KALAMAZOO COLLEGE STUDENT COMMISSION
COMMISSION ASSEMBLY AGENDA
Monday, September 29th, 2014 – 9:00 PM – HICKS 111 A/B

(i) Call to Order (Cameron Goodall)
(ii) Roll Call (Emily Sklar)

All present, expect Jose running late.
(iii) Adoption of Agenda
motion to adopt agenda by Melissa, second by Jasmine
(iv) Approval of Minutes
motion to approve minutes by Amanda, second by Sam Weaver
(v) Public Comment

Graham: I’m graham I write for the index, just know that you are all on record. Madison Lennox is here and she is my associate. Say hi.

Jose arrives

Kourtney: I’m here for BSO, Caribbean society and BGR, it is a very important trip that will help us deal with racial issues on campus, if you have questions please ask me.

(vi) Executive Reports
(i) President (Cameron Goodall)
   (i) Swear In

*Cam swears in first year commissioners*
(ii) Retreat

Cam: I plan to have dinner… we plan to have dinner 5:30, friday in the banquet hall downstairs, we’ll be leaving here around 7 there will be more information about the retreat you will need personal items, clothes, toothbrushes and pillows. We will plan on going to sunday morning, but there will be time to do homework. This will be a time in which we can all get on board.
Also I sent out an e-mail about diet restrictions, no one said anything, any vegetarians….

(iii) Electronics

Cam: This has been something that has been going on and pointed out before. The idea of having an agenda printed is for everyone to be looking at for there and not on their computer. Sometimes there are issues. The idea is kind of to have everyone paying attention. How do people feel about that…. its just a general idea.
Also I sent a email about trustee meetings anyone interested.

Emily: are they limited?

Cam: yes, to one commissioner. Please re read that e-mail and check I still need people. I want to finalize these this weekend.

(ii) Vice President (Rian Brown)

Rian: No report. Thanks for those who helped out with elections this week, I was really busy.

(iii) Secretary of Finance (Amanda Johnson)
   (i) Limelights $63 (approved)

Amanda: For binders, it was brought to my attention later today that you can get binders from the rep room for free.

Skylar: point of clarification, is it true that it was a reimbursement?

Amanda: No.

(ii) KOC $10,000 (recommend to deny)

Amanda: If I could have two people speak to why they denied

Brandon: can you explain how budgets work here?

Cam: Don’t feel as if this budget is a fully normal situation, abstaining is an option for things, but I don’t
really recommend abstaining.

Amanda: Basically we have 114,000 that we allocate to stuorgs, you have to be a registered stuorg with OSI, you need to submit a request within a week, if it is less than 1,000 then the FPC can approve or deny the amount. As which happened in the limelights budget. If it is over 1% it is a recommendation. Our bylaws say it should be used to build community on campus and the broader kalamazoo community.

Mel: I would at least consider glossing over the bylaws

Cam: They will get there soon.

Amanda: The new budget request form will go out next week through the portal.

Andrew: They can get binders?

Andrew moves to overturn limelights budget request, second by Cody

Alex: Performers tend to have a issue with uniformity.

Amanda: Do they use the binders in concert?

Cam: no

Andrew: if there are binders somewhere else they should do that.

Cam: it was brought up because premium orange did that.

Mel: We could deny it now and they could come back and say that they were unable to find binders. If they exhaust this option, then they can come back

Jose: There are binders in the rep room.

Amanda: allocation letters have not been sent out

Vote:

2 opposed Sam F. and Rachel, rest in favor, motion passes

KOC-

Amanda: Two FPC members, briefly give a start to this discussion. I believe KOC would like to represent for a short period

Will: We make our decisions based on the information given to us and the way that the information was given to us, that didn’t allow us to make a decision, but there was no description. As a student organization, they should tell us how the money is spent. It is important to know how the money to be spent. I know that they’re going to present to us today, but I think that these meetings get emotional.

Alex: I think there was a discrepancy in why we got a budget request for 10000 instead of 5,000 from us and from OSI

Andrew: This is different because we wouldn’t consider this budget for other student orgs. For some reason we have done this in the past. Why have we even done this in the past, we need to evaluate our thoughts.

Amanda: KOC is here to make a presentation

Emiy Kowey, Tommy Jackson, Tyler Kesterson, Will Bartz, Kira Sandiford are present representing the KOC

Tommy: couple of clarifying points, and apologies, I’m sorry we didn’t give you more information, for us it has been kind of a formality, and I’m sorry about that. We also made a mistake with the number, it should be 5,000 from student commission and 5,000 from the student activities fee

Will: The mission is to provide to provide all to k students non competitive and supportive environment regardless of their ability while at the same time complementing general goals

Tommy: qualifying… to provide outdoor programing, regardless of experience level and economic background, getting off campus

Kira: overview of last year including al sabo, the arb, sleeping bear dunes, luddington state park, timber
ridge, grand ledge, nubs nobb, paddle boarding and ice climbing as well.

Tyler: last year we ran 26 trips with 163 participants, our numbers have been increasing every year. Tommy: These numbers represent the different number of students that go on the trips. To put it in perspective, this is approximately 10% of the student body and about 30% of those students go on multiple trips.

Kowey: last year we had a large freshman group, we did a ZAD and a did a beyond the hive event to the timber ridge ski hill, taking students skiing, all inclusive, for only $15. We’ve had a lot of requests for more of this

Will: We’re considering making this event bi-weekly

Kira: The events have evolved as well, we’re continuing to experiment with running trips to involve as many people as possible.

Will: the KOPs (Kalamazoo Outdoor Programs) is a new thing on campus, it is a lot less economically affordable for the students, so we helped subsidize these trips to make them more accessible. We’re hoping to expand our relationship with KOPs and offering WFR and other training to K students to reach beyond LandSea.

Presented a chart of monthly spending, we picked up in January, we went to the MWOLC and in March we ran a lot of really great small, affordable trips.

Kira: Historically, winter has been our biggest quarter. this is a great opportunity because it is so terrible here in the winter and harder to get off campus.

Will: Part of the promise the commission, we bought gear to make ourselves more sustainable: additions to our tents so that we can use them in four seasons, rain jackets, so that trips can be accessible to more students, stoves, we want independence from KOPS, this year we have access to a fleet of canoes that will increase our ability to get out, they were purchased by the KOPs.

Tommy: 5,000 from SAF, 5 from stucomm, our club advisor has ultimate control making us unique from other stuorgs, Jory serves this role, he serves as the only person on campus that can determine whether or not these trips are safe and can evaluate the risk. This is really important for us.

Skylar: FYI: we’re over on time.

Tommy: Andrew made the point why would you break stucomm’s normal request, sorry we didn’t add it, we run trips just about every week, 3rd and 10th weekend are the only weekends this quarter that we don’t plan on running trips, because we’re engaging in so many things, we have had a lot of trouble planning a trip, got approval, we would get approval, the weather would change, and then we’d have to change the date and restart the budget process. In that same year we hit the stucomm’s maximum of 10,600, now we run more trips, but we use less of the stucomm’s budget. Allowing resources to be used for other groups.

Brandon: are they all inclusive

Tommy: depends on the trip, some trips have no cost attached, overnight trips we try to keep as an absolute maximum of 15$. Arguably less than what you would spend on on food for that weekend.

Will: I just want to point out that they involved 10% of the student body and this money is going to be less than 5% of the money. I’m starting to think this is a good idea.

Rian: how did you run the trips that you already had this year

Tommy and Kira: our agency fund that had grown from fundraising.

Justin: Why can’t you give the same requests that you give to your advisor. I don’t think this org should have special treatment.

Sklar: Jory is the only one that is qualified on campus to make decisions about safety concerns in
the budget

Amanda: the same goes for contracts that they have to go to OSI first.
Ertle: That still brings into the element of weather.

Amanda: Another point I want to raise is the subsidization of KOPs trip.
Alex: That sounds confusing to me. How does that work. How is that different from cosponsoring with OSI.

Mel: I feel like the pushback is the lack of line item detail. Every commission is new, and every year, it needs to be reconsidered and the case as to why it happens needs to be made every year.

Brandon: I still feel a little fuzzy

Sam: One of my concerns with turning this down, is that are we going to have to approve every single budget request, it is clear that they’ve done this in the past and it hasn’t worked.

Emily: Money to the club goes to the gear to create more affordable trips.

Motion to approve by Emily, Second by Werder.
Will motions to amend previous motion to $2000
Two abstentions, motion fails

Amanda: Either we give them the 5000 now, or do it one by one. But it doesn’t need to be black and white. We can renew this quarterly.

Cribbs: Given the lack of detail, we could do what they do based on what they do in the past, this first quarter didn’t require a lot of money

Rachel: If we do it quarterly, even though events in the fall are cheaper in nature it doesn’t allow them growth.

Mel: We’re talking about special consideration here and we give special consideration because of safety. I think they need a special autonomy because of safety.

Cody: I agree, I think this group needs more autonomy, as far as costs, they have the most elastic budget simply because they need more money, they don’t know how many people they will have. It seems as they have been very economical and buying their own equipment. 5000 is not only a realistic sum, but do we want to micromanage a group that has a good track record. Jory is efficient and I trust that he cares about Kalamazoo College.

Mele: First of all, I want to be careful about the way in which they conduct their budget and comparison to other orgs, there are other groups on this campus that work very hard, lets not put them on a pedestal. I’m not saying that they didn’t use their money properly, but because we require every other org to come up with a detailed budget. Other student of color orgs know that we do the same kind of events every single year. Mel, they assumed that they had this budget and I don’t like that stucomm is being associated with giving this org a different request from other budgets.

Rian: Considering past commissions, from my interpretation, the commission got lazy, which is the job of the FPC and stucomm, the fact that we’re giving up that power to a staff member. As far as safety I just had to amend my budget that to deal with safety because we didn’t know that they would be raiding churches.

Amanda moves to previous question.

All in favor of moving to previous question
5000 for KOC to be matched by OSI
Cody, Elyse, Andrew, Rachel, Emily, Mel, Sam, Skyler, Alex, Andrew, Jose 11 in favor
Opposed Skylar, Will, Jasmine, Mele, Justin, Georgie, Brandon, Chris, Amanda, Rian, 11*
tie vote to Cam: Because of the points of consistency because there is a difference nature and just
because something is voted on tonight as a no doesn’t mean its a no forever, it is just a no tonight, if things change and more information can be brought to the table, i think there is more to be considered,
Cam Votes no, motion fails
*amendment to the minutes, Sam Weaver voted opposed to the previous motion, totaling the votes to 11 in favor, 12 opposed, motion fails.

(iii) BSO/Black Girls Rock/ Carribean Society $1955.97 (Recommend to approve)
Amanda:You will notice than the amount that FPC recommended is more than requested to add things like a hotel, they will split it up, BGR is a new org and can only have 500$.
Kaylor: I voted no, because I feel we voted on a similar request for envorg and amnesty to go to NYC, I thought this was similar, and I don’t feel comfortable approving this because I don’t feel that it will being a whole lot back to campus
Alex: I have kind of adopted this idea that we spend to much money off campus 43% of our budget is spent on campus, and I think that simply because we have been willing in the past do that, we should not fund off campus
Justin: Calling it an off campus endeavor is very belittling to students of color, this aligns more to our mission. I think this will definitely bring an impact on campus, because its parallel. a lot of the things that happened in ferguson parallel things that are occurring on campus, the marginalization of black people at this school, going to ferguson is a step towards fighting for our word in the world
Kourtney: This event is fighting for who I am as an individual. There are people being killed because they look like me, that hurts my feelings, I can’t focus on this campus because everywhere I go because of the way I look, if I can’t change that in this group how can I function off campus, its going to effect this campus because I've been doing something about the way that i’ve been treated.
Rian: I’m not speaking for either side, for someone who voted no on the people's climate march and as someone who hasn’t decided if I am going to vote. The last thing we heard from envorg was about not buying a water bottles for DOGL. I think it is a big difference from advocating to get rid of water bottles to going to a radical political debate.
Will: What is the goal of going there?
Kourtney: the goal is to show that we are in solidarity of the members in ferguson, and the only way to change is to be in solidarity, to show that the majority wants it.
Will: what are the events you ran as an organization on campus with the same goal
Kourtney: the BSO has been a part of the movement to create center for intercultural groups on campus and the Frelon event as well, planning multiple events and multiple movements. To show that we are different and we deserve to be treated as equals.
Rian: Another purpose is to take us to a higher level.
Brandon: I wasn’t here for the climate change thing, but I think that this is integral to what the club stands for. I want to them to bring back this mentality back and incorporate with other POCs. I want them to continue this
Rian: I think as we were involved in protests in the spring. I don’t think this is going anywhere. I think the issues are heating up on campus.
Andrew: Personally I don’t think its fair to judge one stuorg’s mission over another. I don’t think we can decide if one is less important. How is ferguson going to change campus
Sam Foran: I disagree with Alex on what our money is going to. I think that these opportunities should be provided to students. How many students are going?
Rian: Capacity of 3 vans, sign up is still open.
Rachel: From experiences going to an off campus event the skills that you learn about organizing are useful to forward every cause. I fully support providing events like this on campus.  
*motion to approve by Emily, Second Sam Weaver*

Mel: in the meeting FPC notes the difference between why the comparison between this and peoples climate march are not apples to apples
Amanda: With this request I challenge you guys to be sure that we keep a similar structure to how we debated the KOC budget.
I think a lot of people are trying to make these issues of race situation, they’re all connected, going to ferguson is directly connected to what is happening on campus.
Sam Foran: We vote a lot in ways that follow our political beliefs, what if there was a stuorg that has other political beliefs?
Mel: We should really think about power and how we would do that, and a lot of the power dynamics with this past budget request, its degrading to think that these are students going to ferguson and asking questions of how we bring this back to campus, it goes back to campus and it goes back to last year when I was demonized by the comments that I made. Bringing themselves back to campus is a statement within itself. I just want to challenge you all to think about that.
Justin: To respond to Sam, if you oppose to our beliefs thats called the KKK.
Cam: I want you all to recognize the good intentions in people and realize that that comment may have not been related to this budget.
Jasmine: The peoples climate march had other funding. as a student government we would support other organizations its just that one has funding and would not allow others to go. Discrimination is real, people in this room are telling you that it is real.
Sam Foran: Bylaws say that external funding get a lower priority
Amanda: Be careful with that comparison.
Brandon: I want to clarify that the climate change thing was a march and this a protest, so the school is providing a march and not a protest, that doesn't sound fair
Alex: to clarify, there is a specific fund that cannot be used for protest and the climate march did not utilize this fund.
Amanda: A lot of the funding cannot be confirmed right now, there are other things going on campus. The group has contacted OSI and have not gotten a response.
Mel: As someone who comes from a different marginalized identity, people putting themselves into a situation that is vulnerable is courageous. I think we should fund this.
Amanda: Budget breakdown is as follows 300 BGR, 300 Caribbean Society, remainder from BSO.
Chris: Given that we haven’t heard back from OSI, would there be funding kickback to us
Cam: Yes
Werder: I just want to say where I was yesterday and where I was today… I have been convinced on how this is different.
*Vote to approve 1955.95 All in favor, two abstentions Justin, Rian, motion passes.*

Amanda: Please take a look at the power point. I will no longer see be sending out PDFs The powerpoint has been sent out.
I call for a point of personal privilege
Motion by Sam to let Amanda leave, second by Alex
all in favor, motion passes.

Cam: Thank you for being engaged and intense for that hour.

(iv) Secretary of Student Affairs (Mele Makalo)
(v) Secretary of Communications (Skylar Young)

(vii) Committee Reports
(i) Athletic Committee (Andrew Kaylor)

Kaylor: Personally thank everyone who made it to XC, it was cool to see. Volleyball game tomorrow, I’ll send out an e-mail. Hopefully student section shirts for homecoming

(ii) Business Committee (Alex Werder)
(iii) Committee on Student Organizations
(iv) Communications Committee (Skylar Young)
(v) Constitutional Integrity Committee (Sam Foran)
(vi) Educational Policies Committee (Melissa Erikson)

Mel: We talked about the critical ethnic studies, I cant elaborate, but we talked bout it. Doing a survey with EPC we need to finalize the information now and it will go live tomorrow.
*deliberations on language of survey*

(vii) Elections Committee (Rian Brown)
(viii) Experiential Education Committee (Jasmine Kyon)

Jasmine: The reason why we don’t have winter internship grants is that the applications are at the same time as that of financial aid. Grants in the winter could mess up student’s ability to get financial aid or the aid of other students.

-Israel, Kenya and Senegal programs have been cancelled for at least a year.
-New advisor for the international students

(ix) Financial Policies Committee (Amanda Johnson)
(x) Information Services Committee
(xi) Multiculturalism and Diversity Committee

Sam Weaver: Please respond to the email, it says fill it out for the whole quarter, but please fill it out for at least the next week

(xii) President’s Community Council (Skylar Young)
(xiii) Safety and Security Advisory Committee (Andrew Ertle)

Ertle: Intersection meeting and drop in hours coming up.

(xiv) Student Life Advisory Council (Mele Makalo)
(xv) Student Dining Committee
(xvi) Student Health Advisory Committee

(viii) Unfinished Business
(ix)

(i) Academy Intersection Meeting Tuesday, October 1st

(x) New Business

Mel: I’ll have a meeting with Dean Westfall to visit past resolutions

(xi) Public Comment

Graham: For Sam Foran: do student commission meeting have an expressed time limits?

Sam: No.

Graham: A large debate in the budget was about the lack of information, but how could the commission
be expected to evaluate individual budget requests when you can't sit through a presentation.

**Will:** We gave them 6 extra minutes

**Cam:** Each person in the public is allowed 3 minutes. They did kind of say everything that they wanted to stay.

**Mel:** The bylaws cut them off from debate

Graham: the KOC members said that the comments made by commissioner were hushing them in a hostile nature, the KOC noted that many of the points made during the debate and they could have clarified these points. Given your stated mission, do you think what happens aligns with the mission.

**Brandon:** I think that because they didn't feel the need to fill out a detailed report, we shouldn't feel the need to have a detailed conversation

**Cam:** The idea is to have a presentation done and answered in the presentation, there may have been an issue on the active listening. Yes is a forever yes and a no is not a forever no. The idea was not to shut down KOC forever. The idea is not to turn them away or create an uncomfortable space. The idea is not to represent those students, there are different ways that this conversation could have been run.

**Werder:** No body at this table speaks for the commission, we speak as one voice as 25 and our collective voice in a a vote.

Graham: Skylar and Mele indicated to KOC in the hallway that it's their intention to provide time in the future to provide clarification after the debate. Is this something that you would consider.

**Cam:** that is something to be decided by the FPC. The comeback would help with clarification, but the idea is to avoid cyclical conversations. Not meant to be a back and forth.

(xii) **Good of the Order**

**Werder:** Agenda beforehand?

**Cam:** hopefully, we should be prepping ahead of time.

(xiii) **Adjournment**

*motion by Mel, second by Sam Weaver*

*all in favor, motion passes*