per word seminar. Projected budget of this spending would roughly 200 towards marketing promotional materials such as printing costs and branded merchandise and 400 computing additionally. Personally, 600 fundraising event costs, projecting that 400 goes towards operational fees and 200 towards marketing costs.

Kristen Cordeiro: Aims to provide students with education materials, raising awareness about issues. I was an example on our current account. Communities align with their goals. Social Marketing. Instagram for the most recent Example. And updated on the opportunities that are going. As outlined throughout our pitch, the community here in Toronto strives to support the development of student leaders whilst addressing extremely important issues surrounding homelessness, the homelessness crisis that is visible throughout Toronto and surrounding our very own campus. We believe that with your support, we will be able to further expand our organization, fostering a community of these leaders. Helping a wider range of people with intruding on it. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to pitch our organization.

Item 3.1 - Community Care Toronto [Question and Discussion Period] (3:20PM)

CC: Thank you so much. Now just turn to take a couple questions from the board. So SASSH Board Members if anyone has any questions, please raise your hand. Remember the superfund dynamics of being in the office half in being virtual. The order, right? I will take a quick scan if anyone else has a question first. So any questions for our friends at Community Care, go ahead.

AL: Yes. So first of all, I want to say an amazing presentation, it was really informative. As someone in the past who's been involved in doing an initiative similar like this in my high school, it's a really inspiring group that you want to come to the SASSH with. I just have a couple of questions regarding just some safety precautions, like can you just go over what's going to be included in? Care kit that you're giving out?

Kristen Cordeiro: Yeah. So we always have water in our care kits and then we add comfort items by season. So towards the winter months we will include items like hats, gloves like the hand warmers or hot like hot hands. So those things will be in there as it gets colder. But right now we. Try to include hygiene products which include world hygiene

because that's a really huge thing, feminine hygiene products. And then we have water, juice boxes. Tuna and crackers, but in one box package we have, you know, snacky items, so goldfish, Ritz crackers, applesauce. We have things that are always granola bars. We always look at things that you could take to school, so things that are not free and then in our bags we also include. Like socks like that, but we also include an allergy notice. So we include an itemized list of what's in there and just tell people to be aware of their own personal allergies, any dietary restrictions they might have.

AL: Great. And got another question related to that. Is there anything safety wise for you? Including the kits or also bringing with you when you do these drop bys like first aid or I know when I used to do this, something that was kind of prioritized. I'm not saying you guys should have this or have to have this, but we did like band aids, some like wipes and I know others groups like this around Toronto usually also give like Narcan just in case, but you have to like any more safety part of these care gifts.

Kristen Cordeiro: Yeah, so in these band aids and wipes unfortunately we are sort of restricted by the cost that we have allotted to us and right now each kit. \$70.00 worth of goods. So they do have band aids and wipes and things like that. And then for our volunteers, we do have vehicles that if anybody gets too hot or cold you can go into a car for air conditioning or a warm car. And we keep of course likely managing before water and juice. Start another first aid item in there for volunteers as well, but we are definitely always open to expanding what we put in tickets to include more first aid products. It's just about working out that way to do that financially.

AL: OK, great. And my last question is kind of separate from that, have you been in touch with any? Toronto shelters because they are amazing to reach out to, to kind of have this initiative and kind of be more, I would say like it provides for more organizers out for the students. If you plan on going to the shelters, where are you in touch with any of them?

MacKenzie Fleming: So we aren't currently in touch with any shelters in Toronto, we do know. Shelter workers and individuals who work with vulnerable users, vulnerable populations have helped to sort of guide us in putting together kids and routes are one route that leads us from downtown Toronto towards Kensington Market. We have taken in both and we have connected with, it's not a shelter, but it's a drop in centre on any Kensington. I forget the name right now, but it is there. Them and they basically just allow for drop into drop insight. So whatever we have leftover hygiene products, food, any extras we bring there at the end of our routes because there's always some people around there and they always need extra help.

SB: Hey, it's **SB**. Thank you so much for your presentation. I really appreciate what you guys were doing. I just wanted one question pertaining to the system in which you guys will be getting out like the bag. So can you explain what kind of the route you guys have in mind like what it would look like for you guys?

Lauren Martinez: Yes, so our routes there are so last time we exclusively did an uproot from Front St. Union along University down College to the Kensington Market area and this time we had more volunteers. We will split into two 'cause we were a larger group and so. Take our groups based on obviously how many people are coming with us because we want to make sure we have enough people that everybody feels comfortable and that people can be in smaller groups as well as the bigger group. So we usually go in that sort of direction 1st and then for planning we. Try to align ourselves in areas where we know there are large encampments or large amounts of people who are unhoused staying in those areas. So that is always a fantastic option because there is a drop in centre. Like I mentioned in the last time, I believe we went up Jarvis towards Moss Park as well because there are usually a few. As well as people moving through that area towards the last part. And so that's how we decide. We decide based on the numbers of our

volunteers in our executive going to ensure safety and then we want to make sure that we're along a route where usually unhoused people stay so that we can give him those kits.

RV: One last thing, how much is your 'cause? I know sitting groups are a lot and if they want to be under SASSH. We also need to keep in mind that we need a strong Faculty of Arts present in it. So do you know how many students that are a part of your team are in the Faculty of Arts?

Kristen Cordeiro: Yes. So right now, we have 5 members that have been actively involved with our team and four of us are in the Faculty of Arts. And we've also had quite a few different people reach out to us about joining the team. And I know right off the bat that at least two of them are from the Faculty of Arts. So definitely. The majority of our group by far would be TMU Faculty of Art students.

CC: Perfect last call for questions from the SASSH Board. I think we're good. Thank you so much, **Kristen, MacKenzie** and **Lauren** for your presentation. You folks are free to go and enjoy your weekend. And then like I mentioned before, whoever you were contacting at the SASSH will be in touch with you at the earliest convenience with the decision and any next steps. Thanks again for your presentation.

AL: I like this group. I really want them to be on the SASSH. However, I just want to make sure. I just wanted to clarify how we feel about their spending expenditure. Considering it's almost like a donation group, I just want to make sure that discretionary funding is done in the best way.

LPL: Yeah, I don't know if anyone can remind me about exactly how many facts. I think they said something like 15? So yeah, considering the group, the funds I think June uses are directly pointed to like helping people outside of the faculty, these funds towards our mission statement or only really going towards people who are like part of the group. So if we're gonna. Get this donation. We gotta give it not on the basis of how many people were helping within the community, but how many people were helping. Within sash, so there. I mean, it's like we're going to give them. Having the apps for somewhere in the neighborhood. They think of the total amount, but I believe it was. Somewhere in the neighborhood of like \$1000. So. About like \$75 per. SASSh number? Just like.

RV: I mean, if they do come to us as a Student Group. I mean like the funding that goes towards them, they use it on their initiative, which could still be looked at as the other way of how we give funding to other student groups and they use their own separate initiatives. So I don't think the funding should be that much of an issue 'cause I don't know if you have anything to add on to that, but I don't think it should be an issue.

TN: **LPL** kind of just jumped in but I think he is saying that when you have students that are paying the fees they are expecting like those from actually more students within the students when you are kind of using the levy as a way to do community care, community outreach through SASSH. Those are the amount or kind of exiting the faculty voice in the demeanor this student's way supposed to come back to whereas the only kind of proof that it's going towards TMU and not using that funds to benefit the community homeless population in Toronto. This is referring to just something that kind of goes against SASSH values.

LPL: **TN** said what I was honestly thinking so nothing more from me.

AL: In my previous initial meetings with **Kristen** a while back I think in April, just because I kind of gave this whole spiel of making sure of discretionary funding. Making sure that the money used given my SASSH stays within the

faculty of arts, Kristen kind of replied to that was. Though the money that we give them will be primarily for seminars, like the one given by criminology like the CCU where they had several speakers come in and talk about specific topics. I think that's what their money is going to be used for. Which still hosts speeches, talks about, you know, probably like what's homelessness, the impacts of homelessness and what society can do. And I think those types of talks would be really important for the Faculty of Arts considering a lot of our programs here. Have much to say about the homeless crisis in Toronto and in the world together so I believe it's like a good usage of money down the line but yeah that's my two cents on it.

LPL: I believe their funding was not directed towards talks but pitched towards building care packages.

AL: Yeah, when in my meetings with **Kristen**, it wasn't that case. Money that we give them will be primarily for things that are happening within the university, TMU like Faculty of Arts, the whole community care package creation will be coming through donations. Their donations through fund raising such as base sales or other form of fund raising events, but primarily the money that we will give them will not be for you know externally from what I understand, from what I know from Kristen, from what she had to be in the meetings.

CC: Thank you **AL**, and thank you **JAG** for putting a little speakers list for me in the chat. I really appreciate it. It's hard to see all the folks in the room. We're gonna jump to **NN**, and then **JAG** has a point of information. Then **LPL** will come back to you if you have a response or if you're good. OK, then never mind, I will jump over **LPL**. I will go straight to **NN** and then we'll go to **RV**. Alright, so **NN**, go ahead.

NN: Well, this one is more of a response to **LPL** and your concerns, which are very valid. Yeah, like if we're concerned about where the money is going, that is obviously a valid concern considering that, you know, we wanted to value you want upholds, you know fancy art students with these initiatives that could be reframed like how we think of it like if the money is going towards the care packages. These are. Students, so if we are funding those care packages, those are like active ways to support that like hands-on experience. Now I feel like we are kind of like I guess within the Faculty of Arts and another thing. Some more. A lot of our programs specifically like criminology, politics and governments really value community care and all this is population not so limited to those programs but or even sociology. I feel like that is an area that they do value a lot. So I feel like it, to target those active arts programs. So if we are like that it is like a main concern, which is very valid. It's all about how we like frames, I guess like how we look at it. So yes, that makes sense.

LPL: I would like to add a point of information to **NN's** comment, I misunderstood the financial plan, it's going towards some sort of fundraising.

CC: Alright, perfect. Thank you **LPL**. So we'll go. Josel has a point of information then I will go to **KA** and then **SB**. Then **RV** had his hand up, so if he's back in time then we'll go to **SB**. OK, good.

JAG: I think it's also very similar to **NN's** point of information so I met with Community Care to know before this Board Meeting to just clarify a few ways to navigate the funding situation and I did let him know that if SASSH chooses to provide funding towards their care packages. It is a way of developing our students' professional skills, being out there in the field, work that is somehow navigating that, labeling it as field work and contributing to their direct skills developments on the ground. And of course there is, there's two ways that they can go about the funding, right? There's the chip accounts and they also fill them asking for funding. And So what you can do is you can limit the chip accounts specifically towards the fund raising aspects and then you can move forward with them if they would like.

The funding applications for Care packages, So I think it's still a great way for them to be a part of SASSH Concession, offer a lot of opportunities and support for them, but it's just not beginning. The funding situation is a little tricky, but it is something that definitely manageable.

SB: Hi everyone, I just wanted to just in terms of like, I feel like broadening my understanding. If we get a concrete understanding of how we can break down the budget, I think it will be something good to put in, especially Sociology like these are good ways to educate faculty of arts in the city.

CC: Yeah, I'm just thinking about the initiatives that Community Care Toronto serves, like how we've been talking about program alignments and I was thinking about society alignment and I was kind of thinking. This student group kind of aligns better with FCSS, Faculty of Community Services Society. I know they're a little bit smaller, but their programs are a lot more relevant to me, I feel like the work that they provide. So like again, it comes down to the question of like. I feel like it is asking to value the faculty of arts programs. I would say they do, but I don't think quite to the extent that like if another society were to put funding towards a feeling their programs would maximize it a little bit further than the SASSH would. So I think like in terms of giving funding out. I really think about this as an issue of whether or not like how many faculty members participate in this group and whether or not it's worth it to, you know, basically like a per capita amount of students in the group.

JAG: Just so you remember, do not hesitate to vote no or abstain. To do this discussion is simply like an opportunity for folks to give their points of view and not necessarily a way to persuade you depending on the discussion. But this reminder, it is okay to vote no.

CC: That is true. Thank you **JAG** for the reminder that there are three options when voting and you all reserved the right to choose. Everyone best reflects your view towards the motion. So thank you **JAG**. OK, I see **RV** is back.

RV: Yeah. I just have a point of information. I'm just going to have to leave the meeting.

CC: That will be no problem **RV**. Do not worry and someone on the board will make sure to catch you up with whatever you miss.

MK: I just wanted to say that I agree with **SB** and **NN's** points and I think I disagree with **LPL** a little bit about passing it off to FCSS. I think because like they mentioned in the presentation, I believe it was 6 of their members are currently more of our students and so I feel like if we pass it off onto FCSS. They're going to reject them for a similar reason? Like oh it's not actually representing our Faculty enough. Until then the group itself loses that opportunity to be doing something so great and like providing such a service and so that is kind of my perspective.

EP: So just kind of as a response to what **MK** said instead, I want to say except I don't think the I see your point, Lucas, when you say the faculty of Community Services, but there's we have other shooting groups such as TMU teams that you could argue that TMU team plans can be a science based. Right, so it has to do more with the community of the faculty of arts students who have taken this initiative to start this to fully participate.

LPL: Yeah, I want to respond to what **MK** said like I definitely agree that what we're doing is a great initiative. I just have to think as a society and I was like our directives go is that great initiative something that falls under our directive and something that we can directly provide funding towards. Like if we're providing it as their SASSH society, like I see the value. I didn't see the point, but they're not SASSH Society like I got like TMU exists and like maybe they're not

the most specialized, but. They are society so it or they are a group under us, so it gives them a little bit more leeway, but I feel like for a new group. Not only does that only have 6 faculty members as you mentioned to give this amount of funding. Basically gives back these students their levy then some, which doesn't really provide much to us, or the rest of the Faculty.

BR: I just wanted to say that if we're thinking of Faculty of Arts which, possibly think of it in the broader sense of like arts and like TMU on how homelessness and all these other issues like affect us and students like our safety and all that's pretty good. Forward and back in May, I also just happened to be talking to Dr. Lou, just in passing when the safe injection site closed and she was saying that you know we. It would be great if the university could do stuff about this, but really it's like the students, the university would listen to students to push these initiatives forward. I think it would be great for them.

HT: I just wanted to say I've done these types of initiative support before and although they may not directly align with like SASSH, also doesn't have too many charitable events or like initiatives that we take part in such as other other societies who I know I don't know if it was the engineering one, but they're asking me there like, oh, during the Retreat if we have any like charitable. I can't find the right word, but. Just say initiatives that we have, but we didn't have too much to really like back to them. So I guess this could be a great opportunity in that sense as well to give back to the community.

MM: I was thinking about a lot of Arts students I know going into nonprofit work after graduation. Looking at how this would benefit our students and anyone that joins the student group, they went on a lot more to talk about an interview, for example, like tangible things they've done and so they've worked on non profits. And so this could help a lot of people's careers and if it's an issue, how little they have right now, I mean, they're just starting out. So 6 art students and workers is a decent number and we can try to encourage them together though, but I feel like supporting them from now would only make them grow and we can kind of get other students in the faculty of arts to get more engaged as well. People would be interested in this.

CC: Thank you **MM**. Last call for questions or comments. That is a great example of lots of people contributing to a really strong discussion on emotion. So always happy when that happens.

Item 3.2 - Community Care Toronto [Voting Period] (3:49PM)

Motioned by: CC Seconded by: AL
In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

[Motion Carries]

Item 4.0 - Steer Networking [Presentation (3:52PM)]

CC: Next, we have another student presentation from Steer Networking. We will be discussing a monetary partnership with Steer and SASSH. The presentation is linked in the agenda, so feel free to open it up, so you've got some details. Hello, Steer Networking. My name is Claire, and I am the chair for the board meeting. If this is your first time presenting to a SASSH board meeting – welcome. My job is to just make sure that this presentation goes smoothly and everyone's treated fairly throughout the process. Once everything is ready to go you'll have about 10

minutes to give your presentation. That will be followed by a 5-minute question period from the SASSH board. Whenever you're ready, feel free to put your presentation up and get started.

Nicole De Las Casas: Hello everyone, thanks for having us. My name is **Nicole**.

Tyler Squibb: And I'm **Tyler**.

Nicole De Las Casas: Today, we're gonna propose a partnership between Steer and SASSH. The reason we're here is because SASSH made this possible. SASSH made Steer. Our team met through clubs that SASSH supported, where we cultivated our ideas, we grew skills and we learned how to network. SASSH's mission is to empower arts students. We believe in this mission. And we want to support it by creating opportunities and connections for students, giving them a way to grow academically and professionally. Right now, we're going to show the demo video where we explain our app, and we'll walk you through it. So let's say you would like to be a lawyer. With one clip you can discover and add a person. Steer will find their verified email and it will find their work experience. It's just that easy. After that, it can generate a personalized message with their information, so the message feels genuine. If you want, you can attach your resume, or you can send it at any point in time. It's all up to you. And now, to start, we have three updates which are coming soon. This is our greatest update so far, where you can ask the driver AI anything about your network. Say you would like to go hiking next weekend. Sure, you can ask it, and it will find people like Sarah, and you will see her information, and you'll be able to ask the bot any questions. Let's say you want to find another person to add to your network. I want to find a product designer at TMU. You just tell the AI and then it will give you people that you can add. You can send a message in just one click. We want efficiency, and that's what we give you. Here we have our projects where you can add Steer to do tasks for you. Let's say you want to send 10 coffee chat messages. But that takes a long time. That's okay because it will do it for you. In your feed, you can keep in touch with your network, see updates or news, get reminders of upcoming meetings so you can schedule them, and you can also ask questions. You can also see mutual connection opportunities in the network that you have. Another update that I like, though it's more like a feature. If you have a meeting coming up soon, but you don't know how to prep, we give you a summary with questions and suggestions on how to get it right. This is our map, and over here, you see yourself in the middle, and then around you, you see people in your friend network. You can filter out this map by asking who's hiring right now. You can see people in your network who are hiring, and you can contact them or just keep it in mind. That's all for me, I'll pass it on to **Tyler** now.

Tyler Squibb: So why do connections even matter? Professionally the data is clear. 70% of students who got jobs from networking did it through cold outreach, and the MIT has shown the more contacts you know in any given field, the more referrals you get for a job. And 56% of students who got a job out of university got the job through referrals. Beyond professionally, it gives us a sense of community and belonging, as I'm sure you know. At SASSH, you're very close to each other, and it brings a sense of community and belonging, and you can grow personally and academically since you have like-minded people around you. So we want to help give this to other TMU students in the arts. We want to make networking accessible for everyone. Right now, all too often, it's just the already connected that are doing the networking, but we think that with this, we could really even the playing field. In addition, we want to make it approachable for people. Many students don't even know where to start with networking. Who do I find? How do I get their email? How do I write a message? And a lot of times it just feels awkward, just sending a cold outreach to this professional, but we really want to give students the confidence to go out there and get networking because that's how you can get ahead. And lastly, we want to give an advantage to TMU art students. We think the more people you're able to reach out to, the more likely you'll get a referral and get the job. So with Steer, you can send so many more messages in less time compared to traditional networking methods. So we've come with three proposal options that

we'd like to present to SASSH. The first is for one semester plus August, and this is 80 c's for our steer pro version. This would be a total of \$4,000, which is a 50% discount on our total price. So our average price is around \$20 a month, so this would be \$10 a month per person. And then the option two is for one semester plus August and January and this is 120 seats for the steer Pro subscription but in addition, we'll have access to steer V3, which will be released very soon, as Nikki presented, and we'll create a custom SASSH login and sign-up page for everybody who signed up through SASSH. And lastly, any special support you may have requests for, we'll be open to talking about that as well. And then lastly, option three is for two semesters plus August, 120 seats, and this includes everything in option two, but in addition, we'd like to offer advanced metrics, recruiter insights and a sponsorship if you so wish. This is \$8000 which is a 62% discount. SASSH leads the way. You've been empowering our students across TMU, and now you can give this opportunity to future students. We're both arts students and we're really appreciative of that. So, thank you.

CC: Thank you both so much. Now we're just going to take some questions from the SASSH Board.

Item 4.1 - Steer Networking [Question and Discussion Period] (4:02PM)

CC: Thank you Steer. If anyone has any questions, please raise your hand. **AS,** go ahead.

AS: Thank you. First of all, great presentation. I liked the part where you could view the map and see who's hiring. I think that's really great. My question is: for this to work you would need to have a lot of personalized stuff on every single person that uses steer, so you can actually give very good references to people and you can connect people really well. And my question is, how are you actually able to get people to join your app, how are you getting all of those things for people to fill out to make it very personalized?

Nicole De Las Casas: I can answer that. When somebody logs into the app, there's a profile where you have to fill in your information, such as your name, which program you're in, what year, if you work, you can fill in your job, and you can put in your resume. There's a part where you can discover people. So let's say I want to go into law, and I want to meet other lawyers. I will put into my discoveries that I would like to meet somebody in law, in this company with these roles, and then you start networking and finding those people. Long story short, you have to put in your personalized filters, and that way we know what's right for you. And then there's another part where you can write an email that you have sent in the past. And we take that email and learn your language, your writing style, how you send those messages, so it feels just like you. We don't want to just send out an email that is a cold message, right? We want that genuine interaction, which is why we take the information that you have given us and we feed it, so you get back connections.

Tyler Squibb: To add on to that, in a profile page when you log in, we ask for some basic information, and I think we do it in a kind of unique way. So we ask, what are your three biggest accomplishments? When you put in your accomplishments or what you've done in an email, it's a higher success rate. So it could be something like I'm in a student society or in a student club. So you put this in, and AI is able to use this information, your resume and your goals, and it's able to create a personal message for you to that person. But not only that, it uses their information as well. So we're able to go on their LinkedIn and kind of take their work experience, and when you click on someone's profile, it opens up their information, and you see all their experience, their email. So then it's able to use that experience and yours, and we trained it so it connects the two. So it's like, what do we have in common that I can include in this email?

AS: Just as a follow-up, so you're kind of using Steer and it's looking at people on LinkedIn to find those connections?

Tyler Squibb: Yeah, that's correct.

LPL: I was just curious about the metrics behind Steer. What is your guys' active user base, and if you have the numbers related to it? What percentage of those are students and what percentage of those are professionals who are hiring?

Tyler Squibb: Right now, we have over 50 active users if the traction is decent. And then I'd say 95% of them are students, so we actually can't know everyone who's on there because some people sign up without us knowing. But we kind of just get a big picture of how many people. But most of the people I talk to who are Arts students.

KA: Kind of a similar question. So all of the data that you're getting on the people, is it just from LinkedIn or is it from any other place?

Tyler Squibb: So, the information we get on the user is everything they opted for. So, I'll put in my resume, I'll put in my networking goals and my achievements. But then, for the people we're using it's mainly LinkedIn, but we're able to use a database that's able to grab other things. So we're able to find their email as well. And if you know, the emails aren't readily available. It's actually really difficult to find people's emails. So we're able to grab their email because we know their company and so forth. So it's mostly LinkedIn but we're also supported through other means as well.

KA: I know you mentioned you have students on the app. Do you have information on what kind of career path they're looking for?

Nicole De Las Casas: If I'm not mistaken, we have about 40 industries in total, and every industry has a specific role.

Tyler Squibb: You could do anything here. So, say you wanted to go to grad school, you could discover and just filter for grad schools, and you can put in the roles of psychology professors, and you can find specific psychology professors. It's quite open in the way you can use it, so you could really search for anything. What people are mostly focused on right now is hard to tell because we value privacy, of course. A lot of people I talk to are in business, but I also know there are people in other fields as well, like in the Arts advertising. But psychology and sociology are definitely possible. You can input anything you like. It's really open-ended; as long as they have a LinkedIn profile, you can easily add them. The same thing if you see someone on LinkedIn, you can just take their URL or the name of the company and put it through, and you get all their information, their email. And then the same process, you can automate the personalized messages for you and them. So you can discover people, but if you really want to be specific with certain people that you know, you can do that too. It's really open to whatever goal you're trying to achieve. At the end of the day, it's just meeting people that we're trying to help.

LPL: My question relates to your data gathering process. I know you guys said you use LinkedIn, I just wanted to know how your permissions work to be able to use LinkedIn's data on your own site?

Tyler Squibb: We go through the process of approval. We did the same thing with Google, so you can actually add your Gmail to Google. The school email doesn't work, unfortunately, but we made it in a way where you can use your email connected or disconnected. So you can just open Gmail directly and it populates all the fields, or you can connect

and send directly to them. But to get Google's permission, we had to go through a whole process of fixing our terms of service, putting things on our website, and they accepted. And then the same thing with LinkedIn. We don't have access to their data. We have permission to take information from users' profiles on LinkedIn and then use it on our website.

LPL: And users consent to have their information shared?

Tyler Squibb: Right now their information isn't being shared. We set up a platform for recruiters to directly contact users on the app. And we're allowing users to opt in to allow their information to be shared, but if they don't want that at all, their information won't go anywhere. We take privacy very seriously.

KA: I'm looking at the demo, and it's super cool with the features on there, but I was wondering, could you just do a walk-through for a completely new user, show how they would go about using it? Let's just say, here is your login page and then from there, how would it work?

Nicole De Las Casas: If I log in, I'll get taken to the center page where I will put my email, my name and my password. I will be logged in, and then as of now, we have our three plans, which will be our \$20 plan or \$40 plan and then our free plan that users can sign up to. Once they're signed up and they have a plan, we get sent a notification through there so we know that we have a new person using the app. There was a point where people were signing up, but they weren't going forward, and their profile was being created, and then nothing happened. We fixed it so it verifies that the person wants to continue using the app. You're going to be taken to a homepage, and usually, because I'm a new user, I don't know how to use the app, we have tutorial videos that appear as popups and they run you through everything. We don't want anyone to be lost. On the home page, we have a discovery button, but before you click on it, it actually tells you to fill in your information so that we can find your preferences. Once your profile is set up, you can start networking. Just click a button to start discovering, and you'll find people that match your preferences. So if I choose to add all the people that Steer found for me, I can reach out to them. Just one click and the message generates. But it doesn't send. You can edit the message, maybe send it at another point in time. Most of the time professionals usually don't answer after the first email. We have follow-ups, we have up to four of them, so you can continue pushing through, obviously, giving it a couple of days. We don't want to blow up their email inbox. Once the message is sent, we have a messages page where you are able to see the messages that were being generated for you, and you can choose if you want to send them. So if you click send, Gmail actually appears since it's linked to your account, and you can send a message whenever you want. You're also able to see the history of new messages. So let's say you accidentally sent one. You can actually undo it. So we're saving you the stress. We also have the Add People page. Sometimes we're not sure who we want to discover. So if you want to have people in your current Network that you have from LinkedIn, you just go to your profile, copy the URL, paste it, and then it gives you their information – email, work experience, and name. And then you can add it, and you'll have it in your tracker. You can create groups in your tracker as well. Let's say there are specific people that are your coworkers, friends, family, mentors... You can filter them out so you know which person you should filter by. Then we also have a calendar page. And this calendar page only works if you sync up your Google account, so once you sync it up, you'll get reminders of when meetings are happening when we should send messages. So it works very well. It's a platform that's all in one. Students keep juggling Excel, LinkedIn, Gmail, Word... These are multiple apps. We don't want the stress, especially since we have many responsibilities to do as full-time or part-time students. We have jobs, and sometimes it's frustrating to continue following up with someone. That's why with Steer, we get rid of the pressure and make your life easier. We also have another app apart from the profile we have settings where you can actually view your hidden accounts. Let's say there's a contact that you wouldn't like to see anymore. You can hide them and undo the hiding if you want to contact them

in the future. You can manage your plan, and we actually have a referral code, and when you give it to a friend, they sign up with your referral code, you're going to get 10 extra discoveries, which is around 50 people.

Tyler Squibb: In the plan we're proposing, anyone who signs up through SASSH will get 500 people they could discover every week. And then, in addition to that, it's an unlimited amount of messages and an unlimited amount of people you could add from LinkedIn as well.

CC: Any final questions from the SASSH board? All right, thank you so much to our presenters from Steer for your proposal and your pitch to the board. You folks are now welcome to head out and enjoy the rest of your weekend, and a member from the SASSH board will be in touch with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the voting results and any next steps. Thank you guys so much. Do we have a seconder?

LPL: Yeah, I will be honest here, I don't really see a lot of value in this proposal. I think they have a lot of great ideas and a lot of great concepts. However, with such a small active user base, just 50 people, I feel like even if they have access to Steer Pro, where they're able to message up to 100 people, there are not even 100 people yet. So if we're spending money on improving their app, at the end of the day, we're not venture capitalists. So that's my initial thoughts on the presentation, but I'm happy to hear what the rest of us have to say.

TN: A point of information, I will be abstaining from voting due to my indirect involvement with Steer but just a point of information is that they came into full effect in the middle of June, or the beginning of June. So it's been a month, and they've been able to generate interest for 50-plus individuals. And also, important information is that the contacts on the app are not limited to their user base. So, from what I understand, the the is pulling data from LinkedIn, Google and all of these other places on the internet that may find individuals that are relevant to whatever the user is searching for. So if I'm using Steer to find people who are doing economics or who are doing economics jobs in the field, they are able to pull a lot of people who are doing economic jobs at the Bank of Canada or whatever, that doesn't necessarily use Steer. This information can be taken from LinkedIn, the company website, the corporation website and all that is widely available on the internet. So we're just using the metadata to find people relevant to you.

LPL: I have a question for **TN**. So, Steer is just an aggregating app that aggregates people on LinkedIn and Google who have similar interests, and or career paths to you, to then buy their data to find their email address, to then send an automated email? They don't have to be consensually on the Steer Network?

TN: I do that kind of on a daily basis, too. I go on LinkedIn and I find random people, and I just email them like "hey, I was looking into your career path, this seems very interesting to me, can we do a quick coffee chat for 15 minutes, just for me to know more about coffee chat?" That is what cold outreach is all about. Their platform is more towards consolidating and having an all-in-one system that allows you to look up these people, know what career path they're talking about, outreaching, and also managing these connections on one platform instead of you managing them yourself through Excel, Word, or whatever means that you want to have.

LPL: I'm just trying to Google to find it here, and I'm not able to. The fact that they don't even appear on the first Google page kind of gives me pause. I don't really think their answer to how they got the data is very satisfactory. I feel like a lot of these emails could be kind of seen as spam if they're just finding random people and sending mass emails.

TN: But isn't that the point of cold outreach?

LPL: I know, but if they're being sent automatically, I'm pretty sure spamming boxes can flag that. Also, the transferring of emails from one platform to be utilized on another is very complicated, and there is a lot of data protection policy behind it. And so I'm just not sure if they're taking the necessary protocols to mitigate their risk on that.

CC: Perfect. Thank you, Thomas and Lucas. I'm also going to flag that the motion that we are voting on is to approve a monetary partnership with Steer, and in their presentation, they have given three different options for a monetary partnership. So, what I'm going to recommend we do, what we've already kind of started the discussion on now, is whether or not SASSH wants to give them money at all. That's what we'll discuss and vote on first. If the board decides they do want to give the Steer Network money, then we will move to discuss which of the three funding packages they presented. If the board decides they do not want to fund the Steer Network at all, then we'll move on to the next item on the agenda. Just for clarity, while we're having all of these discussions. So with that, we'll go to **MM**, then **KA**, then **EP** and **AL**. Go ahead, **MM**.

MM: So, the first thing I wanna highlight is a point of information for **LPL**. So, we did vote for Nodalli AI, which is the exact same service with a different interface. The scraping thing was never an issue because I think they tried to explain it, but it wasn't in-depth. You can buy licensing from LinkedIn or Google to be able to use the information on their platforms, and I think that's what Steer did. Again, they didn't elaborate, so I'm not entirely sure, and I don't want to speak for them. But I'm sure that in the LinkedIn policy, you consent to your information being shared, and so when a user consents to information being shared and it's public, then there's nothing that they can do to be like "oh, where did this person get my email?" because it's public information. If they shared it with LinkedIn in the terms and conditions, there's likely some sort of waiver that people consent to when they make an account. But this is just my knowledge, I don't know what they did, so I'm not going to speak for them. Back to the proposal, financially, I think that because we worked with nodalli before and it's worked so well for them, they do a very similar thing – they have their AI, they make the automated email, it's basically the same thing, and it's cheaper. So the cheapest proposal that Steer has given us is option 3 \$8,000 total for two semesters plus August, which is a total of 9 months, \$120 seats at \$66 a person for the cheapest or most discounted option. I believe for nodalli it was cheaper than this, so we paid less for nodalli and it worked just as well. Or I assume it worked just as well because we got so much interest in it, and it seems to be going well. I don't believe that we should pay for a second service that does the exact same thing for more money than what we paid for before. And so, that's kind of my stance. With the data thing, I'm sure that there is some sort of licensing. Again, nodalli does the exact same thing, and we voted on that, and it passed, so I don't think that was an issue beforehand. So now, when we're looking at Steer, that shouldn't be your focus either because you already voted yes on something that does the exact same thing.

KA: To follow up on **MM**'s point, I think a lot of the things you put on your profile are easily accessible, and you don't even need to use AI to find them. As for the proposal, I know we did fund Nodalli last year, but I wouldn't be opposed to doing it again for a similar service. My only thing is, for all options, I think that 80 seats is a lot. I feel like, because they have a smaller user base, maybe it might be better to shorten it to maybe 30 seats, or something like that. Just because they have a smaller user base, we don't know if they might use it at all.

EP: Mine is a question. Obviously I wasn't here last year when you were talking about Nodalli. Who are these seats going to? Maybe I'm not understanding something about the concept.

TN: What we did with Nodalli was we sponsored these seats towards Faculty of Arts students within TMU, and SASSH took over the recruitment process for it. So with nodalli, we sent out a Google form, and we advertised it as this

service that SASSH is basically paying the subscription for the students to use free of charge. And we do have the whole recruitment process on nodalli. I think we gave out 60 seats, and we had 190 applicants. So I think there's demand because the students who didn't get accepted into nodalli, when you have 140 students who didn't get in, what is kind of an up-to-par option? So SASSH does take charge of the recruitment process, and we choose who it goes to.

AL: I agree that we already have a subscription with Nodalli, and we are entertaining Steer. I'm just wondering, is this a good usage of our finances, considering we already have nodalli, and if we're going to purchase another service on top of that, will this be a good use of our money? Because that money can be utilized for many other things within SASSH. So, just wanting to be very cautious about our discretionary funding is kind of my point, considering we already have Nodalli.

LPL: This isn't like they're giving us the subscriptions for free either, they only have partial discounts, so I think that's also going to add kind of a barrier to students who want to access this. It's not like we're giving a monetary partnership, so I think it's not necessarily that accessible.

JAG: Just a point of information on Nodalli, they actually applied for funding twice. I think the first time the SASSH decided not to give them funding was because of a lot of data issues, or some confusion about the way that nodalli worked. And then nodalli actually came back a year after with a lot of improvements in their system and their platform, and it seems like they really took SASSH's feedback and improved on how they wanted to manage the platform. And they actually have a very active partnership with SASSH. So, Ricardo, Harjas and I actually meet with them regularly, and they include us in the entire process when it comes to interacting with the students, making sure that their programming works.

MM: We have a great working relationship with Nodalli, and I feel like they've been very transparent and helpful. And so to invest in another service that doesn't have the same track record, I'm not sure if I would be comfortable with that personally. As well as Steer doesn't have as much recognition as Nodalli. Nodalli came to us with client testimonials from people in the Faculty of Arts, students who were able to get co-ops and internships and jobs using their service. It was a tangible pitch with real testimonials from people who are actual members of SASSH. For Steer, it's just a monetary partnership. That's all they want; they just want our money. We're not involved in their planning or their process in any way. With nodalli, we were involved in the adjudication of the applications, helping them go through all the applicants. I think we verified student numbers. We did all of that. And with Steer, it doesn't seem like what they're pitching is an interest in a partnership with SASSH. It's just financial, and I don't feel like we should spend money on something that's not tried and true, and something that doesn't have testimonials or reviews to back it up from faculty of art students, and although it was a great presentation, I just think that for our standards, it's not detailed enough. I'd like to hear a lot more detail about what their impact could be. They talked a lot about their app. It's a great app, but at the same time, I want to hear about its impact, and that's what we would be paying for in a monetary partnership. I'd like to propose an amendment to the motion that we ask them to revise these options and come back. Maybe people can jump in, I'm not entirely sure, but I propose an amendment that we don't vote right now on whether or not to give them monetary funding, but to have them come back with a pitch that's more detailed, and maybe some more statistics with actual TMU students and faculty of arts impact if possible.

CC: What I'd suggest instead of an amendment to the motion is that once SASSH chooses whether or not to approve or to not approve the motion, if a motion is ever not approved, the board reserves the right to share that feedback with the presenters and invite them to attend another board meeting to present again. So, just instead of an amendment to the motion, I would suggest that if the board decides to vote no, that is just something that the board includes in their

follow-up conversation with Steer Networking. Just saying we've decided the motion did not carry, here are some of the reasons why. We welcome you to come back to any future board meeting should you wish to represent. I'm thinking this might just be a good time to move to a vote on this motion, so let's do that. So, as a reminder, we're not voting on the amount of money requested by Steer Network. It's just generally whether to enter into a monetary partnership with steer.

Item 4.2 - Steer Networking [Voting Period] (4:38PM)

Motioned by: CC Seconded by: LPL
In Favour: 0 Against: 11 Abstentions: 3

Item 6.0 - Approval of the Philosophy Director [Presentation] (4:41PM)

CC: Alright, good job everybody. Earlier, we voted to remove items 5.0 and 5.1 out of the Agenda for tonight so we are going to jump ahead to items 6.0 and 6.1. **SX**, the floor is yours.

SX: As you may know, the Recruitment Committee which consists of **RV**, myself, **NN**, **TN**, and **HT**, are in the process of interviewing and hiring Director positions on the Board. We conducted a few interviews over the past few days, and we came to the conclusion that we would like to hire **Melody** as the Philosophy Director. A bit about her just to give you some context, she is a TMU Bold member, she does rugby so it was very interesting to hear about not only that but also how that impacts her involvement in student leadership, and how she takes her experiences from there and applies it to leadership characteristics and methods of going about her work. She's also been involved in groups like MetHacks, which is something that the SASSH is kind of familiar with. Her wide range of professional experiences not only helps bring light to the communication skills that she showed within the interview, but also her adaptability and her drive for seeing social impact, especially within her program, which is philosophy. So I wanted to bring this to you all just to let you know that we will be moving forward with her, and if you folks have any questions about that or want to know more about her, let me know.

CC: Perfect, thank you **SX**. Correct me if I am wrong but this is not a voting matter tonight. This is an opportunity for folks to ask any questions about the potential incoming Philosophy Director or the process that your fellow Board Members undertook to make their decision, now's your chance.

Item 6.1 - Approval of the Philosophy Director [Question and Discussion Period] (4:43PM)

CC: If no one has any questions that is also okay. I am not seeing any hands in the Boardroom, is that right? I take that as everyone is very satisfied with the incoming Philosophy Director and the process undertaken to recruit them, shout out to folks who were involved in that. Next up, financial updates from **KA**. I know you have got some financial updates to provide the Board, so the floor is yours.

Item 7.0 - Financial Updates [Presentation] (4:44PM)

KA: Today, we're going to be going over our July 2025 Financial updates. So, a little bit about what this is, every month I'm going to come up here and I'm going to be like "this is how much we spent, this is how much we have left" and all that fun stuff. Today is National Tropical Fruit Day, so today we're going to be raising awareness about our

finances. Very fun. So, the first graph that we have here goes over all of the portfolios that have spent their amount, so that's what this green amount is here. Anything that's green is what has been spent so far, and you can see what the actual amount is here. This blue line over here is how much was spent last year. So, all these portfolios last year, 2024-2025, this is where they were at. So, as we can see, not everyone spent all of their money last year, but it might be really nice to see where you might be compared to last year. These numbers might not be completely comparable. For example, marketing has a pretty high number up there, but the portfolio doesn't actually reach that high that's cause we did some little budget changes, which we had approved at the last board meeting. Only 2% of the budget has been used so far. Okay, so if you're curious about where exactly this amount has been spent, these are where the numbers are at, so think of this as like a zoomed-out portfolio version. The only thing that has been spent so far is under presidents for internal affairs, operations for board meeting expenses and supplies and equipment, Finance for finance operations and under student engagement for conferences and training. We're gonna look at it in a little more detail. So, for president expenses under internal affairs, the only expenses that have come in so far are under the board retreat. So, we all went to Muskoka, we had a great training session, and so those expenses are coming in. This is not the full amount, there's still a couple more coming in, but so far, from what we have, quite a bit has been spent. So, about 11% of the President's portfolio has been spent so far. But the president has a smaller portfolio, so that's why quite a bit has been spent. Next, we have operations. So, under operations, the only thing that has been spent so far is, of course, meals for board meeting expenses, as well as some software service subscriptions. As we started this year, we have to renew a lot of our services, so that's where that comes from. And of course, SASSH spaces. Sarah's doing great, making sure that we have a great office. Finance expenses next. Only 1% has been spent. So, if you haven't met Parsa, Parsa is our finance assistant, so most of this amount that has been spent is for finance assistance. We also have some amount spent through Project funding, as we had funded some groups. No, I think we only funded an individual so far, but that number will also likely go up. So, student engagement, 3% has been spent. This is mostly because of the SGLC, so about 1647,33 cents. Again, this amount might also go up a little bit more because those expenses are still coming in, but that's kind of where we are so far with SGLC. We only went through four portfolios; that's because everyone else hasn't spent anything yet. That's not because they haven't actually spent any money yet, that's more so because it just hasn't come in yet, so these numbers will go up higher. But so far, president, operations, finances and student engagement are kind of going up. And 2% has been spent so far. That's everything, I'll see you next month.

Item 7.1 - Financial Updates [Question and Discussion Period] (4:50PM)

Item 8.0 - Board Updates (4:50PM)

CC: Last and certainly not least, updates from the Board. This has been changed since last year. Now there is an opportunity for Directors to share their updates as well. I am just going to go in order of your position on the Board Member updates document. If there is one thing you want to highlight, feel free to speak up and do so but don't feel like you need to read every single update that you put in the document because we'll be here for 6 years if everybody does that. All Board Members are responsible for reading these documents.

NN: I'll just start off by thanking **LMT** for sharing really helpful resources from the Endnote. As I mentioned in our last meeting, I am trying to start an English Academic Journal. We had two very good meetings so far within the month of July so very excited about that. **AS** and I have interviewed and hired our Website Manager. We did train her and completed her onboarding and everything. As some of you may know, I was the Website Manager last year so I did help with that training a lot. Just hoping that goes smoothly, that's all for me.

LMT: Nothing huge. For Kaleidoscope, everything is pretty much underway for event planning and we're getting ready to open submissions come September. One notable thing is the Kaleidoscope Wix website will be shutting down and will be moving operations from Wix to the SASSH website. For the History department, we are working with them for Orientation and with the MHS as well.

EP: I have been out of office since the beginning of June, so unfortunately, I don't have any updates there. But I have chatted with the president of the LIRCU about Orientation, so everything seems to be going smoothly there as well. That's all for me.

MK: Orientation is going smoothly. I am in the process of organizing the Volunteer Socials. We have one next week by the way, it's the Board Game Day so please come attend, we need the people. It's from 4-7PM in the Arts Lounge next Thursday. The second one we're planning is a picnic. We had a different idea for an Arcadia event but that fell through unfortunately due to the building not being able to accommodate all volunteers so we chose to do a picnic instead to accommodate for our group size. Still working on the committee social planning as well, and so we're hoping to secure tickets for the CNE and I will send a calendar invite. And then still working on the scavenger hunt, and I was hoping to bring that up a little bit more. Community updates, we are scheduling our first committee meeting next week, so that's awesome. Not many updates because we've been kind wrapped up in Orientation but with Kickstart coming up soon the ball will start rolling finally. Last but not least, our budget breakdowns have been sent through a couple weeks ago. There was also discussion in our last meeting about platforming a Politics and Governance Journal. We wouldn't be the solicitors of it but rather be giving the students that came up with the idea the credit. He would be the face of it and the credit will be given to him. We're just going to be providing that platform for him to get that audience and allow other students to also write in that journal.

SX: I do think the Google Calendar for the Volunteer Board Game Day is in our calendars but for potentially the wrong Thursday?

MK: It was for this Thursday but we had to move it to next week because pretty much everyone was not in office that day, so we had to move next week. Sorry about that.

SB: I have just finished interviewing and just getting everyone settled, we had our first meeting with the committee on Thursday, so we just been getting that sorted and getting them all familiar with event breakdowns. And then in terms of the Sociology Student Union, we've just been finding ways to strengthen specific things within the program, so just connecting with more alumni or also updating the Sociology website. And we're also in the midst of creating a contact list for the Sociology program, just making it easier for us to get students more involved in certain things.

SX: One thing I wanna highlight is that I'm in the process of moving items from one course Union office to another. I'm basically updating those rooms right now, so if any of these Course Unions or Student Groups need anything from there, I've been through that room a lot, so if anything in particular is needed, feel free to reach out.

AL: Nothing much on my end. The only thing that I would say is finally, the Kickstart booklet is getting printed right now as we speak, so we should have something next week. And also, shout out to Lisa-Marie for the MHS training that I was able to take part of. And that's it on my end.

HT: Nothing much for me. Just been focusing on a lot of committee recruitments, and that's all.

AS: Three things for everyone that I'd like you to do. So, the first one is filling out your board merch sizes just as soon as possible, so we can get like board merch as soon as possible if that is what you want of course. Next one would be for the SASSH website, I linked the form in there. Everything's highlighted in my updates for the most important things that I'd like you to know. But please fill out that form for your SASSH biography or your little description that you want on the actual website. If you've already done so, please fill it out again because I just added a new option for you to add in your LinkedIn account so that it's all in one place for my website manager, so we can start adding it as easy as possible. And then the next one is for board headshots. So I'm going to have one of my committee members Lauren try to organize this, and she will need all of your Google Calendars to be able to do that, so please share Google calendars with the email provided.

MM: I just want to shout out **TN, SX,** and **AL** for helping me with committee recruitment. It meant a lot, so thank you guys for taking your time out to do that. I've been helping a lot with orientation planning, so Lucas and I have been in close contact with sponsors. So we got electrolit, which is 1,000 bottles, which is very exciting. Waiting on updates from other sponsors, and I think Ricardo also briefly mentioned the liquid IV sponsorship up to 1200 packets for orientation, as well as our spikeball tournament.

LPL: Nothing big. I know **MM** mentioned earlier that we're going to get some sponsors for orientation. I just wanted to give a big shout out to **MK, SB, CR,** and everyone deep in the weeds with me right now on Orientation. It's been going great so far. We're right now in the process of getting our contracts together and it seems like we're going to have a lot of great activations, smoke machines, bubble machines. It's going to be exciting. Just a heads up for directors, closer to orientation we're gonna start assigning volunteer roles, so keep a heads up for that.

KA: If you're a Director and you can stay back for half an hour, please do. AKA **LMT, SB, EP, BR,** please stay back. We have to do some Orientation funding committee approval stuff for all the course unions or student groups who apply for funding. If you could stay back, that would be very helpful.

JAG: Thank you all for a great week off. I logged into my email and I got over 200 emails, so I look forward to catching up on all of that but I'll be going in order of priority with finances and contract reviews and payments first, especially with orientation coming up, so thank you Lucas for all of the emails. The other thing that I want to say is if you haven't done so already, please schedule your one-on-one with me. I want to just prioritize that before August because August is just orientation. And then I'm here to announce a board member of the month. Shoutout to Andrii and Natasha. We're seeing all the growth with marketing that you've been having. SASSH Instagram account is really popping off, and I think we just want to see more videos. So, thank you, everyone.

Item 9.0 - Action Items (5:02PM)

CC: Alright, we're done. Only 22 minutes of overtime okay. Thank you everyone for some really great discussions today. Some motions carried, some not but everything I think ran very smooth. Lots of great discussion and nice to hear a lot of different voices tonight as well. I am away July 26th to August 9th so do not contact me then because I will not respond. I will see everyone in August. I will do my very best to be there in person as well, and have a great weekend everyone.

Item 10.0 - Adjournment (5:05PM)