

**University of Melbourne Student Union  
Meeting of the Environment Committee**

**Minutes**

**21/12/21 12:00 PM**

**Meeting 1**

**Location: Zoom**

**1. Procedural Matters open at**

- 1.1 Election of Chair – Motion to elect Zachary as chair. Secunder: Raj Rai
- 1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians
- 1.3 Attendance – Noni proxy Hannah Krasovec, on call, Eirene Carajias, Hannah Krasovec, Jaslyn Potter, Lola Dunne, Raj Rai
- 1.4 Apologies – Xavier
- 1.5 Proxies – Hannah to Laura, Ishita to Mikhail
- 1.6 Membership – no new appointment
- 1.7 Adoption of Agenda – Motion to adopt agenda by Zach Matthews

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

- 2.1. n/a

**3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration**

- 3.1 none

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- 4.1 n/a

**5. Correspondence**

- 5.1 none

**6. Office Bearer Reports**

- 6.1

Our four focuses of this month have been the budget submission, meeting with the university sustainability team, and event planning. As has been the case across the Student Representative Departments, we have been busy collating our budget submission for the coming year. We are proud of the increased commitment to activist projects in our submission compared to previous years. For further detail, please consult the Environment Department budget submission. Following on from the University Sustainability Team’s presentation at the November 12 Elected Reps meeting, the Sustainability Team held a follow up consultation on November 29. As the latter took place during induction – an extremely important part of being an Office Bearer – previous Environment OB Disha Zutshi attended on behalf of us. The information provided from these meetings with the Sustainability Team has helped shape the strategy of the planned Divestment Campaign that the Environment Department will run next year. Projects were submitted for the Environment

Department's SummerFest events and for our Divestment Campaign. We have also begun to collaborate with Creative Arts for a tote bag upcycling event, community gardens for a seedling give away and begun talks over a potential screening. Although this appears to be a minor activity, the lack of a consistent physical presence in the Environment Office for the past two years meant that several days were spent cleaning up the Office. The space is now far more welcoming for students and a suitable space to work in. In the past week Zach has been engaging significantly with Muguette from the Food Co-op regarding their current space in Union House, which they are being evicted from. Chelsea and I will continue to support the Food Co-op in their transition from their current space to the Student Precinct.

## **7. Motions on Notice**

7.1 none

## **8. Motions Without Notice**

8.1 none

## **9. Other Business**

### **9.1 Expectations of the environment committee**

#### **9.1.1 Attendance and Proxies**

Meetings happen once a fortnight during semester, and once a month outside of semester. We will always incorporate zoom

If you miss more than three in a row, and five in semesters in total without an apology than membership is revoked

Proxies need to be organised an hour before the meeting, the earlier the better

OBs will stick to the regulations, sending motions 5 business days before and agenda 2 business days before

SL: who organises proxies? Proxies can be organised by us, but we would prefer if you could find someone to stand in your place, especially if you leave it an hour before.

#### **9.1.2 Collectives and events**

As committee members it ideal that you attend events and collectives.

There are three different collectives and a lot of events and collaborations planned, so you are not expected to come to all. But, it would be appreciated if you could come to as many as possible

### **9.2 Summerfest plans**

OBs have planned three events so far. One being an upcycled tote bag event, collaboration with Creative Arts, one being a seedling giveaway collaboration with Community Gardens, and a screening of a movie

Suggestions that Wall-E is part of the screening, followed by Lorax

### 9.3 Collectives

Three collectives planned for oversight next year.

Bike collectives once a fortnight,

Enviro collective as a continuation of past collectives, but focused on personal wellbeing and learning during the climate crisis

Environmental justice collective will be the activist space. EJC will be the launchpad for the climate strikes, Fridays for future and Divestment.

SL: Suggest days for collectives when students are quite active, for example Tuesday-Thursday

### 9.4 Divestment

Divestment was the main policy we ran under.

Met with advocacy for the best places to start

Met with Sustainability and their plans for investment

If Uni does commit, they will only commit to divestment in their investment portfolio

We will begin with a soft launch in Summerfest, for e.g petitions and Farrago “what is divestment” page.

Ensure inclusive activities on campus, especially with activism

SLRaj Rai: Online events – We will have alternate weeks of collectives on zoom to remain accessible, as well as have duel delivery for activities.

## 10. Next Meeting

- 10.1.1 Needs to be scheduled, most likely early-mid January to pass money for Summerfest. When is good will be put in the Facebook group.

## 11. Close meeting at 12:25 PM AEDT.