

Cornell Employee Assembly

Minutes of the July 29, 2019 Meeting 12:50 PM – 1:36 PM 226, Weill Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. A. Howell called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm.
 - b. Members Present: A. Haenlin-Mott, A. Howell, A. McCabe, A. Sieverding, B. Goodell, C. Wiggers, D. Hiner, E. Miller, H. Depew, J. Michael, J. Withers, K. Barth, K. LoParco, K. Mahoney, M. Benda, R. Lochner, T. Chams
 - c. *Members Absent:* A. Brooks, B. Fortenberry, C. Sanzone, H. Sheldon, J. Cooley, J. Kruser, K. Supron, L. Taylor
 - d. Also Present:
- II. E.A. Resolution 2: Committee Consolidation Bylaw Change
 - a. K. LoParco introduced EA Resolution 2 because C. Sanzone was not present at the meeting. She said that it was based on last year's EA Resolution 2. She said that this E.A. Resolution was previously discussed in the June 19th meeting.
 - i. There was a motion to approve the Resolution 2
 - 1. Seconded
 - The motion passed with seventeen (17) votes in favor and one (1) abstain. Approved 17-0-1
- III. Committee Chair Elections:
 - a. A. Howell said that he would entertain a motion to accept nominations for committee chairs.
 - b. Benefits and Policy Committee
 - i. An EA member nominated T. Chams.
 - 1. T. Chams respectfully declined and stated that he wished to step down from being the chair.
 - 2. An EA member nominated A. Sieverding
 - a. Seconded
 - b. A. Sieverding asked if T. Chams would stay on the Benefits and Policy Committee.
 - c. A. Howell stated that there will be support for the committee chairs from himself and other EA Execs.
 - d. He asked for other nominations and seeing no other nominations said that A. Sieverding is the new chair of the committee.



- c. Education Committee
 - i. A. Howell nominated M. Benda for the position of the chair.
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. M. Benda accepted the nomination
- d. Elections Committee
 - i. A. Howell asked for nominations.
 - ii. An EA member nominated E. Miller.
 - iii. A discussion followed of who is eligible for nomination guided by the Employee Assembly By-Laws.
 - 1. G. Giambattista said that any EA member whose term expires in 2021 is automatically on the Elections Committee. The chair will be decided from that pool of people.
 - 2. A. Howell asked for nominations and K. Barth described being on the Elections Committee.
 - 3. A. Howell reminded EA members that they may serve as the chair and still be on other committees.
 - 4. A. Howell nominated J. Withers.
 - a. T. Chams seconded the motion.
 - 5. J. Withers accepted the nomination.
 - iv. T. Chams added that much of the work that the EA does occurs in committee meetings, not bi-weekly EA meetings.
- e. Employee Welfare Committee
 - i. A. Howell asked for nominations for the chair.
 - ii. A. Haenlin-Mott, E. Miller, and C. Wiggers all respectfully declined the nomination.
 - iii. An EA member nominated B. Goodell.
 - iv. B. Goodell respectfully declined.
 - v. An EA member nominated K. Mahoney.
 - 1. A. Howell seconded the motion.
 - 2. K. Mahoney accepted the nomination
- f. Communications & Awards Committee
 - i. A. Howell announced that the chair of the committee is, by default the Vice Chair of Communications as outlined in the EA By-Laws. He said that C. Sanzone is the chair of the committee due to the fact that she is the Vice Chair for Communications.
- g. A. Howell said that he would pass around committee sign-up sheets.
 - i. R. Lochner asked how many committees one may join.



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- ii. A. Howell responded by saying that there is no limit, an EA member may join as many as they want.
- iii. E. Miller followed up by suggesting that member choose one committee that they focus on.
- iv. A discussion of the committee meeting schedules followed.
 - 1. A. Howell said that most committees meet once a month
 - 2. K. Barth stated that meetings may occur in person or on Zoom and that the committee chair works with the committee members to find a suitable meeting time.
 - 3. T. Chams noted that there is not always a consistent level of engagement with the Employee Assembly committees from others on the Cornell campus.

IV. UA Appointees

- a. A. Howell announced that the EA also needs to fill seats on certain University Assembly (UA) committees.
 - i. A. Howell said that the EA needs to appoint people to fill seats on the UA's Codes and Judicial Committee (CJC), Campus Infrastructure Committee (CIC), and Campus Welfare Committee (CWC).
 - ii. E. Miller member asked about the Campus Planning Committee.
 - 1. A. Howell said that it has two (2) open seats for Cornell employees.
 - iii. C. Wiggers inquired about the status of the CJC. He stated that A. Brooks was facing challenges on the committee.
 - iv. G. Giambattista said that the focus of the CJC this year will be the Code of Conduct. She also said that the new chair of the UA has been in touch with President Pollack about moving the Code forward and that the Executive Committee of UA has essentially given the Code amendment process to the administration. This means that the administration will return a version of the Code to the UA through the CJC. That version will then go to the community for review. The changes will come from the University Councils Office instead of a small committee.
 - 1. J. Miachel self-nominated
 - 2. Seconded
 - 3. Approved
- b. Campus Infrastructure Committee
 - i. A. Howell said that K. Barth is the chair of the committee.
 - ii. C. Wiggers nominated A. Brooks for the committee.



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- iii. A. Howell said that the nomination should be seconded and that he would follow up with A. Brooks over email to confirm that he accepts the nomination.
- iv. Seconded
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. G. Giambattista said that the Employee Assembly will appoint one EA member and one Cornell Staff member (appointed by the EA).
 - ii. K. LoParco asked if the CWC is able to affect the dental health plan policy and if they could take on that issue.
 - iii. D. Hiner said that the committee has not focused on policies like that in the past. He said that the focus is more on the overall campus and what is good for everyone on the campus, though he did acknowledge that that issue is important for everyone. He said that he was unsure if that would be a question for the CWC or the EA Benefits and Policy Committee.
 - iv. G. Giambattista said that the primary difference between the EA committees and the UA committees is that the UA takes up campus wide issues.
 - v. C. Wiggers said that he thought it would be more appropriately handled by the University Assembly.
 - vi. K. LoParco asked what issues the CWC has previously focused on.
 - vii. D. Hiner replied that the CWC has worked on the Tobacco/Nicotine Free Campus survey and childcare issues on campus. He said those were the two biggest issues that he could think of.
 - viii. B. Goodell stated his interest in the committee but expressed concerns about the time commitment of the committee.
 - ix. A. Howell asked if he would be willing to tentatively accept the seat.
 - x. B. Goodell accepted.
 - xi. A. Howell reminded the EA members that the Assembly needs to appoint non-EA members as well.
 - xii. D. Hiner asked if it would be appropriate to garner interest for the non-EA appointed seats before making suggestions and asked if EA members could bring suggestions for non-EA appointees to a future EA meeting.
 - xiii. A. Howell agreed with D. Hiner and asked EA members to send their suggestions to the EA Executive Committee.
- d. Campus Planning Committee
 - i. G. Giambattista said that this is actually a university committee not a UA committee. The committee needs two (2) employees on the committee.
 - ii. G. Giambattista asked if K. Mahoney and K. Barth would be continuing on.



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- iii. Both replied in the affirmative.
- iv. G. Giambattista said that they would just need to be re-appointed.
 - 1. Seconded
- v. K. Mahoney said that she would respectfully step down from the position so that A. Haenlin-Mott could serve on the committee instead.
- vi. Seconded
- vii. K. Barth described the uniqueness of the Campus Planning Committee.
- e. A. Howell said that the EA needs to appoint a Faculty Senate Liaison.
 - i. G. Giambattista described the role of the Faculty Senate Liaison. She said the meetings occur once a month from 3-5 pm. Charlie Van Loan is the Dean of the Faculty.
 - ii. A. Howell nominated A. Sieverding.
 - iii. K. Mahoney asked why the Faculty Senate was asking for an EA representative now.
 - 1. G. Giambattista said that they have asked in the past, but that no Employee Assembly member was attending meetings on a regular basis.
 - iv. A. Howell asked if there was second for A. Sieverding
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. A. Sieverding accepted.
- f. A. Howell said that the next seat was for the Public Safety Advisory Committee.
 - i. G. Giambattista described the committee. She said that it is a campus wide committee and hosted through the Cornell Police because that is where the Cleary Compliance Officer is. She said that the committee has everything to do with public safety.
 - ii. G. Giambattista said that any staff member (not necessarily an EA member) may serve on the committee.
 - iii. B. Goodell asked about the Campus Recreation Committee (CRC) because he knew someone that was interested in it.
 - iv. K. Mahoney suggested that the committee members and chairs give a brief recap to at bi-weekly EA meetings.
 - v. A. Howell agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Sara DeVault-Feldman Assembly Coordinator