

RESIDENCE HALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 4/5/2021

Location: Zoom

CALL TO ORDER | 9:03pm

Matt: I'm going to call this meeting to order.

MYSTERY ACTIVITY | 9:03pm

Matt: What's your favorite candy?

ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS | 9:04pm

Emily: Hey y'all! So when I call your hall, if you can give me 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 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None. |
| Bliss | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Bouton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Capen | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None. |
| College-Shango | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None. |
| Esopus | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Gage | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None. |
| Lenape | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Minnewaska | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Ridgeview | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |
| Scudder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None |
| Shawangunk | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nothing to report. |

SENATE | 9:06pm

Chet: I'll have more information on this later, but New Paltz will be participating in the SUNY wide Springfest. That's something we haven't gotten to do in a little while. We don't have a lot of information as Senators yet, but there's something going on SUNY wide. I don't know how virtual it's going to be or how much we're doing on campus. That's going to be coming up on

April 24th. I'll have more information on that hopefully have more information on that in meetings to come. The other thing is elections are starting soon. Campaigning is starting as early as today for people running for E-Board and Senate positions. The election itself is starting on April 12th and going to the 14th. I highly encourage everyone to vote, especially with this new model. Senators are very representative of where they are voted from; their residence halls, their class standings so Freshmen, Seniors, and everyone in between, and the college of where they're from such as science. I highly encourage you all to look at that as it comes up and vote for people who you think represent you well. That's very important that you know who you're voting for and you're happy with the people.

Esopus: Could someone explain what Springfest is for people who have never been?

Chet: I've never been to a Springfest before, but from what I understand, it's a celebration of sorts. I believe I heard something about musical guests. I'm really sorry I don't have more information, they just wanted us to start getting the word out and build excitement. It's a kind of celebration. That's the most basic thing I can put it as. There will be more information coming out soon.

Matt: I guess I could briefly talk about my time with Springfest because I volunteered at a Springfest many years ago. What it is is every spring SA typically gets together, has live performances, food sometimes, as you go out on the quads and play different games and give out awards. It's a get together to celebrate community, celebrate people graduating, celebrate the nice weather, and really take time for yourself. They have out portable phone charges. My first year, we had a bean bag tossing, balloon tossing contest which was right in front of Starbucks. It's all different activities throughout campus to celebrate the good weather and have a good time.

Chet: We'll be doing everything we can to recreate that as grandly and safely as possible.

NYPIRG | 9:09pm

Chet: Our big thing for NYPIRG is coming up. We are having an intersectionality of social issues panel coming up on April 16th. We're gonna have a bunch of people from the community and from NYPIRG across the state to talk about how solving social issues isn't about just solving one issue at a time. It's about solving everything. If you're going to solve the environment problems, you've got to solve our problem of democracy and work with hunger and homelessness. We're gonna be talking about how that'll work and what our plans are and kind of how people can get involved. That's the big thing for NYPIRG coming up on the 16th. Depending on how our guests go, I might be a panelist on that. We'll see if my other guests don't show up. Also, coming up in the election on the 12th, we will be voting for the NYPIRG board of directors. That is a very important thing that everyone on campus gets to vote for. The Board of Directors basically chooses who is in charge of NYPIRG and what our direction for the year is going to be so that's a very important thing. I think I've brought this up before, but if anyone is interested in working to help better the environment, we are entering the last year to stop the Danskammer power plant in Newburg. It's a fracked gas power plant that is going up in Newburg and is going to drastically throw out of balance the environment in the Hudson Valley. I will put our regional coordinators email address in the chat (ewood@nypirg.org) so that if you are interested in helping us kind of fight back this power plant, you can.

NRHH | 9:11pm

Matt: Stay tuned for next week's NRHH report

OLD BUSINESS | 9:12pm

Motion to Open Old Business: Bliss

Second: Minnewaska

NCC

Callie: My NCC Fun Fact for this week is that at Spring Leadership Conference (SLC), our buddy was MACURH which is the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls. They're so cool and you're going to have an opportunity to meet all of the regions at National Conference in June. I'm going to be releasing some information on that really soon. I'm super excited! It's also virtual so if you have any questions, please let me know.

Motion to Close Old Business: Bliss

Second: Ridgeview

NEW BUSINESS | 9:13pm

Motion to Open New Business: Ridgeview

Second: Bliss

Pajama Buzz

Jess: Come join us Buzz Pajama Party this Friday, April 9th at 7:30pm on Zoom. Show off your best pajamas and have fun while playing fun games, listening to nostalgic songs and much more. We hope to see you there!*Inside which residence hall does the RHSA Office reside in?*

5 Minute Break | 9:14PM - 9:19PM

Election

Matt: I would like to ask that if someone's running for the position of Historian, they step forward now and state their name.

Allison: Hi! I'm Allison DePinto and I'm running for Historian.

Matt: I will now have our current Historian read off the duties of the Historian positions

Cassie: Hello everyone! The duties of Historian are:

- A. Documents all RHSA programs/events through photography, social media, or another medium at their discretion
- B. Serves as Webmaster of the RHSA website
- C. Manages all social media for RHSA (including, but not limited to: Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and Facebook)
 - a. Facilitates and oversees all social media challenges
 - b. Compiles data from Social Media challenges and coordinates GFP allotment with the Campus Communications Coordinator

- D. Regularly updates all archival information on the RHSA Website including, but not limited to: Executive Board information, t-shirt designs, award recipients, and program information
- E. Serves as chair of the Yearbook Committee
- F. Organizes the RHSA Google Drive

Matt: We're now going to open a period of expectations and we'll start with the first X.

Expectations of Historian:

- Good organizational skills
- Good at multitasking and a keen eye for the different tasks you have to do in different areas
- Dedicated
- Good teamwork skills
- Open to constructive criticism
- Conflict resolution skills
- Knowledge on how to take a picture
- Responsible
- Professionalism

Motion to Exhaust the Speakers List Without Additions: Shawangunk
Second: Ridgeview

Candidate 1: Allison

My name is Allison DePinto, my pronouns are she/her/hers and I'm running for RHSA Historian. When I first came to New Paltz, I initially struggled a lot with getting involved on campus. I was really quickly introduced to RHSA, and like a lot of people here, I can say it's definitely changed my campus experience in so many ways. When I started going to meetings and attending events, I just really fell in love with the way that this organization makes an impact and makes change on the campus and it brings so many students together. In 2019, I served as the A.C. Rep for Shawangunk Hall Government and that next semester, I decided to run and got elected as the Vice President. I learned a lot about working on an Executive Board to just put on events and bringing the hall together. This year, I also served as the PR officer for Swing Club and that's given me a lot of experience with running the social media page and engaging with people on that and promoting our events and meetings. I decided to run for Historian because I just really love the way that this position really gives the opportunity to connect with the A.C. with taking pictures and engaging with people on social media. I just love engaging with the A.C. because I love the way that this organization brings people together. I know the Historian duties include running all the RHSA social media pages, serving as a webmaster for the RHSA a website, updating it with any relevant information such as t-shirt design, Executive Board Member information, meeting times, etc., coordinating GFP counters that the CCC after social media challenges and all of that, organizing the RHSA Google Drive and serving as the chair as the Yearbook Committee. I feel really ready and excited at the prospect of holding this position. Thank you for listening and I yield to questions.

Questions & Answer

What is one strength and one weakness you feel you possess?

Allison: One strength that I know I possess is that I'm really adaptable and I work really well under pressure. I'm sure everybody that's served on Hall Government and tried to put on events and get things done knows that things go wrong and things don't always go to plan. In situations like that, I worked really well. I don't let things get me down or get me flustered. I can work through them. The Show Must Go On and all that and that's just something I really succeed at and I think it's really important in positions such as these. One weakness I possess is that I sometimes struggle with self confidence and putting myself out there. I think I've really, really worked on that and my time at New Paltz. If you told freshmen me that I'd be running for the RHSA E-Board, I would have called you crazy. I've just loved working on that. It's given me the opportunity and I really hope that if elected, I can continue to work on that.

Who did you talk to regarding this position and what do you feel is one piece of advice you got from them or you just kind of gathered from talking to them?

Allison: I reached out to Historian Cassie, PR Jordann M, NCC Callie, and former Historian Noah. The best piece of advice I got was from Cassie. It was about just not being afraid to talk to other E-Board members about things you post, captions and photos because not only can it make the experience of being Historian more fun, give you new ideas, but it also makes it less stressful and help you talk through things and not thinking into think so much

How would you like to improve relations with our sister organization, NRHH, or our cousin organization, the Student Association?

Allison: I would just love more bonding events between the two organizations to get to know each other, get to know the ins and outs of the organization, as well as just throwing events together. I think events can be really fun and successful if we work together on them. So building that bond working together working as a team because again, we are sister/cousin organizations.

How do you think you would go about incorporating accessibility concerns with social media?

Allison: First off, communicating a lot with PR and making sure all of our posters and posts are legible. They can be read in an accessible font, and making sure all of our captions have a detailed explanation of what the post says, what's going on in the post. Just anything and everything so that it can be accessible, can be read in that everybody feels included and engaged with our social media.

Motion to Exhaust the Speakers List Without Additions: Shawangunk

Second: Ridgeview

Motion to Open Discussion: Bliss

Second: Ridgeview

Discussion

Matt: We are going to open up a 5 minute period of discussion that's extendable up to 3 times.

- We think she showed some really good teamwork skills, we liked the conflict resolution, and she just seemed very responsible and professional in the way she talks as well. We think she fits the job quite well.
- We feel that she seemed very passionate about the job and she seemed very excited about the prospect of being able to take on the position. She seemed like she would be very dedicated to the job.
- We agree on professionalism and she showed her areas for growth. We think she's open to criticism and teamwork as well as multitasking because she had two roles with her involvement on campus while participating in classes.
- She seemed very friendly and upfront about everything which leads us thinking that she works well with others.

Motion to End Discussion: Shawangunk
Second: Esopus

Motion to Vote by Secret Ballot: Bliss
Second: Ridgeview

Votes

Allison: 5 votes

Abstain: 2 votes

No Confidence: 0 votes

Matt: Please give snaps in the chat for our new Historian for the 2021 - 2022 school year, Allison DePinto.

Motion to Open Nominations: Bliss
Second: Ridgeview

Nominations

Matt: Similton from Lenape was nominated for NCC, do you accept or decline?

Matt: They are not here, they automatically decline

Matt: Ethan from Bliss was nominated for NCC, do you accept, table, or decline?

Ethan: I will decline.

Matt: Faith from Bouton was nominated for NCC, do you accept or decline?

Faith: I'm going to decline.

Matt: Ethan from Bliss was nominated for CCC, do you accept or decline?

Ethan: I will table.

Ridgeview: Ridgeview nominates Callie for NCC

Bliss: Second.

Callie: I'll table.

Bliss: Bliss nominates Jordann M for Vice President.

Jordann M: I'm unfortunately graduating so I decline. I appreciate it though!

Motion to Table Nominations Until Next Meeting: Bliss

Second: Shawangunk

Motion to Close New Business: Shawangunk

Second: Ridgeview

UPCOMING EVENTS | 9:55pm

- Buzz Pajama Party is on Friday, April 9th at 7:30pm on Zoom!

HALL CONCERNS | 9:56pm

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.

Ridgeview: Our second floor water machine is not working.

Matt: I spoke with the Assistant Director of ResLife. RD Fresia is on the case and they are reaching out to facilities. They are aware of it and they're trying to solve the issue. I have not been notified of a timetable on it. If it's resolved, please let us know and it's not resolved in two weeks, please just let us know and reach out to us via email just that way we don't have to wait for the Monday we can just get stuff done.

Matt: Are there any other hall concerns? 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

STUDENT CONCERNS | 9:57pm

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 rhasa@hawkmall.newpaltz.edu. You can fill out this Google form for both hall and student concerns: <https://forms.gle/j7qrziK2aWq9guyt5>. 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

OPEN FLOOR | 9:58pm

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?

Matt: Sodexo is doing a nice thing for all of their employees. They want students to fill out a Google Form that could thank an employee that had a positive impact on them, whether it be someone in the dining hall or Student Union service food, it's a nice way to give thanks to all of the workers who do provide food for us almost every single day that they are open. Please feel free to use [this link](#) and fill out that form. There will be more information to follow as well. You can nominate more than one person, again, it's just thanks for all the work that they do.

Callie: We were quickly wondering, specifically for Historian IT Allison, where did you get your earrings?

Allison: I got my earrings from PR Jordann M's Etsy! I think everyone should go over and get them!

Jess: I will plug Callie's Bedtime stories program on Thursdays (@npashokanhall). Come through and listen while she tells you bedtime stories. Also a friend of mine in a senior seminar class has a [survey](#), so if y'all could fill it out that would be amazing!

Ridgeview: I just wanted to say that I fully recognized while the Historian IT was speaking and her speech was great, I could not focus because her earrings were just so nice that Jordann M made them!

Chet: NYPIRG is currently working on a [petition](#) to get more polling sites on campuses around the state. It is a club sign on. It is basically looking to get clubs on different campuses to say we want a polling place on our campus when election season comes around. We're lucky at New Paltz, usually we have a polling site in the SUB, but a lot of other campuses end up having to go into the towns that are nearby or really far in order to vote. This is so that we can make the state mandate to have polling sites in each SUNY campus so that it's easier for students to vote where they are. I believe I sent it to the RHSA email and so I'd appreciate it if you could send that out or maybe consider signing it as the RHSA but also I can resend it if that would be easier. Thank you.

Matt: Are there any other open floors? 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE | 10:04pm

Matt: We didn't get Molly the Moose out in a reasonable amount of time so we're giving the hall that has it some extra time to work on it. We're not going to present Molly this week. I promise we'll do something to make it up!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK | 10:04pm

Emily: "And the universe said I love you because you are love."
- Minecraft

ADJOURNMENT | 10:04pm

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: Cassie
Second: Allison

Next meeting will be on Zoom!



