PRESENT: DeTienne, Zafft, Axelson, Collins (for Mai), Nisley, Hanson, Kearns, Kerbs, Adimoraegbu

NOT PRESENT: Mai, Rubio-Wallace, Kath, LeFebvre

ALSO PRESENT: Erin Olsen, Cary Berry-Smith, Bailey Quick

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Hanson called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Hanson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26 meeting. Kerbs made a motion. Adimoraegbu seconded the motion. The motion carried by a show of hands.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: DeTienne reported that Lind-Gonzalez has stepped down from the Union Board and Matthew Adimoraegbu will be replacing him. DeTienne asked everyone to introduce themselves. The space visioning team had their first meeting last week. It lasted about two and half hours and went well. At the meeting there was discussion on taking a trip down to CSU to visit their recently, $65 million, renovated Lory Student Center. Two new students have joined the space visioning team, Hanson and Melanie Vigil a grad student in the SLCE office. Kerbs said if anyone has any ideas on how to improve the Union please let them know. Zafft commented that it will be nice to have some more student input.

DeTienne handed out a room rental information sheet that outlines the details of the Union room rental rates for departmental events with a recruiting component. These groups will get a discount of 50% of the current fee book rate. UW Catering and Events will allow some exceptions as well. It is good to get prospective students on campus. Axelson commented that groups want to use the Union, but it doesn’t always fit into their budgets. This provides a direct link to admissions and will help out all the way around. DeTienne told everyone that admissions will have a roll in the event for the discount to be approved.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR’S (OPERATIONS) REPORT: Zafft reported that due to the holiday next week the Union will have different operating hours. Wednesday, November 25th the Union will be open 7:00AM-7:00PM. Thursday, November 26th, Friday, November 27th and Saturday, November 28th, the Union will be closed. Sunday, November 29th, the Union will resume its normal hours. Zafft reminded everyone that the Holiday Market will take place Friday, December 4th.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR’S REPORT (ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS): Kirk was not in attendance. DeTienne reported on her behalf. The CAC hosted four events last week. Rocky Horror Picture Show had about 400 people in attendance. This Friday FNF will be hosting an International night. The bands that the CAC has hosted the last few weeks have had a couple hundred people in attendance each. Thanksgiving Dinner is this Wednesday. It is free for students and $10 or a donation of 3 canned goods for the public. Wayne White worked with the art department and his performance was a success.

The two Jim Gaffigan shows sold a total of almost 3000 tickets. The first performance was sold out, while the second one sold about 1200 tickets. Kearns asked what the capacity is for the A&S auditorium. DeTienne replied that it can hold about 1800 people. DeTienne said that she does not know the breakdown of the numbers but is sure they met their financial goals. They are now in the process of finding acts for the spring.
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT (SLCE): Olsen reported that the Women’s Leadership Conference went well and acknowledged the hard work that was put into it by the student staff. The students that are selected attend the national conference in May/June, then they return and start planning the campus conference. Nisley said it was nice to see faculty and community members present during the conference.

Alternative Breaks has shifted its marketing plan this year. Instead of focusing on the location they are putting more emphasis on the service so students know exactly what they are signing up for. The San Francisco trip has been filled and the rest of the trips are in a great place with regards to sign-ups.

Olsen informed everyone about SLCE’s upcoming events. This week is Hunger and Homelessness week. The MLK Day of Service is February 6th. The Good Mule Conference is February 19th and 20th.

FOOD SERVICE REPORT: No representative in attendance.

TENANT REPORTS:
University Store – No representative in attendance.

Dean of Students Office – Berry-Smith said there was nothing new to report.

First Interstate Bank – No representative in attendance.

Copy Center – No representative in attendance.

ASUW – Kerbs reported that Kath, along with other ASUW members, were at WASC participating in a workshop. Last week, ASUW passed a motion to preserve green space on future construction sites and to have a meditation/prayer room. DeTienne asked to hear some more details on the prayer room. Kerbs replied saying that executive board is leading it and thinks it would be beneficial to a lot of students and their religions.

OLD BUSINESS:
a. None

NEW BUSINESS:
a. Student Fees- DeTienne said she received the fee book letter. Fee changes are due to Axelson by November 30th. The student fee increase will be for the increase in employee benefit costs. Health insurance has increased over 11% and some fixed benefit costs have decreased. The Union will need to increase the fees by $1.63 per semester. This would increase the operating fees to $122.43 and the total to $157.68. Kearns asked when this would go into effect. DeTienne replied that this will go into effect until July 1, 2016. Collins inquired about an increase to retirement. DeTienne responded by saying retirement has decreased. Hanson asked for a motion to approve the fee increase of $1.63 per semester. Kerbs made the motion. Adimoraegbu seconded the motion. The motion carried by a show of hands. Axelson abstained.

b. Increase in meeting room fees– DeTienne informed everyone that the Union usually increases their room rental fees every two years and it is time to increase them again. The actual adjustments were not finalized before the meeting so there are two options. The first is to give the blessing based on conceptual rational for the changes. The second is to schedule another meeting for next Monday or November 30th. Kearns asked if RSO’s have to pay to use rooms and how often do non-student groups use them. DeTienne replied that they do not pay rental fees unless they are charging admission or registration fees for their event. This fee
changes would affect external groups and departments that charge admissions. Zafft stated that there are a fewer fee-paying events held in the Union because of the other event spaces that have been built around campus. Axelson commented that the dream is for one day to have so many events coming in that we need to use every space. Kerbs said that because the magnitude of this, he is comfortable with voting now. Hanson asked for a motion to approve the increase of meeting room fees Kerbs made the motion. Adimoraegbu seconded the motion. The motion carried by a show of hands. Axelson abstained.

c. Priority Scheduling – DeTienne handed out the previous year’s Priority Scheduling Policy and explained that it may be time to revise the schedule. Given the shift of philosophy on campus and that the Union is for the students, it needs to emphasize that and give students the first chance at reserving rooms. DeTienne suggested that RSO’s, Union Programs, and ASUW Programs/Events be moved up to Week 2 scheduling priority and Official University Functions be moved to Week 3. Collins asked if the President’s office has been notified of this. DeTienne said that she wanted to know what the Board had to say about it first. Collins expressed concern that this is contradicting what we are trying to do and that is to get events back in the Union. DeTienne responded that as the Union loses big events more and more of the operating budget comes from the students, this is a way to make sure the students get what they are paying for. Groups have been known to hold multiple locations for the same event, then not cancel until it is too late to let another group use the space. Axelson commented that there needs to be a balance we cannot have people double book. Collins explained that there are some events that just work better here, those are the events that need to be held here. Berry-Smith told everyone that by having more events here it has a financial impact on the tenants which in the long run benefits the students. Zafft stated that we definitely want some events here and there must be a way to make it work. DeTienne informed everyone that when people come back to visit, the Union is where they want to be. This is all a way to look out for the students who pay the fees. This is something that we will continue to work on. Axelson commented that it will be interesting to see how philosophies change with the new president.

OPEN FORUM: Adimoraegbu said that since this week is International Week WASA will be playing drums in the Union on Friday.

ADJOURNMENT: Hanson adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy DeTienne