

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Welfare Committee

Meeting 01/10

CONFIRMED

3.00PM, 25th January 2010

Location: Student Resource Room, 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. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4. Department Budget

5. Motions on Notice

- 5.1 Funding for Recurring Free Breakfast**
- 5.2 Funding for Recurring Free Breakfast Toaster**
- 5.3 Funding for Welfare Show Bags at Orientation Week**

6. Other Business

7. Next Meeting

8. Close

Meeting opened at: 3.11PM, by Rachael Lim

Agenda Item 1: Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Rachael Lim chairs the meeting

Moved: Tristan Clack

Seconded: Michael Lewis

CWD

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged

1.3 Attendance

Rachael Lim (Welfare Office Bearer), Lloyd McGeary (Welfare Office Bearer), Jesse Overton-Skinner(President), Tristan Clack, Liz Errol, Noni Sproule, Michael Lewis, Lizzie Eng, Jim Smith, Marijana Bosnjak

Absent

Stephanie McHenry
Mark Kettle
Elizabeth Patterson

1.4 Apologies

Stephanie McHenry
Mark Kettle
Elizabeth Patterson

1.5 Proxies

Mark Kettle proxies to Noni Sproule
Stephanie McHenry proxies to Lizzie Eng
Liz Patterson proxies to Jim Smith

1.6 Membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda be adopted.
Moved: Tristan Clack Seconded: Lizzie Eng
CWD

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes

No previous minutes to confirm.

Agenda Item 3: Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from previous minutes.

Agenda Item 4: Department Budget

Rachael Lim (Welfare Office Bearer) spoke to the tabled budget, explaining key projects and campaigns, followed by discussion and questions from committee members.

- **Campaigns**

The proposed budget covers campaigns that focus on sexual health and education, prioritise student services and legislative campaigns surrounding Youth Allowance, Concessions Cards for International Students and Rights at Work. The Student Union sexual health pamphlets are the most appropriate and accessible to students, however, reprints are required due to low numbers and outdated sexual health terminology.

Being an election year, the Welfare Department are in a position to lobby both major parties regarding student issues such as Youth Allowance and Concession Cards for International Students. Promotion of these campaigns may be enhanced through social events such as forums and the Free Breakfast and via increased engagement with MUOSS.

- **Stationery**

The proposed stationery budget includes a pamphlet display outside the Welfare office as pamphlets are currently difficult to access. The committee recommended potential sources of second-hand displays.

- **English language program**

The budget will fund 2-on-2 English language tutorial program. These are primarily speaking based tutorials intended to be a cultural/speaking exchange and will have some stationery requirements.

- **Free Breakfasts**

Free Breakfasts in 2010 will run weekly, every Monday from 7.30am-9.30am, catering for 100-150 students in the first four weeks of semester. Free Breakfast will provide a range of cereals, milk and soy milk, fruit, toast and spreads. Committee members expressed concern that the anticipated expenditure of \$2000 for Free Breakfasts was high compared to 2009 and recommend that purchases associated with Free Breakfasts such as cutlery and plates be sourced second-hand, and that office bearers source food donations.

- **Forums**

The budget includes the provision of forums for English language tutors, sexual health forums and cultural forums in collaboration with MUOSS.

- **Workshops**

Workshops will be geared towards supporting and training for English language tutors along with legal aid and other advocacy partnerships. Questions arose as to whether proposed workshops would double up with Advocacy run workshop.

- **Copying & Printing**

The copying & printing budget line will absorb the demands placed by the English language Program and costs for other Welfare project and campaign publicity materials, publications and pamphlets.

- **Telephone**

Telephone budget reflects the intensive need for external calls, with calls to mobiles being quite costly.

- **Special Projects**

Under Special Projects, a new online Book Exchange service and a centralised Employment website will be created, and purchases of equipment to facilitate the Free Breakfasts will be also absorbed. Questions were raised regarding the potential conflict of an online Book Exchange with the MUOSS Book Sale held each semester. Lloyd McGearry responded that the online Book Exchange will not compromise the MUOSS book sale and that he will work with MUOSS in the development of the website. Committee members expressed concern over the funding allocated to Special Projects stating that it should be larger in order to support other initiatives such as grants to support student projects and initiatives.

Motion 3: That the Welfare Committee adopt the proposed budget.

Moved: Michael Lewis

Seconded: Tristan

For: 3

Against: 4

LOST

Amendment to the budget was proposed where \$250 is transferred from the Photocopying & Printing budget line into Special Projects, bringing the Special Projects budget to a total of \$2000. There was further discussion regarding the need for a grants line and provision for supporting other department campaigns that align with the welfare portfolio, such as the Domestic Violence campaign.

Motion 4: That the committee adopt the amended budget with \$250 to be transferred from the Printing/Photocopying budget line into the Special Projects budget line.

Moved: Michael Lewis

Seconded: Tristan Clack

CWD

Agenda Item 5: Motions on Notice

Rachael Lim circulated and spoke to the following motions:

Motion 5.1 Funding for Recurring Free Breakfast

That the Welfare committee approve the expenditure of up to \$700 from the Free Breakfast budget line to be spent from the week beginning 01/03/2010 to week beginning 22/03/2010, and up to \$1300 from the Free Breakfast budget line to be spent from the week beginning 29/03/2010 to the final week of Semester 2, excluding holidays, on food judged as required to provide weekly free breakfasts by the discretion of the UMSU Welfare Office Bearers, who must agree on such expenses through consensus.

Committee members express concern regarding \$1300 being committed to the remainder of the Free Breakfast.

Amendment: That Motion 5.1 reads as 'That the Welfare committee approve the expenditure of up to \$700 from the Free Breakfast budget line to be spent from the week beginning 01/03/2010 to week beginning 22/03/2010, and after this date review.'

Motion 5.2: Funding for Recurring Free Breakfast Toaster

That the Welfare Committee approve the expenditure of up to \$400 from the Special Projects budget line to be spent on a commercial toaster to provide the weekly free breakfasts.

Motion 5.3: Funding for Welfare Show bags at Orientation Week

That the Welfare Committee approves the expenditure of up to \$100 from the Campaigns budget line to be spent on lollypops to be individually put into each of the UMSU Welfare Show Bags as a means to promote and raise awareness of the Welfare Department and its services.

Motion 5.4: That the motions on notice be moved en bloc with amendment to Motion 5.1 reading 'That the Welfare committee approve the expenditure of up to \$700 from the Free Breakfast budget line to be spent from the week beginning 01/03/2010 to week beginning 22/03/2010, and after this date review.'

Moved: Michael Lewis

Seconded: Tristan Clack

CWD

Agenda Item 6: Other Business

6.1 Meetings

Regular meetings to be determined when committee members' timetables are released.

6.2 Pamphlet holders

Further discussion on location of pamphlet display, sources and costs took place.

Motion 6: That the Welfare Committee approves the expenditure of up to \$500 from the Stationery line to be spent on a wall display for sexual and mental health pamphlets.

Moved: Tristan Clack

Seconded: Michael Lewis

CWD

Agenda Item 7: Next Meeting

Next meeting on: Monday 8th February 2010 at 3.00PM – Student Resource Room, Union House

Agenda Item 8: Close

Meeting closed at: 4.19PM

Certified by Chair:

Signed:

Dated: