

RESIDENCE HALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 9/28/2020

Location: Zoom

CALL TO ORDER | 9:06PM

**Matt:** Hello everyone! I'm going to call the meeting to order now.

MYSTERY ACTIVITY | 9:07PM

**Matt:** Our mystery activity is to list your top 10 favorite movies but it has to be PG-13!

ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS | 9:09PM

**Emily:** Hey y'all! So when I call your hall, please let me know the number of people representing your hall, how many RHSA shirts you have on, how many NRHH shirts you have on, how many Conference shirts you have on, and a hall report from your hall gov if you have one.

Hall Name	Number Present	RHSA Shirts	NRHH Shirts	Conference Shirts	Hall Report
Ashokan	1	0	0	0	None.
Bliss	1	0	0	0	We have a program on Wednesday.
Bouton	2	0	0	1	We spoke about future programs. There's going to be a mental health program and our meeting is on Wednesday.
Capen	1	0	0	0	None.
College-Shango	1	0	0	0	We have an event on Wednesday called Vintage Kahoot. Our meeting is tomorrow.
Esopus	2	0	0	0	Our meeting is on Wednesday. We have an ongoing event of a naming contest for the Esopus elephant.
Gage	1	0	0	0	We're still recruiting new members. We are meeting this week.
Lenape	1	0	0	0	No upcoming events.
Minnewaska	1	0	0	0	None
Mohonk	0	0	0	0	None.
Ridgeview	2	2	0	0	We have a trivia program on Thursday.

Scudder	1	0	0	0	We're working on a Get to Know the RA Kahoot event. Our meeting is on Thursday.
Shawangunk	3	0	0	0	We had our second election this week. We start programming next week.

SENATE | 9:14PM

**Matt:** Do we have a student senate report? Seeing none. Tune in next week for a senate report.

NYPIRG | 9:14PM

**Matt:** Do we have a NYPIRG report? Seeing none. Tune in next week for a NYPIRG report.

NRHH | 9:14PM

**Matt:** Do we have an NRHH report? Seeing none. Tune in next week for an NRHH report.

OLD BUSINESS | 9:14PM

Motion to Open: Shawangunk

Second: Bliss

CCC:

**Jordan H.:** I'm going to be updating the GFP's. As of right now, I cannot update them on the website. Can I have a conference clap?

Third Place: Bliss Hall

Second Place: Bouton Hall

First Place: Lenape Hall

As soon as I get access to the website, you will be able to access the page which lists the GFP's!<sup>1</sup>

Historian:

**Cassandra:** Hello! Our social media challenge is Decorate Your Mask on Instagram. The post will be on our Instagram Story around 5pm tomorrow. I will hopefully be responding to them Wednesday morning and afternoon! CCC Jordan and I have not yet decided on the GFPs for this challenge, but I will be judging based on creativity, so please get those creative juices flowing and show us the best mask you can virtually make!

Secretary:

**Emily:** Hey y'all! It's that time to talk about who won the minute's riddle! Can I have another conference clap please?

Third Place: Lenape Hall

Second Place: Shawangunk Hall

First Place: Gage Hall

The riddle was "When are the Regional Leadership Conference applications due?" The answer is this Wednesday, September 30th. Don't forget to apply to RLC and don't forget to answer the

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<sup>1</sup> Here a link to the GFP page on our website: <https://hawksites.newpaltz.edu/rhsa/pups-gfps/>

riddles in the minutes to earn your hall GFP's! If you would like to receive the minutes weekly, please sign up for the Email Blast using this link: <https://forms.gle/YbYFbNYFhEVWuvHXA>. Thank you!

NCC:

**Callie:** Speaking of RLC, y'all should totally apply! They're due on the 30th and I would love to see a ton of applications in my NCC Email inbox.<sup>2</sup> It's a great leadership opportunity and if you are even slightly interested or are definitely interested in attending, email us at [newpaltznccs@gmail.com](mailto:newpaltznccs@gmail.com). It's the most fun experience I've ever had. \*When is Buzz Hot Seat?\* I still have a ton of friends from conference and CCC Jordan H. might give you GFP's if you apply. I can answer any questions you may have about the application or what conference is so please apply!

Motion to Close: Bliss  
Second: Shawangunk

NEW BUSINESS | 9:19PM

Motion to Open: Lenape  
Second: College-Shango

Article 16: Armageddon Protocols:

**Matt:** We are proposing a new amendment! Amendment 16: Armageddon Protocols. Whereas the RHSA constitution holds 15 Articles containing: Article 1: Purpose Article 2: Membership Article 3: Hall Government and Hall Constitutions Article 4: Voting Members, Non-Voting Members, and Associate Council Members Article 5: Duties of the Executive Board Members Article 6: Removal of Executive Board Members Article 7: Meeting Procedures Article 8: Election Procedures for the Executive Board Article 9: Constitutional Amendments Article 10: Awards Article 11: The National Residence Hall Honorary - Phi Psi Chapter Article 12: Conferences Article 13: Finances Article 14: Committees Article 15: Power of the Constitution And Whereas: Article 16: Shall hold the cases stated in the constitution and expand upon those powers in a given situation that shall be endogenous of the power held within the Campus and Organization. Such shall include but not limited to, national emergencies: such that Campus shall close, actions by which campus shall hold not residents for any conditions, actions that limit the actions and number of residents, actions that prevent residents, and actions that prevent the Organization or Campus to function.

And Whereas: Article 16: Shall hold the cases stated in the constitution and expand upon those powers in a given situation that shall be endogenous of the power held within the Campus and Organization. Such shall include but not limited to, national emergencies: such that Campus shall close, actions by which campus shall hold not residents for any conditions, actions that limit the actions and number of residents, actions that prevent residents, and actions that prevent the Organization or Campus to function.

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<sup>2</sup> You can use this link to apply to RLC:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E4fPy8R2tzF7qeK2MIRL5Fn0CWWRyQ7u\\_W9NosSwVOE/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E4fPy8R2tzF7qeK2MIRL5Fn0CWWRyQ7u_W9NosSwVOE/edit?usp=sharing)

I. In the case that at any point campus shall prohibit or limit residency the would-be residents shall

- a) All restrictions to elections wherein residents must serve for a semester in a hall government shall be waived due to conditions not permitting the residence halls holding such positions.
- b) All voting membership shall be given to members of the associate council to individual students in the case no positions shall be filled.
- c) Members shall act according to the guidelines set in Article 4 and wave all restrictions placed upon by such contents in said article.
- d) In waiving Article 4, the Associate Council in times of such suspension shall exceed the amount of membership exceeding 28.

Move to Waive the Reading: College-Shango

Second: Ashokan

**Matt:** Article 16 essentially gives powers to the Executive Board and Associate Council in times during Covid. Last year, we went home and technically we're not allowed to have any voting representation at home but because of Covid-19 hitting, it made us have to move everything to online. That said, you lose all voting rights when going online but this Article protects you as a voting member and protects the current Executive Board for going online. It also allows us to expand or restrict the council as needed, all in Article 1. It also allows you to represent students. Even though you're not living in a hall, that doesn't mean you can't represent students. It gives you that new ability so you're no longer a representative for your hall, you would be a representative for yourself. In the second part of the Article, you're not penalized for going online. You would still get credit for that, which will be through us. It also allows people to leave campus for whatever reason during Covid-19. If it's monetary reasons, health reasons, etc. Article 3 is the emergency power of legislature. This gives the RHSA Executive Board the power to pass amendments and legislation during this time of crisis. Things like your Hall Government constitutions already existed but they have become three members, that was a departmental decision. This allows us to say that because of everything going on, we can make that change as part of our constitution, which gives power to the Executive Board and not the Associate Council. The Associate Council couldn't meet then, you wouldn't approve of it. If there's something prohibiting you in the future, the Executive Board decides it. It has to be 2/3rds vote of the Executive Board and it can be vetoed by advisors and only the advisors. Two of them have to vote in favor and they can vote in the procedure of it. You can repeal it at any time or draw it into question. It would be a similar process to removing an amendment, the only difference is we can pass legislation quickly. I yield to question and answer.

### **Question & Answer:**

**Gage:** Will this not be voted until both advisors are actually present correct?

**Matt:** Due to how we voted on it as an Executive Board, the amendment procedure works. The Executive Board votes on it, we pass it with the presence of the advisors. We don't need an advisor to be present to pass this. It's a resolution so we still have to move to do this in the future and that would need our advisors to be present.

**Bouton:** In the amendment, it says Article 9 shall be waived in the event of meetings not holding Associate Council members. Can you go over what Article 9 contains?

**Matt:** In summation, Article 9 is constitutional amendments. The amendment has to go to the Executive Board and then it would go to the Associate Council. When this is being done, we are waiving that requirement with the Associate Council because there is some matter of urgency. For example, if something happened over the summer we could vote on it without the Associate Council or if campus closes next week, we can quickly pass legislation to fit those changes right away. We don't have to sit and wonder about how to do this constitutionally and go through the whole process, we can just do it.

**Lenape:** What counts as an emergency situation outside of going home for Covid, some other times where this might be relevant?

**Matt:** Last year there was a water crisis where students had to go home because the water coming from the pipeline was unsafe. In that time, it was brief enough where we didn't have a meeting in between, but if it were an extended case then we wouldn't be able to pass things. It could be any national emergency, any other reason why campus would close. Whether it be housing issues, something happened on campus, or the residence halls themselves need to close for whatever reason and those students went home or were displaced, we can pass a resolution to allow students to still participate from those halls.

Move to Open Discussion: Scudder  
Second: Ridgeview

### **Discussion:**

**Bliss:** We would like this to pass because we doubt this will be the last crisis we will face at New Paltz. Bliss feels that we need to adequately prepare ourselves for future crisis in relation to things like climate change or anything else that would destabilize this, which could become more frequent in the coming years. As a result you would need to act when away from campus and the best option for that would be to pass this amendment.

**College-Shango:** Collango supports Bliss in the concept to offer to prepare for future events. Collango also supports the amendment. The main focus that Collango brings up is that currently, we are in Covid and it's not going to end anytime soon. Having these preparations make sense so if we need to further amend the constitution in this time when we are not meeting in person, it makes sense and it's all about preparedness.

**Scudder:** Scudder agrees with the amendment. We think it's a good idea to pass this during these times where everything is changing and everything is uncertain. This is a good idea to allow students to participate in Hall Government even if we are all at home. Especially if we all get sent home, we can still have the opportunity to participate in Hall Gov even if there's no Halls to govern. Scudder agrees with the amendment.

**College-Shango:** Let's say Covid comes back harder and stronger and we don't have time for halls to elect officials, does the amendment properly establish who can vote in elections?

**Serena:** Yes it will. As Matt said earlier it will bring it to the E-Board and to the advisors so they will have to come up with a plan promptly without it needing to get passed through a whole student body to come up with ways to do so. Previously, it would be you representing yourself as well as students in general rather than a hall specifically if we are off campus at that point.

**Ashokan:** Ashokan feels that this amendment is good because it will allow for the A.C. Reps to have voting rights at home.

Move to End Discussion & Open Voting: Esopus  
Second: Lenape

**Voting:**

Pass the amendment: 12  
Don't pass the amendment: 0  
Pass the amendment with a stipulation: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Serena:** We passed Article 16: Armageddon Protocols!

Hall Gov Budgets:

**Jess:** Hey ya'll. Remember how I told you guys that you weren't going to get budgets? Ignore what I said. CAS will be giving each hall \$250 to host programs. Yay! To manage this money, we are adding the position of Treasurer to your Hall Govs, for you to elect. If there is no one to do it, someone with another position can fulfill the position by volunteering and if no volunteers by gavel order. Once you elect your Treasurers, let me know so I can make a group chat and start training.

**College-Shango:** Can you be both A.C. Rep and Treasurer?

**Matt:** You can volunteer to be Treasurer, but if there is an election, you can't have both positions. If no one is elected to be Treasurer, you can volunteer for it. You can't hold two positions, but if no one is doing it, you can volunteer if no one else wants it. If no one volunteers for it, it then goes by gavel order.

NCC Fun Fact:

**Callie:** Hi everyone! I'm back with another NCC Fun Fact. This week's fun fact is that there's something really cool at conferences which are called Educational Sessions, normally shortened to Ed Sessions. These are cool programs and informational sessions about things such as diversity, leadership, sustainability, and more! Double fun fact, myself and the Community Mentor for the Transfer Community, Parker, both got to present our own programs at the Regional Leadership Conference in Fall of 2019. My program was about the benefits of music therapy, and his was about public speaking skills! I was so excited for mine and so proud and happy for Parker! So y'all should apply for conference so you can host your own Ed Session for the entire Northeast Region of NRHHs and RHSAs. Woohoo!

Safety Committee:

**Jordan H.:** Hello everyone! Here are some updates from Safety Committee! The escort services are available to use from 9pm - 3am seven days a week. Currently they are only offering walking escorts and their number is (845-257-3338). If you don't want to walk around campus by yourself, they're available and very accommodating.

**Emily:** SUNY New Paltz will also be starting pool testing. This is where 12 people will be tested at once while being socially distanced. Everyone will get their own personal vial to spit in and

when being tested, the vials will be combined and then tested. If it comes back positive, they will test your individual vial and then let you know the results so you will not have to be tested again. As far as we know, the groups will be randomized but please get tested! It's very important to know if you are positive or not to make sure you are healthy and the people around you are healthy as well. If you would like to advocate for yourself and fellow students as well as help make our campus a safer place, come to Safety Committee! Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 4pm - 5pm.

#### Programming Committee

**Emily:** Hi again! If you're interested in planning fun and inclusive programs, you should join Programming Committee! Our meetings are on Wednesdays from 5pm - 6pm. Hope to see all of you there!

#### Advertising Committee

**Jordann M.:** Join me and NCC Callie for Advertising Committee! We meet Mondays 6pm - 7pm. We are going to be designing and creating advertisements for programs! Discuss and learn about advertising ideas, strategies, and how to use digital advertising to get people interested in your events. If you need help making posters, you should come to us on Mondays 6pm - 7pm.

#### Buzz Hot Seat

**Cassandra:** On Friday, October 2nd from 7:30pm - 9:00pm we are having our Buzz Hot Seat on Zoom. Ask us your burning questions on this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/hZ59FcykWofkSM4F8>. This is the Meeting ID (928 4910 2553) and passcode (RHSA) for the Zoom.

Motion to Close: College-Shango  
Second: Esopus

#### UPCOMING EVENTS | 9:51PM

- Buzz Hot Seat | Friday, October 2nd from 7:30pm - 9:00pm on Zoom

#### HALL CONCERNS | 9:52PM

**Matt:** If there's something wrong in your hall that you have already talked to your RAs, SRA, and RD about and nothing has been done, this is your time to tell us. Do we have any hall concerns? 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

#### STUDENT CONCERNS | 9:52PM

**Matt:** If you have general concerns for things going on campus wide (something's broken, wrong, administrative concerns, faculty concerns), this is your moment to tell us so we can relay the information to the administration. However, if you have any food concerns (type, quality, price, location), we will not hear them at this point but you can email us at [rhsa@hawkmall.newpaltz.edu](mailto:rhsa@hawkmall.newpaltz.edu). You can fill out this Google form for both hall and student concerns: <https://forms.gle/j7qrziK2aWq9guyt5>.

**Shawangunk:** Last week, we spoke to you about late night dining. Do you have any follow up?

**Matt:** I have been messaging Kevin Dicey. One of the issues with it is what location and how much money would go into it. I'm hoping we can have one area like the sandwich shop that used to be in the Roost, having a place that could serve cold cut sandwiches with different options. I can bring it up at our next CAS Board meeting. I don't have anything right now, but I'm working on it and speaking to campus dining service.

**Shawangunk:** If we wanted to do mental health programs, how would we go about doing that? Would that be a question for Advertising Committee?

**Matt:** You can reach out to RA's and the Psychological Counseling Center. If you could reach out to us on your ideas about that, we would like to hear it. We don't know if it's a program like Donut Worry where you hand out donuts to students or something more serious. You can reach out to your RD about programs like that. If you're concerned and want to reach out to other organizations on campus, reach out to us so we can get into contact with those organizations. If it's advertising the program, then Advertising Committee can help with that. The best thing to do would be to reach out to your RA Liaison about what you want to do and you can also reach out to us.

OPEN FLOOR | 9:58 PM

**Matt:** If you have a program, meeting or any other announcement that you would like to share with the Associate Council, now is your time to share by typing an x in chat. If you would like your Hall Gov programs and events to be advertised on the Hall Government Google Calendar, please fill out the following Google Form: <https://forms.gle/LrwXyzJfyvX8SXby5>. Are there any open floors?

**Bliss:** Bliss is hosting a program on Wednesday at 7pm. You'll have to look at a photo and caption that meme!

**Jordan H.:** Isn't it like Cards Against Humanity?

**Bliss:** It's like that but it's a little tamer. There's not going to be cards because we're online. The players will come up with the captions for the meme.

**Esopus:** Follow us @esopus.hallgov!

PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE | 10:00PM

**Matt:** Where's my moose?

**College-Shango:** We have Molly! We added a nose ring because we are the Collango Bulls.

**Matt:** Who's getting Molly?

**College-Shango:** Esopus will get Molly!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK | 10:03PM

**Emily:** "It turns out life isn't a puzzle that can be solved one time and it's done. You wake up every day, and you solve it again." -Chidi Anagonye, *The Good Place*

ADJOURNMENT | 10:03PM

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: Bliss

Second: Scudder



Next meeting will be on Zoom!

