



# MINUTES

## 2021 - 22 Rensselaer Union Executive Board

**Date:** December 2, 2021, 8:00 pm | **Location:** Shelnut Gallery and Webex

The regular weekly meeting of the Rensselaer Union Executive Board was held on Thursday, December 2 at 8:05 pm in the Shelnut Gallery and Webex, the President being chair. The Secretary present. Meeting minutes from last week were approved.

### Reports

**President of the Union Yaseen Mahmoud '22 reported the following:**

- VPCR applications are open, feel free to apply
- Eboard uniform poll is in the Slack

**Vice President of the Union for Board Operations Colleen Corrigan '22 reported the following:**

- Great job for budgeting!
- This Saturday is budget appeals, Colleen will contact you if you need to be there
- Fill out whenisgood for next semesters meetings

**Vice President for Club Relations Joe Mampillil '21 reported the following:**

- Chess club needs an eboard rep

**Vice President for Rules and Special Projects Matthew Zapken '22 reported the following:**

- Lost volleyball playoffs
- Think of sports we can play for next semester (floor hockey, volleyball)

**Director of the Union Dr. Charlie Potts reported the following:**

- HR stuff happened in the office and he acknowledges the partnership between eboard
- Will and Janae have accepted their positions
- Joe Campo is leaving, his last day is December 23rd
- How quickly can we look into filling Joe Campo's role?
  - Dr. Potts responded with, pragmatically this semester however, the union admin want to figure out how to best fill that role
  - Dr Potts will take facilities and Will and Janae will take some responsibilities
- What roles would Janae and Will fill?
  - Will will mostly take on Ben Yung's role whereas Janae will take on Miciah's and additional responsibilities

**E-Board Senate Liaison Riaz Rao '22 reported the following:**

- Presentation from Drake Bradshaw and Colette Fishkin on composting
- RPI is hiring outside sources for composting instead of doing it within campus

**Undergraduate Council Representative Jake Herman '23 reported the following:**

- UC subsidizing \$10 up to \$250 for the NCAA playoffs in Illinois
- UC working on budget policies

**Graduate Council Representative Donovan Weiblen 'G reported the following:**

- No report

**Committee Reports**

- Biz Ops - seeking ideas for card office space
- Club Ops - DSR and Figure Skating are coming to the board
- Marketing - Starting next semester, hopefully will have branding guidelines and have a better idea of resources and how to offer them
- MLC - meeting next monday at 8
- SGCC - applications are still open
  - Abby would like to play assassins and explains the game
- UAR - Going to layout soon and send letters to Riaz
- UPAC - Comedy has end of semester show 12/9 from 8-9 PM. QR code will be posted to sign up.

The reports of the committees of the Rensselaer Union Executive Board were received.

**Proposals**

**New Club Recognition - *RPI Figure Skating***

- Registered as a team and needs to be recognized as a club
- 26 prospective skaters but none are competitive
- Figure Skating is looking to get some time at the Fieldhouse and has talked to Steve Allard about booking skating time
- They have a scheduled time to meet and want to do off-ice and on-ice workouts

**Questions:**

- - There are two competitions that would let us qualify as a team and if there are enough people who want to competitively figure skate, it could happen in the future however, it is an individual sport and each person would be representing RPI
- Would you be interested in hiring a coach?
  - Yes, they would be open to it and have worked with coaches in the area before

- The officers have the highest level of certification and can also become coaches
- Where are you skating right now?
  - Close to the Albany area
- Are you paying to use the rink?
  - Yes, they are paying out of pocket
- Is the manager role similar to the President?
  - Yes, it is.
- Is the manager an on-ice position?
  - The manager does not have to be the President but has to be a part of the board.
- Is the manager position required by the USFSA?
  - Yes, it is.

**First motion of the night, to move that the Rensselaer Union Executive Board approve RPI Figure Skating Club as a Union Recognized Club, effective immediately.**

No questions on wording or merit of the motion.

**Motion passes 14-0-0.**

### **New Club Recognition - *Disabled Students at RPI DREAM***

- Want to encourage accessibility within RPI and want more representation within RPI.
- Anyone can join

Questions:

- They only have two officers listed in their constitution, was that ever discussed within Club Ops?
  - They only have 8 members as of right now and only want to do informational events
- Given that its a small club, do you think they would be a successful club?
  - Yes as they haven't been able to advertise nearly as much.
- Within the constitution they require at least one of their officers to identify as disabled and that is ethically questionable?
  - It is very important to the club that at least one person is disabled as their experience is important to the club purpose.
- If this is a part of MLC, other multicultural clubs do not require officers to be a certain way to be elected, would this be allowed according to the RUGP?
  - The RUGP allows of no hate or discrimination
- Ibrahim Ali '25 comments that due to the fact that elections are being held, if club members want to elect someone that is disabled they can choose to do so.
- Natalia Lago '24 points out that the club prefers to have a majority or at least one member to be disabled, and they are open to change

- Ava Gallagher '23 comments that the wording needs to be changed as it can come off as exclusive

Questions on wording of the motion:

- Riaz Rao '22 suggests to deny the motion in order to not lock them in and to move so that they can go to Club Ops to look over their constitution
  - Kripa Khanal '25 points out that even if a vote is held, the club can choose not to amend their constitution
  - Ibrahim Ali '25 agrees with Riaz as it is not a small grammatical change
  - Kenzie Moore '22 agrees, however, it should not reflect the E-board's feelings towards the club itself.

Riaz Rao '21 moves to amend the motion as written in the document. Brian Anderson 'G seconds, and Riaz Rao withdraws his motion.

Donovan Weiblen 'G moves to amend the motion to "effective revision of their constitution to remove the conflict between Article 3, Section 1 and Clause a and Article 4, section 2, clause d with the Club Operations Committee." Kripa Khanal '25 seconds.

Questions on wording of the motion -

- Ibrahim Ali '25 points out that the club does not have to come back to the E-board after making constitutional changes
- Donovan Weiblen 'G and Kripa Khanal '25 agree and add to come back to the E-board.

Donovan Weiblen 'G withdraws the motion.

Matt Zapken 'G comments that Club Operations Committee is overseen by the Executive Board and can require the committee to make changes to a club's constitution.

Donovan Weiblen 'G calls to question and motion passes by overwhelming majority,

**Second motion of the night, to move that the Rensselaer Union Executive Board approve the Disabled Students at RPI Dream as a Union Recognized Club, effective immediately.**

**Motion fails 4-11-0.**

### **Additional Subsidy - RPI Ballroom Dance**

- For the past 15 years, RPI has held the Dancesport Competition and draws in competitive teams all over the country and is very reputable.
- Typically Ballroom reserves the Armory however, they cannot this year due to COVID testing and will have to use an outside venue.
- They want to reserve the Albany Elks Lodge and is large enough to hold the competition and will be able to successfully do so.
- The reasoning behind having an additional subsidy in addition to reserving Elk Lodge is to hire a scrutineer for the event.

Questions:

- How many people do you think will attend the competition?

- Around 100 people as was the attendance in 2019.
- Seeing that other competitions have been cancelled because of COVID concerns, what is the club doing to ensure that COVID policies are being followed?
  - They will require masks to be on at all times, proof of vaccinations for the members and also the teams would be socially distanced however, if the Union provides more guidelines Ballroom is willing to comply.
- Would RPI allow for this program to happen?
  - This is contingent on if RPI approves.

Questions -

- Is there a program that this money is going to?
  - It is being worked on.
- Brian Anderson 'G yields his time to Dr. Potts to talk more about the program.
  - The Union guidelines to approve programs according to COVID policies is constantly changing and it is not any different than any club sports events that require traveling and will be dealt accordingly.

No questions on merits.

**Third motion of the night, to move that the Rensselaer Union Executive Board approve the additional subsidy request by RPI Ballroom Dance of \$2325 for RPI Dancesport Competition from FY22 Club Contingencies, effective immediately. The allocation will go to Goal E, Program 1 and Goal E, Program 2, to cover rental of the Albany Elks Lodge and scrutineer costs for the RPI Dancesport competition.**

Motion passes 15-0-0.

### **Additional subsidy - *Dance Dance Revolution***

- Dance pads are essential for the club and most of them require repair or don't work which is why they are requesting additional subsidy.

Questions -

- Ibrahim Ali '25 asks how they are able to guarantee that they are able to purchase these pads given that they are sold out quickly?
  - There is none.

No questions on wording or language?

Questions on merits of the motion?

- If only two people can use the pads at a time, and given their large membership how valuable is it to purchase two pads?
  - It will significantly improve their club operations and they can practice more.
- How many pads do they have right now and how many are working?
  - They have 4-5 however most of them are not working and it will help them significantly to purchase new pads.
- Abby Golden '24 comments that the club are budgeted to purchase two soft pads and two hard pads, have they purchased them?

- Martha McElligott comments that they have not.
- How much is remaining in Club Contingencies?
  - It is included in the agenda
- Are they budgeted to purchase soft and hard pads already?
  - Yes however they require additional subsidy for better pads purchase and the vendors are not approved.

Riaz Rao motions to amend the amount to \$3350.00.

Ibrahim Ali '25 motions to postpone the motion. Passes by overwhelming majority.

**Fourth motion of the night, move that the Rensselaer Union Executive Board reallocate \$3,950.00 from FY22 Club Contingencies to Goal A, Program 1 of Dance Dance Revolutions's budget for FY22 for the purpose of purchasing two Stepmania X Stage hard dance pads.**

**This motion is postponed.**

### **Funding Reallocation - *Red Army***

- Since the games are not confirmed, this is a reallocation that happens depending on if the game happens and is a regular line item.

No questions on wording or language and merits.

**Fifth motion of the night, to move that the Rensselaer Union Executive Board reallocate \$1,200.00 from FY22 Red Army's Budget Goal A, Program 1 entitled "Hockey Line", to Red Army's FY22 Budget Goal C, Program 1 entitled "Bus Transportation", for the purpose of providing transportation to and from the MVP Arena for the Annual Mayor's Cup.**

**This motion passes 14-0-0.**

**Sixth motion of the night, to recognize Heather Almeida as member of the week for the week of November 21st, 2021 and to wish her a happy belated birthday.**

No questions on merits or language.

**Motion passes 15-0-0.**

**Seventh motion of the night, to recognize Abigail Golden as Member of the Week for the week of November 28th, 2021 and wish her a happy belated birthday.**

No questions on merits or language.

**Motion passes 15-1-0.**

## **Business**

### **Invitation to Speak**

Ibrahim Ali '25 questions whether we will be moving to remote learning and which branch of student government has been mentioning it?

According to Dr. Lawrence, it is not likely that we will be going into remote learning however, we are not sure who has been mentioning it.

## **Press & Visitor Q/A**

None

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 pm EST.**

*I hereby certify that the foregoing document serves as accurate meeting minutes for the general meeting of the Rensselaer Union Executive Board held on **December 2nd, 2021.***

Faizah Rabbye