

Bowdoin Student Government

18 November 2009

I. Call to Order at 8:33 p.m.

II. President's Welcome: Dooley introduces Katie Longley, Profesor Camill, Brooks Winner, and Keisha Payson. They will give a presentation about carbon emissions.

III. Guests

- a. Sustainable Bowdoin:** The guests give a presentation about sustainability and future plans to become carbon neutral. The floor opens up for discussion.
- Branden says that for a lot of students at this moment in their lives, the idea of sustainability is not a priority—not something you think about every day. A lot of the language doesn't resonate with students. Maybe we should break this down, make it more plain so that students know why this is important. He had to try to explain to students in his building why they should avoid taking the elevator for a month. Longley says that one thing is equivalency. You can equate 1 ton of carbon emissions to acres of forest or miles driven. We could put this is meaningful language. Brooks says that we ask students to care about a lot at Bowdoin: schoolwork, extracurricular, climate change, politics. One thing that we try to do is by not asking people to care about it every day, but to incorporate the small changes that make big differences. These things become automatic—turning off the lights, etc. People can be more engaged with the program, and really see how much energy they are using or saving. Professor Camill offers the analogy that 1 ton of emissions is a balloon with a 30 ft. diameter.
 - Bryce wonders if there is a sustainability presentation during Orientation. There is not. Keisha thinks that it would be a great idea. They do have eco reps that work with the first-year dorms to get information out. She would jump on the opportunity to give information in that stage.
 - Bryce wonders if the projects from the end of the presentation are involved in the overall plan. They are.
 - Addison thinks that the ½-idea that Phil gave would be good. Some kind of display to make this real would be effective. People would notice. Addison also wonders about purchasing energy points. Does that affect different regions? Where does it offset—is another area getting green? Longley says that they are buying the certificates in Maine. They could buy wind power from Arizona or Australia. They decided to buy from Maine, though. Electrons from those facilities don't get to the campus, but the certificates benefit the company that you buy from—it's an investment. Professor Camill says to imagine a bathtub with 100 spigots and 1000 drains. Bowdoin is one of those drains. There is a pool of electricity, and buying the credits opens the wind and solar energy spigots more, so that you can shut off coal spigots. Even though we aren't the drain that gets that energy, we are adding it to the grid. Brooks also says that if we get these credits, we are reducing emissions somewhere, in the big picture. The idea is also that start knocking off those RECS when we can use other methods.

- Bryce wants to hear about investment transparency. A few years back there was an inquiry into our investments and companies and their involvement in Darfur. Could we see if we are investing in Exxon Mobile? Longley explains that we invest through private managers. We don't own a lot of publicly-owned stocks. Some schools do it this way, but it's not as easy under our arrangements. Bryce wonders why we can't look into it like we did with Sudan? Longley doesn't think it's that easy—they could be companies making something for an energy company. Where do you draw the line?
- Dooley thanks the guests for coming to the meeting and giving the presentation.

IV. Roll Call: Rutledge, Mark, Greg, Derek, and Isaac are absent.

V. Old Business

a. Town Council Liaison: This is our second week voting on this position. Do we have any discussion?

- Kata will fill this position, and she will be in touch with the Town Manager. Those in favor: Unanimous.
- **Brief Aside:** Anirudh says that we saved 150 pages by not printing the minutes for the packets. He will send the minutes with the packets in an email attachment. Read over them on your own time. If you have changes, edits, or additions, email Anirudh. It is saving paper and money. Dooley says that it doesn't mean to not read the minutes.
- Branden says to encourage other people to attend the town council meetings as well. We are committed to getting the Bowdoin community involved, and it goes beyond this position.

b. Printers for First-Year Dorms: Isa says that the big change to the bill is that the \$2500 proposal was an estimate. Turns out, the project costs twice as much. They are asking for us to give \$5000. Isa thinks that we should. Kyle thinks that the SAFC can take it.

- Aaron wonders if they will print double-sided. They will.
- Tessa mentions eco-font. It prints holes in the text that are small enough that you can't see them, but it uses 20% less ink. We are looking into eco-font professional, which is a serif font, so professors might accept it.
- Tommy wonders how much it would cost. They don't know yet.
- Anirudh wonders how much we are planning to request for the SAFC, because our budget for programming is only \$5000. Isa says that this is between Anirudh and Kyle. Dooley thinks that we can work this out post-facto.
- Bryce would feel better if we went ahead and requesting the funding first.
- Kata thinks that it is important to remember that the budget is broken down into different sections, but these are estimates. We don't just have to spend \$4000 for programming, we can borrow from somewhere else.
- Those in favor: unanimous, except for Bryce, who abstains because he thinks we should've requested from the SAFC first.

VI. New Business

- a. E-Board Follow-up:** Anirudh says that BSG Affairs put up this proposal. We are hoping to have a follow-up conversation with the E-Board next semester. He listed a lot of ideas that they threw out in the past few weeks. E-Board has already sent a survey. This is a checklist to go back to. The E-Board knows about this. Chris says that they are thinking about a lot of changes. They have thought about the comments from the last couple weeks. They sent out a survey of specific artists—small bands, big bands, and a question to gauge the interest in a small-acts festival. They will have two meetings on Friday, one before viewing the survey and one after. We are also hoping to get a bcuria column. Dooley asks why they chose an artist poll instead of a genre poll. Chris says that it gets to the point. Genre points are vague—it’s hard to answer when people ask what “kind” of music you like. He thinks that this poll accomplishes the same thing.
- Dooley wonders if there are any comments or suggestions.
 - Branden is happy that this turned around so quickly. He says that he also woke up to a facebook group of students who were unhappy with the poll. They didn’t think that all types of music were represented. Some students already feel excluded.
 - Anirudh wonders if there was an option to write an artist in. Chris says that there was a comment box.
 - Leah wonders what the rationale was behind chooses the COO as someone to potentially join the board. Anirudh says that the BSG reps already have to go to many meetings. This might be up the avenue of the COO, as they are the outreach to the student body. An addition of one person would maintain the integrity of the E-Board. Again, this is just a suggestion.
 - Isa wonders how the COO’s are chosen. Dooley says that they are appointed by the class councils.
 - Branden suggests an amendment. He doesn’t think the COO officer is right, because it is an appointed position. He doesn’t think that the BSG reps would be the right choice either. If we want more students involved, that should be it’s own position as part of the process.
 - Tommy agrees with Branden. He thinks that COO’s are more people who think about community service. Leah thinks that they have a lot going on. Dooley reiterates that this is just a suggestion.
 - Bryce knows that these are suggestions, but we might as well make the language more broad: “consider...”
 - Dooley says that this is an ongoing conversation. The E-Board is already moving forward on this. The survey came out within 10 days of the original complaint. They have been incredibly receptive.
- b. BSG Newsletter Coupon:** Anirudh says that we are publishing a newsletter at the end of the semester. We had a coupon for 50% off BPD-free water bottles. We will pay for 30%, and the bookstore will pay for %20. Dooley explains that we pay \$3.90 for each bottle. Anirudh doesn’t see this going any more than \$500.
- Jordan presents a friendly amendment: the spelling of “transparency.”
 - Anirudh says that this came out of programming last year. Dooley says that we have room for it. Dooley says that the concerns about the budget are important, but that these allocations are fluid. We can play with things within our own budget. Kyle and

the SAFC will help with the printers. We shouldn't spend frivolously, but if these things come to the table, we have already thought about it. Bryce says that if we trim somewhere else, we should be aware of the possibilities for trimming.

- Motion to vote tonight is seconded.
- Aaron thinks that an electronic newsletter would be preferable. Anirudh says that it would pop up as an email, and then people would delete it. Dooley says that we print it out so that people will see it.
- Those in favor of approving proposal: unanimous.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. **BSG Affairs Committee:** Anirudh points to the back page. As everyone knows, we have a dodgeball tournament this weekend. How many teams do we have signed up? Kata says 2. Howell House is getting a team together. While Ricardo and Jordan were going out, they got a lot of verbal commitment. Things are often decided within the last two days. They also asked for donations and made over \$70. Jordan says that it's 7-9. Kata wants to circulate a sign-up sheet to get some written commitments. Branden says to outreach to sports teams. Anirudh says that they have been doing that. Clare says she could help.
- b. **Student Activities Funding Committee:** Kyle says that we allocated \$15000 to WBOR for a spring concert. They are planning to bring a rapper who has a band—Shwayze. Allen says that they haven't signed the contract yet. Chris asks if there is a date. Kyle says that they don't have it yet.
- c. **Student Affairs Committee:** Addison says that they have the same things going on. He talked to Mary Pat about chem-free. A lot of students have issues with the arrangements. Lynn went to the meeting tonight.
- d. **Student Organizations Committee:** Branden says that they chartered Elemental and the Muslim Students Association. They also re-chartered a Women's Organization. There is a concert in the pub of different Bowdoin artists. He and Allen just came from a meeting with the Undiscussed about finding ways to build a Bowdoin community—they want to get social houses and other groups to work together and use each others' space.
- e. **Academic Affairs Committee:** They talked about CEP in Credit/D/Fail a few weeks ago, and it's currently on the back-burner. It's looking positive in terms of our proposal. They are thinking about putting out a survey. They are meeting with Elizabeth to promote greater use of the Baldwin Center.
- f. **Facilities Committee:** Isa says that they talked about printers. The airport shuttle will run next Tuesday and Wednesday. There are already 180 students signed up. They talked about the Colby program in the dining halls. They serve beer in certain nights. Mark brought an article. They are considering pushing that here. Isa says that they are meeting with C. Longley about hydration stations and cars.

VIII. Member Reports

- a. **Class Representatives**
 - i. 2010: Another successful senior pub night. They are talking about the ball. She adds that they met with sophomore and freshman officers to get to know them better.

- ii. 2012: Tommy says that the sophomores are doin' the usual. Becca says that they are talking about the soiree.
- iii. 2013: Peggy says that they met with the other class councils, and they got some advice about saving money. They also talked about the role of underclassmen in the Junior/Senior Ball. Leah says that they have an event on the 5th.

- b. **IHC Representatives:** Aaron says that they will be electing the spring events coordinator. On Saturday there will be swing dancing in the Union. There is a graffiti artist repainting in Ladd, so check it out.
- c. **E-Board Representative:** Chris says that they are planning the Winter Concert and Ivies.
- d. **Athletics Representative:** Clare says that there is not that much going on. There might be a student athlete art show in the future.

IX. President's Report: There will be no meeting next week. Refocus, enjoy your week off. We are a little rowdy this week. Dooley reminds people to be in time. He was upset that we were late, because we had several important guests. Finally, this is it for the dodgeball tournament. If it flops, it will not be good. Bring as many friends as possible. He would hate to see our first BSG event not go. Lynn wonders if people can just show up. We will have same-day registration, but he would rather not see this happen.

X. Adjournment at 9:54 p.m.