

Arthur Newspaper Board Meeting - Minutes

March 29, 2019

Meeting called to order: 4:10PM

Members present:

Max Niehaus (Treasurer)

Janette Platana (External Affairs Commissioner)

Miranda Rigby (Secretary)

Lubna Sadek (co-editor)

Maeve de Savoye (President) *acting chair*

Regrets:

James Kerr

I. Approve the agenda

- Agenda and previous minutes were sent out within the hour before meeting. Members were given time to review both before discussion happened.
- Janette asked whether the following should be added under “Other Business” or their own headings:
 - Canada Summer Jobs
 - Canadian Conference of Writers at Trent (Summer)
 - Fundraising Idea
 - Dave Piccini, and his relationship with the Student Choice Initiative
 - TCSA opt-in/opt-out
 - Updates on “For Credit” title of Arthur Newspaper
 - All were placed under “Other Business”
- Max motioned to approve, seconded by Miranda, unanimous

II. Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2019

- Additional time was given to review the minutes.
- Janette motioned to approve, Max seconded, unanimous.

III. Spring Elections

- Presented by Lubna on behalf of the editors:
 - Notice had been placed in the last three papers of the upcoming elections
 - Elections will likely occur on April 3, 5-8pm in Sadleir House Dining Hall
 - Backup for inclement weather available and booked
 - Sandwiches and desserts will be provided from Black Honey
 - Lubna and Leina are the only candidates running this year
 - Point of clarification, since we are the only Editors running, will the vote simply be yes or no?
 - Miranda: Yes!
- Conversation changed to what the policies say on fulfilling quorum for the vote
 - Miranda verified that according to P&P 9 (Spring Elections) the policy quotes majority or 10 staff collective members, vote is done by majority during Spring Elections
 - Max suggested printing off the Staff Collective list and utilizing that as the sign in sheet to verify proper staff collective members, Miranda agreed this is a good idea

IV. Bonnie Patterson and the Lawyer

- Presented by Lubna on behalf of the editors:
 - The previous lawyer who was used in Volume 51 litigations was contacted twice; once via email and once by message on phone; no response was given
 - Trying to find a different law firm
 - Lawyer and TUEFRT not yet emailed, despite approval, due to lack of time - will do so as soon as possible
 - Max suggested the editors should check the time period required for response for libel (likely in the criminal code)
 - The letter via the Lawyer (Re: Bonnie Patterson) was sent on the Monday after publishing an apology letter from Nick Taylor
 - Editors immediately took the previous letter offline
 - No further response from TUEFRT, but an update from an alternative perspective (different than original) was published as an opinion piece in the paper

V. Contingency Update

- Miranda presented the Contingency Committee Report on behalf of the Contingency Committee, document found here [<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iubaqLET3CG8X1b3T8FKzrLHdPTZtugi60Mqi4L9Qkw/edit?usp=sharing>]
 - In Summary: the CC has not met in a full meeting, but thus far has done an extensive review of the finances (both past and present), is still tracking down a power cord for the hard drive, has a better understanding of the struggles Arthur

- has gone through in the past three years, and is updating a document with further details of the flaws of past budgets, and to inform further policy reform
 - In the future: we will meet with all members, we will plan for a workshop over the summer to train board members, we will apply for grant funding, and we will create suggestions for the policy update
- Maeve requested access to the Contingency Committee drive, Miranda confirmed she will send her a link
- Max inquired about the idea of Committees and policy reform, wondering if the committee should be annual or bi-annual, Miranda confirmed that was possible (ie, as needed)

VI. Other Business

- Janette went through the following updates as mentioned in section I:

For Credit

- Conversations are still being had with the English department and Hugh Hodges, Janette has been in the process of contacting chairs and other important people
 - *Arthur* is theoretically and almost practically ready to offer credit, in any department, for weekly submissions
 - Business majors will be offered credit for holding the position of Office Manager and Advertising Manager
 - Fulfills a lot of advantages for Trent U, because it offers an “off-campus” classroom and field learning
 - Students will gain credit and Editors won’t mark their work, the professor of the practicum credit would
 - Point of Information, Maeve: Would the course be offered on Blackboard with a curriculum and course content
 - Janette: Not yet, but good idea for the future
 - *Arthur* would not be obligated to print the articles that are submitted
 - The credit will be based around currently existing model of practicum based credit achievement
 - Many professors are already offering credits for practicum

Canada Summer Jobs

- No official word yet on funding, but still hoping to have two coordinators, six writers for the summer
- Event in the summer entitled, “Canadian Conference of Creative Writers and Writing Programs”, is being held at Trent this year; mid-June
 - Would like for *Arthur* to be involved and have some pop-up presentations, counter/in addition to what they are offering
 - Janette is already offering a Zene workshop, but not yet approved

Creative Writing Studio: "Write on the Street"

- Janette is offering writers a creative writing studio in the month of April
- Artists in residence will be working in the windows in the building next to Cork & Bean
- Welcome to come and work out of the space
 - Point of Information, Max: how public is this call out?
 - Janette, Will be creating a doodle poll and will share Facebook event with interested parties

Opt-In/Opt-Out

- Some sources are stating that Trent University may be creating levy "opt-in" versus the opt-out process, meaning *Arthur* would be likely left with less funding than using the opt-out model
- No university has the structure in place to do this, hopefully it won't be happening

Fundraising

- Lubna inquired with Janette re: previously mentioned fundraising:
 - Stephen Stohn (new chancellor/creator of *Arthur* and *Trent Radio*) said he would do fund matching for any fundraisers held to support *Arthur* during the transition
- Lubna mentioned a few meetings held on Friday, April 5, 2019, that she hopes the Board Members will attend:
 - 2:30pm meeting with Leo Groarke on Campus, re: call out to meet with all levy groups
 - Stephen Stohn has also confirmed he will be on campus on the 5th of April, will be inviting him to meet for lunch
- Lubna also mentioned budgeting for next year
 - Some money was saved in this years budget for the future and hopefully it can be utilized to hire one/two full time editors and a few writers/content editors

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 5:26pm
 - Motion made by Max, seconded by Miranda, unanimous