
Present: Nick DeSumma, Nick Molkoski, Stephanie Bellotto, Matt DeSumma, Kevin Jang, Shannon Kelly, Hubert Lee, Genelle Martin, Ryan Price, Tyler VanHerzele, Colin Aitchison
Regrets: Faraz Iftekharruddin, Tarique Plummer, Jonathan Ricci

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 8:43pm on Sunday, July 17th, 2016 as a conference call for the Board of Directors of the Wilfrid Laurier Student's Union.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Motion 1 (M. DeSumma/ Price): **Motion to adopt the agenda as presented.**

Vote: 8-0-0

Result: Motion Passes Unanimously

3. **Regrets**

Director Iftekharruddin could not be here as it is 4:44 am in Saudi Arabia.

Director Plummer has work related issues to attend to.

Director Ricci couldn't make it.

4. **Conflicts of Interest**

5. **Approval of \$10k+ Purchase**

Motion 2 (Bellotto/ Martin): **Motion to approve the purchase of the Student's Union websites.**

Vote: 8-0-0

Result: Motion Passes Unanimously

President VanHerzele

Thank you all for getting together on this Sunday evening, I know it isn't the most convenient for everyone but I really do appreciate it. I just want to talk about one item and that came down to funding. A week after the board meeting, I checked to see if there were any other upcoming expenditures. Turns out there was and one was going to be in our website creation. During the budget approval you all saw a \$10k item within VP Wildish's budget for the updating of the hiring website. In the Marketing budget there was \$3600.00, under the budget for hosting and support. So there has just been an alteration to those budgets. The website creation in Megan's budget was going to be used for the Student's Union website as a whole. So with that in mind we took two website designers. One said he would do both websites for \$14,000. That includes hosting services so that is around \$7,000 savings for the Student's Union. It was a very logical move to do this, but in my mind with the alteration of \$10,000 line items that create one new item over \$10,000, I need to get approval from you all to move forward and start paying the first of two invoices. The first one \$7,000 which I have in front of me and the second one will be paid upon the launch of both sites.

Director DeSumma

Can you please repeat the numbers because it cut out when you were talking so I couldn't hear it.

President VanHerzele

The approval of \$10,000 was approved by VP Wildish's budget for the hiring website, \$200 was approved under Megan strategic budget for hosting and support, and \$6000 was for the website renovations. The \$6000 is going to go towards the site portion that we can save and get that done here.

Chair DeSumma

So to clarify it was approved originally in the budget through different members. VP Wildish's budget and the marketing budget; the money was there just in different budgets and different lines of the budget. From my understanding they are merging it into one purchase.

President VanHerzele

Yes, the developer Chris Baxter has come back to us with hosting services for a flat rate of \$14,000, As opposed to the \$19,500.

Director Bellotto

It is in Canadian dollars right?

President VanHerzele

Yes it is, it is coming from Halifax.

Director Kelly

I have a statement: the websites really need updating so just for any other directors in the room I think that this is really needed, so to keep that in mind.

Director Lee

I know that the school is updating and launching their own business kind of website, does this have any direct correlation?

President VanHerzele

It will just be easier for students coming in, the goal is to have it ready for the class arriving in September. No direct correlation.

Director Lee

What will the updates include?

President VanHerzele

The specifics of it, from my understanding we are updating the hiring website and taking a look at a new format that will of course be up to the producer of the website Christ Baxter in Halifax.

Director Lee

Are you communicating with the school, that you send updates?

President VanHerzele

We will be working with the university in regards to how we are going to communicate the student's union. The biggest thing is going to be a hyperlink to our website. So we have actually stated that when they ask for links to specific things we are going to say no sorry, could you just instead direct them to our site so they get on our page to look for the information.

Vice Chair Molkoski

Just a comment: I think that it is good that you are shopping around and creating this website for the student's union.

Director Price

I just want to confirm did you say that it is two websites the hiring website and one other?

President VanHerzele

Yes, so it is the hiring website and the Student's Union website.

Director DeSumma

For clarification, did you say anything about about when it will be launched or expected to be launched?

President VanHerzele

The plan is to launch it for September so we can get it up for the incoming class. For the Student's Union website is where this conversation started, the hiring website is still a bit further off due to our connection. He is going to try and do both at one time. VP Wildish is just beginning conversations with him.

Director Lee

I just want to clarify, how are they going to be different but connect at the same time?

President VanHerzele

The specifics are going to be different when it comes to their visuals, the layout of the website is under VP Wildish's and Chris's portfolios. They are going to create a better user interface that will allow students easier access to our services so just some clearer links. The university had a huge problem with links and getting it to where you want it to be. The Student's Union website can sort of be that harsh navigation challenge for some people as well. We want to make it clearer and simple. I look forward to coming back to you a little bit more with updates and hopefully I can give you some visuals. I am not sure when that will come in.

Director Lee

Have you considered local companies here?

President VanHerzele

I'm sure they have. They have been shopping around and this seems to be the best deal. The price of \$14,000 includes hosting and services which I don't think we were going to find elsewhere.

Director Martin

I just wanted to know if the \$14,000 includes maintenance/upkeep and adding things as the year goes on?

President VanHerzele

Yes it includes full hosting privileges which is fantastic.

Director Martin

Following up to ensure things are up to date moving forward that can happen?

President VanHerzele

We can update the website from our end, it doesn't have to go to the east coast to be updated. They just create and launch the website and we have full control over content and how it is used. It is just going to be a \$14,000 bill that going to this certain individual who will do all the work behind it.

Director Bellotto

The money is going to updating links and stuff link, is that just specifically for easier access.

President VanHerzele

It is going towards specifically creating a new user interface for the Student's Union website and hopefully a new interface for the hiring website to make that a bit easier for students to understand.

Director Lee

Will this impact our previous relationship with the University?

President VanHerzele

It is all in Megan's portfolio I know she has. There wouldn't necessarily be any change we would just have to let them know what we are doing but I can connect with her and if you prefer and I can report in August.

6. New Business and Announcements

President VanHerzele

This came to me on Friday, I have some good news that we are going to be saving a little when it comes to our debt. "The interest rate was reduced by 3.3% this gives us five months off the total debt owed. Now the debt will expire in June 2026 instead of November 2026. From negotiation with WLU and the Student's Union we have further reduced the interest to 3.22% to expire as of April

2026. Monthly payment remains the same, \$600.” We are shaving off just about half. Now we are down to 19 years of debt.

Chair DeSumma

Waterloo Student Life Levy Committee is meeting tomorrow. Super excited for that and to see the applications that were submitted. I would like a formal on the record apology to Board Secretary Brown for the conference call system and how difficult it is with all the cut outs and stuff. This week I apologize to every director and President VanHerzele I guarantee I probably will be emailing or messaging you to clarify what you said encase it didn't show up on the recording. I'm sure it will all be fine and accurate for the next meeting.

President VanHerzele

I just want to thank you all, I know this is a light meeting but I appreciate it.

7. Adjournment

Motion 3 (Molkoski/ Kelly): **Motion to adjourn this emergency meeting.**

Vote: 8-0-0

Result: Motion Passes Unanimously