

General Assembly Meeting
April 14th, 2023
Transfer of Power Meeting
- Jamrich 1315 -

I. Call To Order

a. Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM (EST).

II. Roll Call

a. Micah is present on Zoom.
b. Everyone else is present.

III. Public Comment

a. None.

IV. Approval of Consent Items

A. Minutes - 3/17/23

a. Minutes - 3/17/23 approved by acclamation.

V. Executive Reports

A. President -Zora

a. "I will still serve on the presidential learning network. We only have two meetings left. I am also starting a well-being ambassadorship that I was asked to complete so I will be doing that as well. I am still serving on the commencement committee. Commencement is May 6th. I think it starts at 10 or 10:30 am and it is open to everyone. Pancakes with the president will be on April 30th, I am not sure what time but I will make sure you all get the information. Jeff Korpi said he did want volunteers from ASNMU to be there. Lastly, thank you for a great year and all of your hard work. I urge you all to keep student advocacy at the forefront of minds going forward this next year. You are an advocate for the entire student body, not just your individual department."

B. Vice President- Gwen

a. "Caleb and I talked last week about campus safety efforts, and where we can go further. I am going to try to meet with Mike Bath to see if we can go forward from there. We've been talking to some student organizations to see what they have been wanting and needing. We had a meeting today to decide on commencement speakers. I am really excited to see what they do and I think it's going to be awesome. Thank you guys for a good year and thank you Zora for all that you have done."

C. Treasurer - Eli

- a. "We didn't have an SFC meeting last week. As it stands we have one budget pending and it's not very big. It's about \$1,500. I will be remaining treasurer as I am still going to be going to Northern next year. I have learned a lot this year and I am so happy to have been a part of this. Onto SFC, the account has \$13,533. And ASNMU account is at \$9,165 with the last deduction being the Grad Closet."

D. Chair of the Assembly - Kylie

- a. "This is my last meeting, I have been here for four years so this is really weird. We got out caps and gowns from the book store. They came in this morning and got those all set up on the racks. We only had to delay appointments for about eight people because we didn't have them in time for their appointments today. I am still trying to track down about six people who never filled out the form for their pick up time. As for finishing up the semester, even though today is my last day I will be finishing up the Cap & Gown program with Miya, Alana, and Kaylah. I am also auditing the SFC for the condominium tonight and I have two to three more meetings as far as commencement committees as well as parking and traffic. With today being my last day, I will definitely miss the good times and will still be on campus for those that need it."

VI. New Business

A. Appointments

1. SFC Member - Gwen Feamster

- a. Olivia moves to vote.
- b. Anna seconds.
- c. The appointment is approved unanimously.

B. Budget

1. Promo Merch Budget - Gwen Feamster

- a. Gwen: "okay so in our current account we have \$9,165. That will grow at the beginning of the year so when you see this price tag please do not freak out. Also reminder, we can approve things by line and do not have to be approved in full although I request the

entire budget in full. This is for our promo merch. We are running severely low. The most expensive one is going to be line two which are campfire style coffee mugs with the ASNMU logo. I know they are a little more expensive than other merch but I thought it'd be really cool to have them at table events and fall fest."

- b. Olivia moves to approve the budget in full.
- c. Janessa seconds.
- d. The budget is approved unanimously.

C. LRC Mural Proposal

1. Queers and Allies * *

- a. Anna moves to approve the mural.
- b. Olivia seconds.
- c. The mural is approved unanimously.

D. Members with Discussions

1. Elections Committee - Anna Tousley

- a. Anna: "Hello everyone! I have a little bit of information that I feel is important for everyone to know in an effort of transparency. Before I get into the nitty-gritty, I want to make three things very clear: I wrote this speech before the election results were in, I asked this to be put on the agenda before the election results were in, and Jim and I talked about this before the election results were in and we felt this was the best way to bring this up. So please do not think I am talking about this because I am a sore loser. As some of you may know VP and Presidential debates were recently held, in my debate my opponent not once but twice commented on my grade level as a way to put me down and make me seem lesser than those around me. This is not a target towards Micah, please be aware of that, that was his prerogative and while I think it was unnecessary, I am only mentioning this as a backstory. Kylie was the one who asked if I wanted the Director of Ex Aff position & encouraged me to apply for speaker of the assembly, so I find the next part very disappointing. Last week, I was informed that Kylie, a current member of e board and an elections committee member, was talking about

it publicly and agreed with Micah's comments. Her position on the elections committee should and does prevent her from talking about opinions about candidates. As some of you may know, I had an election complaint filed against me, During my elections complaint meeting (regarding me talking about people behind their back), she grilled me on being professional, being nice to others, and all that sort of stuff--it is not okay for her to be in the position to grill me when she has done the same thing to me behind my back. When I brought this up with Olivia, she said she talked to Kylie about "bias and professionalism" but made it seem like the only thing stemming from that conversation was just being talked to. As a result of my meeting, I sent an apology to that person. But I never received an apology or acknowledgment of wrongdoing from Kylie. Moreover, at the Gender Fair last Friday, I saw a person who was helping run the debates but was not introduced that night. When I saw her at the fair, I asked her who she was and that I didn't mean to come off as offensive, just that I didn't know who she was and she obviously knew who I was. It was Julia, another member of the elections committee; I learned to be Kylie's roommate. After this encounter, she was telling people, I don't know specifically who, that I was rude to her at the fair & that she thought asking her who she was, was rude. I believe this to be subjective, and considering her position on the committee, she should have kept those comments and opinions to herself. She brought this up to me in my elections complaint meeting, but that should have been the only appropriate time to discuss any perceived rudeness on my part (in my humble opinion, I was not being rude, it just caught her off guard.) Again, I got grilled by her for professionalism and being an example. Again, she knowingly spoke to me and reprimanded me while having done the same thing to me in the past week. I am accepting responsibility and accountability

for my mistake and I want them to have the same. While it is too late to file any formal elections complaint, I chose not to as it would've resulted in their removal, and while I may be a little petty, I am not that petty. As much as everyone loves unwarranted advice, I'll give some: rules, duties, and responsibilities are meant to be followed by everyone. I find it hypocritical and unfair to have certain members held accountable, but members of our current e board and elections committee face no sort of accountability. That is not good, exemplary leadership and it shouldn't be portrayed as such. So as you walk through life, I want to remind everyone that what comes around goes around and that you are not better than someone else because of your title. You are not better than someone else because you are on one side of the table and they are on the other. This is why people have such issues with politics and politicians and why the turnover rate in ASNMU is so high. If you expect people to want to continue in this organization, I highly recommend not speaking down on others in this fashion. What has happened, happened. But I am mentioning this for transparency and as a failure on the elections committee's part. Your grade level, or any factor you otherwise cannot control, does not determine your abilities, status, or character, and it is not written anywhere in our guiding documents that grade level is such a factor. The elections committee should've been aware of that. As new members are in the room, I want to encourage all of you to be better than this in the next election cycle and year. It is not okay for elections committee members to speak any opinions, good or bad, about candidates as it can sway votes and I want to encourage all of you that if you see something or know something, say something. As you work to form the next elections committee, seek to find members who are honest and will not treat members in this same fashion. Thank you."

b. Kylie: "I would like to apologize that I did

not reach out to you and did not feel it was necessary. It was not something that was told to me. However, I really wish you brought it to me, before bringing it to the elections committee and to GA, because that did not happen. The only two people I told were my roommate and a former elections committee member. As well as for making comments on the debate, I encouraged people to watch the debate and to get their information and learn about their candidates, which is in direct alignment with my job and the elections committee. I do wish you would have spoken to me because this is the first time you have said anything to me and I respectfully disagree with it."

- c. Zora: "I will say the drama with this election cycle was unnecessary and unprofessional, and I think that everyone in this assembly should be better than that drama. We are not here to start drama or engage with it, we are here to advocate for students and that's what we should be doing and if we can't do that and work together to achieve that then our whole organization falls apart and then there'd be no shared governments with students. It was really disappointing to me to hear about the drama that was going on, because we are held to such a high standard, not just by other students but also with the faculty and administration. If we can't act like professionals then we aren't taken seriously and there's no point in meeting with anybody."
- d. Anna: "I was told about that comment from someone else, and it is possible it was taken out of context, but I do know where the comments were made and what context those comments were made. I brought it up with the assembly as advised by Jim."
- e. Kylie: "I have no issue bridging it to the assembly, I do wish you would've brought it to me and discussed things with me."
- f. Gwen: "I do think it is also fair for me to say something in addition. It's quick to run and defend ourselves. I'm sorry, I'm sorry

that happened. I saw it and it made me angry. I am sorry this assembly in a sense failed you. That's not me blaming anybody or saying someone is right or wrong, but at the end of the day that is how that made you feel then that's how it made you feel. That happened, and I felt it too, and I am still feeling it and it sucks and I am really sorry. Moving forward, I think so much on communication and no more behind closed doors talks. You're allowed to talk to who you want but things that happened behind closed doors do not come out that way that they were said. Things get muddled, things get mixed. We ask the administration to be transparent all the time, we ask for honesty, and I don't think that it's fair we aren't being held to the same standards. It's not fair that people are hearing muddlings from everybody behind everyone's back and going forward, personally I am not going to stand for it. Personally, I appreciate you, Anna."

VII. Public Comment

- a. None.

VIII. Good Of the Order

- a. Olivia: "Thank you all for my last year. I will miss you all dearly."
- b. Anna: "Condominium six to nine pm in the ballrooms. Be there or be square."
- c. Zora: "Thank you Kylie and Olivia for a great couple of years on the assembly together. Thank you to everyone else in the assembly, and wish you all the best."
- d. Micah: "Bobby Seale is the co-founder of Black Panther, and he is coming to NMU on April 20th, 2023 in Jamrich 1100 which is the big room. DIVEST at NMU IS having a climate march for climate action on Thursday, April 20th at 12:30 PM and is meeting at the Wildcat statue to CHODAS. Celebration for student scholarship, which is research-based or arts, will also be on the 20th."

IX. Dissolution of 2022-2023

- a. Olivia moves to approve the dissolution of the 2022-2023 GA Assembly.
- b. Janessa seconds.
- c. Dissolution is approved unanimously.

ASNMU General Assembly *Transfer of Power*

I. Call to Order

a. Meeting is called to order at 3:01 PM EST.)

II. Roll Call

- a. Darcy is absent and excused.
- b. Micah is on Zoom.

III. Public Comment

a. None.

IV. Approval of Consent Items

a. None.

V. Executive Reports

A. President- Gwen

- a. "My name is Gwen, I will be a senior. Thank you all for being here and choosing to advocate for students. This year is going to be a learning curve, but I also have some really good ideas and look forward to hearing your ideas as well. If you need anything please let me know, I am here to empower you and help you do what you wanna do. I run on the platform of accountability. If you see something that's not right, tell me I'll fix it, or we will fix it together. I will send you all of the guiding documents, constitutional by-laws, etc. You do not need to memorize them but it's a good way to know what is legal and what's not legal. I am going to be planning a fall retreat so if there is anything you want to see please let me know. I think it's a great way to get to know each other. We can work as a team, because that is what we are. Fall fest information will be coming out so stay tuned for that. I will also be sending out a google form just to get to know you a little bit more. SFC secretary; the application is on handshake so if you know of any friends looking for on campus jobs please let them know. Janessa had her event this week, and has amazing information. I am really excited to see where it goes in the future."

B. Vice President - Micah

- a. "I am very humbled and honored to be ASNMU's vice president. This accomplishment is much greater than me but for individuals who look like me as I

am the first African American vice president of ASNMU. Individuals can see a face and know that a seat at the table is waiting for them. I am excited to provide the needed support, advocacy, and leadership to the students of NMU. Gwen and I have talked about significant change and a new path for students at NMU. Most importantly, ASNMU's direction as a whole. Gwen and I have had one meeting so far to ensure all of our goals are being met. One I want to dive into is diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, ensuring it's all-inclusive for all. This includes people of disabilities. We are looking at starting a diversity round table within all student organizations and administration. This is to give representation to organizations. We are looking at doing that twice this semester. We are looking at doing some showcases in regard to diversity as well as starting a diversity chair to dive deeper into diverse and equity tactics. As we hope to have a diverse leader. I really want to dive deep into chair members who have been elected today and really want to get to know what you want to see. There are a lot of things you can do, just the direction we need with the new individuals that we have on our assembly. Also, with regard to sustainability. I am an ambassador, which holds me accountable to do some things with sustainable tactics in my community, on my campus, as well as me individually. There is a lot of change and a need for change on campus regarding sustainability tactics and environmental change. Ensuring we are supporting other student organizations.`

VI. New Business

A. Internal Appointments

1. Treasurer - Eli White

- a. Miya moves to vote.
- b. Janessa seconds.
- c. Eli, appointed for treasurer, passes unanimously.

B. Standing Appointments

1. Chair of the Assembly

- a. Miya appoints Janessa.
- b. Janessa accepts.
- c. Janessa, appointed Chair of the Assembly,

passes unanimously.

2. Director of Public Relations

- a. Janessa appoints herself.
- b. Miya seconds.
- c. Janessa, appointed as Director of Public Relations, passes unanimously.

3. Chair of Student Affairs

- a. Miya appoints herself.
- b. Janessa seconds.
- c. Miya, appointed as Chair of Student Affairs, passes unanimously.

4. Chair of Academic Affairs

- a. Janessa nominates Brianna.
- b. Brianna approves.
- c. Miya seconds.
- d. Brianna, appointed for Chair of Academic Affairs, passes unanimously.

5. Director of External Affairs

- a. Brianna nominates Alec.
- b. Alec approves.
- c. Janessa seconds.
- d. Alec, appointed as Director of External Affairs, passes unanimously.

C. Budgets

1. ASNMU Business Cards - Gwen Feamster

- a. Gwen: "This budget is for new business cards. We have a new chair of assembly, and Micah and I are in need of new business cards. By placing the order now, we will have them for summer opportunities like tabling and other things. They'd also be ready to go by fall. Prices were calculated based on the business cards that were ordered two weeks ago. The total will be \$153.93"
- b. Miya moves to approve the budget in full.
- c. Janessa seconds.
- d. The budget is approved in full unanimously.

VII. Public Comment

- a. None.

VIII. Good Of the Order

- a. Gwen: "ASNMU, although can be a lot of work and daunting, is also supposed to be fun. Please enjoy it. Not to be dramatic but it is life-changing and you get to meet many people. The trustees will get to know you, and you will get to know the

president. Please note, going forward if something is bothering you please let us know. We will work with it, and fix it whether it is something serious like what we previously heard or if we want to do digital voting, let's do it. ASNMU works for the students so please always represent the students but also it works for you guys. At the end of the day, it's a really great organization, but it's not that serious, we are college students. Please take your role seriously but make sure you have fun."

- b. Micah: "We really want to bring back ASNMU to the students and be fully transparent. The biggest thing for next summer or semester is to make it a full assembly and get individuals on the assembly. There are a lot of things and opportunities you can do but we are also here to support you and be supported by you as well as be held accountable. We are all in this together."
- c. Alec: "I look forward to it. A great next year and the remainder of this year."

IX. Adjournment

- a. Meeting is adjourned at 3:28 PM EST.