Minutes of Queer Committee meeting held 19/03/09

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Queer Committee

Meeting 3/09

CONFIRMED

4.30 PM, 19 March 2009

Location: Queer Office, Union House

Agenda

1. Procedural Matters
   1.1 Election of Chair
   1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
   1.3 Attendance
   1.4 Apologies
   1.5 Proxies
   1.6 Membership
   1.7 Adoption of Agenda

2. Correspondence

3. Office Bearers’ Reports

4. Standing Committee Reports

5. Other Reports

6. Motions on Notice

7. Other Business

8. Next Meeting

9. Close

Meeting opened at: 4.40 PM

Agenda Item 1; Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Stefania chair the meeting
Moved: Stefania Capogreco
CARRIED

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

1.3 Attendance
Sharon Lau, Shem Bennett, Ezekial Gould, Georgia Loakimidis-MacDougall, Eden Smith, Stefania Capogreco

Absent
David Donaldson, Taylor Kendall, Bridget Graham (BJ)
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1.4 Apologies
David Donaldson, Taylor Kendall

1.5 Proxies
BJ to George

1.6 Membership
Tracey Boyd dropped off because she was not a Student Union member.

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That we discuss the possibility of the queer department collaborating with the counselling services, under other business.
Moved: Shem  Seconded: Sharon
CWD

Motion 3: That the proposed agenda for queer committee Meeting 1/09 be adopted.
Moved: Eden  Seconded: George
CWD

Agenda Item 2: Correspondence
Nil

Agenda Item 3: Office Bearer’s Reports
O week – We made one hundred “Fuck being average” showbags, filled with zines, pamphlets, etc. We made two hundred ‘first year queer’ zines, focusing on queer issues facing students, they were jam packed with information (36 pages each). We made hundreds of badges as well. At the queer stall on Tuesday we gave out all of the showbags and most of the zines with only a few badges left. We also talked to a lot of new people with varying experiences of being queer. We had the Queer luv picnic on Thursday which went quite well, with mostly new people turning up. We have bee running three weekly collectives. Gay shame, queery and krafty kweers. With varying attendance. Again mostly new people turning up. A lot of new people emailing or dropping into the office want to be involved in department or meet with queers to talk to someone about their sexuality, gender etc. The queer space was left in quite bad condition last year, with many things being dumped in the space following the eradication of the queer storage space. The dumped stores provided a breeding ground for mice and rats over the summer. We have cleaned up the space and successfully dealt with rodent issue and aim to keep the space a lot cleaner in the future.

Motion 4: That the office bearer’s report be accepted.
Moved: George  Seconded: Eden
CWD

Agenda Item 4: Standing Committee Reports
Nil

Agenda Item 5: Other Reports
Nil

Agenda Item 6: Motions on Notice

Agenda Item 6.1: 2009 Budget

Motion 5: That the 2009 Budget be accepted.
Moved: Eden  Seconded: Sharon
CWD

Agenda Item 6.2: O-Week expenditure reimbursement
Motion 6: Reimburse Stefania Capogreco for 100 plain calico bags to the amount of $198.00 to come out of the special projects and events line.
Moved: Ezekial Gould   Seconded: Eden
CWD

Motion 7: That we move the reimbursement for o-week en bloc.
- Reimburse Stefania Capogreco for the melb. uni queer bloc at Pride March ’09 for materials expenses to the amount of $68.74 out of the special projects and events line.
- Reimburse Ezekiel Gould for queerluv picnic food expenses to the amount of $26.44 + $13.39 + $42.02 = $81.85 out of the orientation expenses line.
- Reimburse Ezekiel Gould for queerluv picnic beverage expenses to the amount of $85.00 out of the orientation expenses line.
Moved: Sharon   Seconded: Eden
CWD

Agenda Item 7: Other Business

Agenda Item 7.1: Collaboration with counselling service
Shem would like to meet up with office bearers / committee and the counselling service to organise for students to meet up and talk about their sexuality / gender. He presented a letter to the committee. Target groups for the meetings: country students, college students, etc. A discussion occurred as noted below:

Shem: call for collaboration? For brainstorming at first, call for ideas.

Georgia questioned whether this could be run by the collectives, with Wom*n’s and queer working together.

Sharon also suggested forming a sub-committee to deal with the organisational process.

Shem is happy to liaise / facilitate. The counselling service is offering to have a facilitator, but would delegate organisation to Shem / Sharon.

Eden questioned as to whether it would be free or charged. Sharon said free.

Shem: promo through farrago, eyeball and queer dept website. Recommends we meet to discuss in more detail.

George: Issues of autonomy: Counsellor or people involved to be queer. Shem said that the interested counsellor identifies as queer.

Eden raised the issue of confidentiality in a group environment.

George suggested that the group could be open to people in high-school.

Shem: targeted support groups, international student issues? coming out related Different focuses that are targeted towards the needs of different groups.

Ezekiel noted that the group should not only address issues on sexuality, but also on gender.

Motion 8: The committee directs Shem to liaise with the counselling service and the committee takes the idea to collective (Gay Shame or Queerly).
Moved: Shen   Seconded: Sharon
CWD

Agenda Item 8: Next Meeting

Agenda Item 8.1: Meeting Schedule
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**Motion 8:** That the next meeting be held in two weeks time at 4.00pm (2nd of April).
Moved: Eden Seconded: Sharon.

Agenda Item 9: Close

Meeting closed at: 5.17 PM

Certified by Chair:

Signed: Dated:
queer department

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