

RESIDENCE HALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 01/23/23

Location: SUB 409

CALL TO ORDER 9:00

Abby: Hey everyone! Welcome back from break! We've got a lot to cover, so let's get right into it!

MYSTERY ACTIVITY 9:00

Abby: Since the Spring semester is a lot of elections we would like to have practice. We will have silly elections tonight, which is just to get people into the process of elections because we're going to be doing them to elect our VP and soon our EBoard for next year. Tonight, you will be electing the best breakfast place on campus! We have two candidates, so we'll have them introduce themselves to you.

Sophia: Hello, I'm representing Atrium Brew

Caroline: Hello, I'm representing Element.

Abby: Just to go over the election process again, there is no technology to be used in the room while elections are going on other than Faith and I to keep time and write the minutes. We're going to have 5 minutes to come up with expectations for our candidates. Then up to 3-minute speeches from each of the candidates, followed by a 5 minute answer period extendable up to three times. For the sake of time our candidates will be questioned at the same time. Then we'll vote by eyes closed, hands raised! Any questions before we get started? I'm going to ask our eateries to leave and I'll call them back up after expectations. We're going to go into 5 minutes of expectations with the first placard raised. I'd like to see at least 5.

Expectations:

- Gage: I'd like to see some .. opening hours because some of us have fieldwork.
- Bliss: Customizable bagels for breakfast sandwiches.
- Capen: Dairy free milks instead of just milk and half and half.
- Gage: Options of tea other than earl gray.
- Gage: More fresh food available.
- Capen: Affordable options.
- Bliss: Food restrictions to not be an upcharge.

Abby: Any more expectations? Cool. 3,2,1 seeing none. Now I'm going to invite our candidates back in.

Motion to Close Expectations: Bliss

Second: Gage

Candidate 1 (Caroline): Hello, everyone. I am here today to represent SUNY New Paltz's Element 93, one of the newer retail locations on campus. If you didn't know, Element 93 got its

name from the 93rd element on the periodic table, neptunium, which is abbreviated as Np, like New Paltz! When you need a quick bite to eat in between classes, Element 93 is the place to be. Conveniently located in Wooster Hall, this spot is a student and staff favorite because of its array of high quality and delicious menu items. Whether you're in the mood for a burger straight from the grill, your favorite Starbucks beverage, a freshly-made build-your-own salad, the soup of the day, or if you just want to grab-and-go snack or drink, Element 93 has what you need to satisfy all of your study cravings. We even offer specials for limited times like the chicken guacamole BLT sandwich that was available last semester. But if you're lucky, these items might even stick around permanently.

If you don't feel like spending your dining dollars, then no problem — use your board meals at Element 93, and you won't even have to sacrifice a side of fries. In addition to the tasty, high quality food, Element provides plenty of seating, including comfortable booths that are perfect for doing work or catching up with friends; we have friendly staff who are helpful in accommodating your needs — this is all because we want you to have the best experience possible when dining with us. So, please, stop anytime weekdays from 7:30-5:00. And, with that, I yield to questions.

Abby: And now for our second candidate.

Candidate 2 (Sophia): Hey everyone, happy Monday! I am a representative from your friendly neighborhood brunch spot, Atrium Brew! Atrium Brew is considered a brunch spot because unlike some campus eateries that stop serving breakfast at 10 AM, Atrium Brew is typically open until 3PM, serving breakfast foods the whole time. This is beneficial to the SUNY New Paltz community because more flexible hours mean that we can serve more students between classes or after they wake up from some well-deserved rest. We provide everything from avocado toast and oatmeal to bagels and Starbucks drinks. Additionally, the line here is often shorter than Parker Starbucks, and the student union building is a convenient location in relation to residence halls and academic row. The SUB is easily accessible by Parker quad, peregrine quad, and the south complex. When you first wake up in the chilly spring air, you would probably prefer a shorter walk, such as one to the SUB. It is also a good place to study or hang out with friends, and to enjoy the lovely scenery of our very own atrium! You can also run errands while you wait for your food, such as checking out the campus bookstore, or picking up mail from the mailroom! You can also see many smiling faces, such as administrators stopping in from the HAB, or our very own Atrium Brew staff, who are always quick with a joke or a sweet sentiment. Come stop by Atrium Brew to see what we're all about, and maybe even integrate us into your daily or weekly routine!

Question and Answer:

Abby: Up here is the speakers list. It is a way so all of you can ask your questions without keeping your hands in the air. So, when I put your name up you will know what order to speak in. Now we will start with our question and answer part of the election. I would like to see at least 3 questions for each candidate.

Atrium Brew, you mentioned that you have gluten free and dairy free options for people who are able to eat. Are those an update to the actual price if someone were to get normal milk or normal bread? Or is it also available if someone is trying to use a board meal instead of someone trying to use their dining dollars.

Sophia: Gluten free breakfast sandwich is included on the breakfast menu. I'm not sure about the milk substitutions, but I'm sure if you get a board meal with the coffee you can ask our staff in the suggestions box on grub hub to use coconut milk in the coffee and I'm sure that they're accommodate you if you use coconut milk, oat milk, whatever.

What can element 93 do to improve the wait times?

Caroline: That's a good question. I would suggest ordering ahead of time when you can during our busy time. Know when times change for a meal so 11am lunch is now served. We're working on some technical things with grubhub as well that I can keep you updated on.

Back to element 93. So, for me personally I have the very lucky factor that every single class is ten minutes after the next one. So, I'm walking from Science Hall down to Vandengurh. There is one class I have 15 minutes before the next one, but the one class I have prior I cannot go on my phone during class or I will be kicked out of class. So, if I were to order ahead of time, how would I be able to get an order so I can pick it up for my next class. Or are there no possible suggestions to this criticism.

Caroline: I would suggest a grab and go snack for the best option for when you do not have a lot of time. I would also suggest using your card as well and swiping at the front of the desk, or at any other part. To avoid grubhub.

Are you guys going to put the milk options for oatmeal on grubhub?

Sophia: Like put the milk in our oatmeal?

I don't like the water. You guys did that before. I just want to put it on the app.

Sophia: I'm sure if you have a recipe suggestion you could talk to one of the sodexo dining managers. I don't think atrium brew can improvise like that and I'm sorry we cannot cater to your preferences at this time.

This is for both, what are you going to put on the extra thing for breakfast board meals?

Sophia: If you get a board meal at atrium brew we tend to provide a piece of fruit either a banana or an apple along with the coffee or tea that you are provided.

At element 93 is there a way to get more side sauce in the little container.

Caroline: Yes, if you ask at the counter for extra. We're working on it if you ask at the counter. We need more sauce.

Whenever I order a sandwich it comes on a burger bun at Element 93.

Caroline: Is this a build your own situation?

No, it's for the gluten free bread.

Caroline: Okay, that's for the upcoming semesters. That's something we are looking to add to make our menu more accessible.

Abby: Any dissent? 3,2,1 seeing none. Does anyone have any more questions? 3,2,1 seeing none.

We will now go into a discussion period for 5 minutes extendable up to 3 times.

Move to open discussion: Gage
Second: Bliss

Discussion:

Abby: We will be using the speaker list once again. I'd like to see at least five discussion points. No outside information is to be brought in. Only what the eateries themselves talked about or answered from the questions.

- I feel like Element 93 did not know what was happening.
- I feel like Atrium Brew had stronger answers to the questions being asked.
- The representative for the atrium was also a little more forward with us. They started off by saying hi to us and then gave the 5 minute speech. Element 93 just jumped right into it. There wasn't as much of a connection.
- I think Element 93 presented more about themselves in the original speech so there were less questions to answer. I think they had more breakfast options to offer.
- I think under the pressure they did the best they could. That says something.
- Is the best that Element could do better than Atrium Brew?
- I agree with what Capen said about being under pressure.
- I feel like element 93 really tried to answer the questions with the best answers they could.
- Atrium brew has longer hours and they serve breakfast the entire time. Sometimes I have class until past breakfast time, but Atrium hooks up with that.
- Element's french toast sticks are really good.
- Atrium does more with their board meals. I like having coffee, tea and fruits.

Motion to End Discussion without Additions: Ashokan
Second: Gage

Motion to Open Voting by Secret Ballot: Bliss
Second: Gage

Votes:

Abby: Now we will go into voting. We will be voting by eyes closed and hands raised. Only two representatives from your hall are allowed to vote. Please choose those now. Your options to vote are atrium, element, no confidence, which means you do not believe either candidate is the right choice, and abstain, which means you have some kind or relationship with the candidate whether you hate them strongly whether you love them strongly and you should not vote. Does everyone understand our voting options? Alright, eyes closed please we will now vote.

Atrium | 6
 Element | 6
 No confidence | 0
 Abstain | 1

Abby: Majority was not met. So, we will have to continue our discussion period.

Move to Open Discussion: Gage
 Second: Ashokan

Discussion:

- To be fair to element 93. They were asked questions that were harder to answer.
- We're voting for the best breakfast place? Who here actually eats Elements breakfast because they close so early.
- Element 93 has a better environment.
- Element 93 makes a better bacon egg and cheese.
- Element 93 makes better eggs.
- In terms of the wait times at element. You know what will help? I see too many of you online when your order is not ready. That adds a lot to the wait times.
- We're talking about what tastes better. Atrium Brew does
- Also, if I am not correct we are not supposed to use any outside information of our personal opinions. We're only supposed to be judging them off the past ten minutes. Thank you, that's it.

Abby: We're going to go back into voting. I'm going to remind you, only two representatives from your hall can vote.

Move to Open Voting by Secret Ballot: Capen
 Second: Gage

Votes:

Atrium | 7
 Element | 6
 No confidence | 0
 Abstain | 0

Abby: I would like to Congratulate Atrium Brew for being the best place to get breakfast on campus! <<Which RHSA Eboard member's birthday is in February?>>Thank you all so much for participating. As a mention, in real elections we have to reach a certain majority, but because these were silly elections we kind of let it slide. We let a few other things slide such as you are

not supposed to exit and enter the room, no technology, but these were silly elections just to get you into the mindset.

ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS 9:31

Faith: Hey everyone! 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. I would also like everyone to please state when their elections are if you are having any and when your hall gov meetings are.

Hall Name	Number Present	RHSA Shirts	NRHH Shirts	Conference Shirts	Hall Report
Ashokan	3	1	0	0	No meeting yet, no elections
Bliss	2	2	0	0	Meetings are Tuesdays at 8 maybe 7
Bouton	2	0	0	0	First meeting today at 8. Doesn't look like we will be having elections.
Capen	11	8	0	0	Thursdays at 7pm
Collango	0	0	0	0	_____
Esopus	0	0	0	0	_____
Gage	9	8	0	0	Mondays at 8pm
Lenape	2	1	0	0	No meetings yet
Minnewaska	0	0	0	0	_____
Mohonk	5	3	0	0	No elections yet. General Interest meeting on Friday
Ridgeview	0	0	0	0	_____
Scudder	0	0	0	0	_____
Shawangunk	3	0	0	0	Haven't decided a meeting time yet

Faith: Alright thank you, one more thing at the end of the meeting if you are not on the email blast please come up after so you can be added to it and get the minutes and updates on programs.

SENATE 9:34

Ann: Hi guys. I'm pretty sure there's no or very few new faces here, but I'd like to introduce myself to you guys just in case. My name is Ann I use all pronouns and I chair on the Student

Association Senate. RHSA and the Student Association are your two primary student governments on campus. They're completely separate organizations. However, it is built into our constitution that the particular branch of the student association that I deal with, the Senate, works very closely with RHSA. We are the two bodies that primarily connect with the student body. We are looking to fill a few senate positions. Now is the best time to join because it's the start of the semester. We are looking to fill a representative from Ashokan hall, Bliss hall, Bouton hall, Esopus hall, Lenape hall, Scudder hall, and Shawangunk hall, as well as a representative from the school of education. The Senate meets every Wednesday at 6:30pm, so it's important you be available at that time. If you're someone who spoke to me about joining the senate at the RHSA banquet last semester you should have received an email from me today. If you didn't see me after this meeting because I want to make sure we get you in this week. Finally, the disability resource center is in the process of searching for and hiring a new director. I have been serving on the search committee to fill that position. On Thursday we have a candidate coming to campus. There's an opportunity for up to 10 students to meet this candidate and have lunch with this candidate. This is our 5th and final candidate we're inviting to campus. The 4th one is coming tomorrow, their lunch spots are all filled. It is not at all a requirement to be registered for the DRC, but we recommend that if you are not a student registered for the DRC, but you attend this lunch forum that you read up on what the DRC offers on their website. The lunch is provided for free and they go from 12:30-1:15 pm. Friday on the 26th. If you're interested in being able to interview our 5th candidate on that day please see me after the meeting. Thank you.

NRHH: 9:37

Sophia: Happy first day of classes from NRHH!. At the very end of last semester, we inducted 4 new members and we're excited to get to work! We have not met yet this semester, but I look forward to giving you more of an update next week! If you don't know, NRHH is the National Residence Hall Honorary and we focus on service and recognition on campus. If you're interested and you might want to join for the semester let me know and maybe you can apply and we will review your application before induction. Thanks guys.

OLD BUSINESS 9:37

Motion To Open Old Business: Lenape

Second: Mohonk

REMEET THE EBOARD 9:38

Abby: My name's Abby, I use they/them pronouns, I am the president of RHSA, and my office hours are Mondays 11 am -1:00 pm.

Mazee: Hello everyone, my name is Mazee and I use He/They pronouns. I am the treasurer of RHSA and my office hours are Thursdays from 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Faith: Hi, my name is Faith. I use she/her pronouns. I am the secretary of RHSA and my office hours are from 2-4 on Tuesdays.

Ryan: My name is Ryan, I use he/him pronouns, I am the Public Relations person and my office hours are Thursdays from 3:30-5:30pm.

Caroline: My name is Caroline, I use she/her pronouns, and I am the National Communications Coordinator. My office hours are Wednesdays 12:30-3:30.

Sophia: My name is Sophia, I use she/her pronouns, I am the Campus Communications Coordinator of RHSA, and my office hours are from 2-4 on Monday.

Athena: Hi! My name is Athena and I use She/ Her pronouns. I am the Historian of RHSA and my office hours are 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Tuesdays!

COMMITTEE CORNER 9:39

Abby: I chair the advocacy committee. We meet to discuss safety around campus and any problems we see that should be brought up to administration so we can help our fellow students. We meet Mondays from 11am-12pm!

Mazee: I am chair of the programming committee where we meet to discuss programming on Thursdays from 1:30-3:30pm.

Ryan: I chair the advertising committee. We meet to discuss any questions or comments on how to make a successful advertisement and how to navigate different types of platforms for upcoming events. We meet Thursdays from 4:30-5:30!

Athena: Hello! I chair the Yearbook Committee! Our meeting will be full of discussing ideas for our yearbook and will designing it together. I love to work in a team on these things so if you are interested in things like graphic design or photography I would love to see your face on Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM!

Motion to Close Old Business: Gage

Second: Bouton

NEW BUSINESS 9:41

Motion To Open New Business: Ashokan

Second: Bliss

EXTRA GFP CHALLENGES 9:41

Sophia: We have come up with some extra GFP challenges. Every hall is in competition every semester to get Hall of the semester at the end of the semester. We are going to have: lightning round answer (trivia question, first placard raised/gets it right), more scavenger hunts (remind), hall gov bonding (you can use your budget for that) and if you send us pictures of that through our email you will get GFPs for that.

KARAOKE BUZZ 9:42

Athena: Hey everyone! Our first event of the semester is here! This Friday, January 27th at 7pm in SUB 62/63, we will be holding karaoke buzz! It's a fun opportunity to have some fun and

hang out with your friends for the first time since break! There will be karaoke free to everyone, as well as games for those who may not want to participate. Hope to see you there!

DORSKY BUZZ 9:43

Caroline: we're so excited to announce we are teaming up with the dorsky art museum for Dorsky Buzz! Friday, February 10th at 7pm in the Dorsky Museum we will hold a surprise event with prizes! Come take the chance to appreciate the amazing art we have on campus and support the museum. Hope to see you there!

ELECTIONS 9:43

Abby: Since we are now in election season, I will explain a few things first. After this election, we will not be far away from our actual election season. We did a silly election today just so you could all get a feel for how it will be. NCC materials will be due February 27th before the start of the meeting. Then it goes in the order of succession, so President, VP, and so on. Overall, elections will occur every week and the election materials are due the week prior to that position's election. Dates for all these elections as well as when the materials are due can be found on our website. If you go under the resources tab, you can find all the election information there. If you're interested in running you can also see the applications there as well. During elections, only two people per hall can vote and you must have at least one person per hall represented, but if you have extra people that's fine, they can just enjoy the election. You should go to the position you are running for office hours in order to discuss with the current position what the responsibilities are. As an aside, if you are running for VP your election materials are due before our next meeting. They are due by the end of Sophia's office hours on the Mondays of election at 4pm. If they are not in then you will not be able to run because we do not have your materials. They can be dropped off at an E-Board member's office hours. If we do not have your materials by the time the AC meeting starts, you will be disqualified. As a reminder, we require 15 copies of the candidate application which includes your resume and answers to questions and your unofficial transcript and one candidate form to be seen by the President only. With that, we're going to open nominations for VP.

Motion to Open Nominations: Ashokan

Second: Bliss

Abby: First off we're going to go through who was nominated last semester at our last meeting. Is Fiona here? You tabled last time. Are you accepting or declining?

Fiona: Declining.

Abby: And to recap, those who accepted their nominations were: Athena, Derek, Tarik, and Jenn. If you have any nominations for vice president this semester, you can raise your placard and say "I nominate this person." Also, may all those who were nominated and accepted their nomination please stay and talk to me after the meeting. Are there any nominations?

Ashokan: I nominate Haley for Vice President.

Abby: Do you accept, table, or decline?

Haley: I accept.

Bliss: Bliss seconds.

Abby: Are there any more nominations?

Bliss: Bliss would like to nominate Eddie for Vice President.

Abby: Is there a second?

Gage: Gage seconds.

Abby: Do you accept, table, or decline?

Eddie: I accept

Abby: Are there any more nominations?

Reymar: Sarah from Capen hall for Vice President.

Bliss: Bliss seconds.

Abby: Sarah, do you accept, table, or decline?

Sarah: I decline.

Abby: Are there any more nominations? 3,2,1 seeing none.

Motion To Close Nomination for Vice President: Lenape

Second: Bouton

Motion To Close New Business: Gage

Second: Bliss

UPCOMING EVENTS 9:47

- Karaoke Buzz | Friday, January 27th from 7pm to 9pm in SUB 62/63
- Dorsky Buzz | Friday, February 10th from 7pm to 9pm @ the Dorsky

HALL CONCERNS 9:48

Abby: 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, now is your time to tell us.

Capen: I was just told, but I guess it's being dealt with, but it was the buckets in the hallway. Also, the stove in Capen is still broken.

Faith: No it works, I went up today.

Capen: Okay, nevermind.

Abby: Any other hall concerns? 3,2,1 seeing none.

STUDENT CONCERNS

Abby: 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@newpaltz.edu
Our food concerns meeting will be: February 27th

Bliss: There was a lot of slush and it was very dangerous walking to classes today. Especially to Vandenburg.

Gage: Are there any updates with Spring Fest?

Abby: We don't run the spring fest that is SA.

Ann: Hey, SAP is meeting. People are talking about it in the office, it's not what I do though.

Ashokan: Hey, I'm on the spring fest committee. So, we just got an email today on when weekly meetings are going to be to get things rolling. Not everyone can meet on that day, so they're trying to work that out.

Gage: I second the slush thing, I did fall today.

Ashokan: I third the slush thing.

Sophia: Can I make a suggestion, I had one of my friends today say she would not mind helping clear the slush. Like if maintenance were to give students some shovels and it be a work study position. I'm sure there are a couple students who would like to make some money shoveling.

Ann: Because snow is handled by facilities, and facilities is not an office that handles student assistants and there's also a lot of liabilities that come with working for facilities workers and custodial staff. Facilities workers and our custodial staff get hurt all the time. It's a liability for the school to have students possibly get hurt so they can't sign students up for jobs where they can get hurt.

Capen: The stairs to the right of Capen are all disproportionate and there's a pond of water.

Abby: The stairs are the way that they are. There's something called riot stairs. There was a lot of unrest on college campuses during the Vietnam war. So, the stairs were created that way to prevent angry mobs from running up the stairs.

Capen: And the pond?

Abby: The pond is part of it, but I can see if there's a drain or something anywhere it could go to.

Gage: I don't know exactly how true this is, but the stairs going down to Vandenburg, apparently someone hurt themselves very badly, and they took them to court. So now the stairs are supposedly heated. Someone could be lying to me though.

Ann: This is not a concern, but since it's the beginning of the semester and this is my favorite piece of information to put out there. When professors try to tell us for an excused absence you must provide medical documentation to a professor. They are not allowed to ask that. You sign that you do not give them permission to do that when you sign the student conduct everytime there's a new semester. Email the chair of the department of the professors who say they need medical documentation. They can't do that.

Gage: They also legally cannot say no to an excused absence if the note is from the school. I once got my personal psychotherapist to write me a note for an excuse from the exam, but the professor had me go to the PCC to get the note to become a school note and he couldn't say no.

Abby: Alright, are there any more student concerns? 3,2,1 seeing none.

OPEN FLOOR 9:56

Abby: 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! Are there any open floors?

Bliss: I hope everyone had a great break and good luck this semester.

Abby: 3,2,1 seeing none.

PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE 9:57

Abby: Molly got rejuvenated. She had a great break. She slept, ate, and is ready to be passed to all of you for the rest of the semester. Molly is going to Bliss Hall first!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK 9:58

Ryan: “Life like a movie, write your own ending” - Kermit the Frog

ADJOURNMENT 9:58

Abby: We have care packages for all of your residents who never came to get them last semester. So, the next meeting comes prepared to carry some care packages back to your halls. Just so you know some of the bigger halls such as Gage you might want to really be ready to carry stuff there's a lot.

Motion To Adjourn the Meeting: Bliss

Second: Lenape

See you next week in room SUB 409!

