



The Legal & Literary Society of Osgoode Hall Law School

Minutes

13th of November 2024

12:35-1:36PM EST

Zoom & In Person

Present: Julie Choi, Kelly Bilenkis, Jamie Lynn Galley, Tania Kengatharan, Brandon Connor, Shivaansh Khanna, Hamza Shahzad, Reagan Cockburn, Karthikeya Gautam, Marwah Asrar, and Jasmine Bates.

Absent: Joyce Gerges, Yuval Shilon, Karel Peters and Ava Taborda.

Call to Order (12:35pm)

Julie motioned to start the meeting, and Kelly seconded

President's Items

1. Language of Ad Hoc Committee Motion (passed unanimously by the Executive on October 23rd, 2024).

Each ratified club may designate one (1) representative to participate in the Committee's discussions. The Committee may meet up to four (4) times, or until a consensus, defined as a 2/3 majority, is reached on its comments and recommendations, which will then be submitted to the Executive.

The Executive shall vote on the submitted recommendations, if any, requiring a 2/3 majority to either adopt or reject them within fourteen (14) days of receipt.

The official update is being held until Joyce and Ava can also attend the meeting so everyone can hear it.

Brandon added that the meeting was largely just for us to be transparent about what our procedures were and how we followed them.

Julie doesn't think an L&L member should chair this committee to ensure that it is free from bias from the L&L executive, since they are making recommendations to present to our executive. So for that reason, she thinks someone outside of our executive should chair the committee.

She suggested we could ask the CEO to chair the committee, or instruct the committee to vote amongst themselves to elect a chair.

After some discussion between the executive and a vote, we decided to allow the committee to elect their own chair to recuse ourselves of any influence.

MOTION THAT: The Legal and Literary Society ("L&L") will establish an Ad Hoc Committee ("Committee") comprising representatives from ratified clubs to provide the Executive with comments and recommendations regarding L&L's By-Law XX: Procedures Regarding E-Communication and L&L Facebook Groups.

CARRIED (from last meeting's vote, only the language was changed).

2. Motion RE: L&L Newsletter Statement

Purpose of this statement is a safeguard for us.

Julie wanted it to go at the bottom of the newsletter, Brandon suggested it go at the top.

We're going to workshop a few different formats for where the statement will go in the newsletter and then vote on a final spot (top or bottom) in our group chat.

MOTION THAT: The Legal and Literary Society add the following statement at the bottom of all newsletter emails sent on behalf of the Society: "The content in this newsletter includes submissions from various ratified clubs and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Legal and Literary Society or its Executive."

(Julie motioned/Reagan seconds) CARRIED

3. Interim Strategy RE: L&L E-Communications Discussion

This is a guideline/policy for us to follow until we begin to receive recommendations from the ad-hoc committee.

Brandon inquired into whether the motion should also include posts on our Instagram?

Julie discussed whether we should add Instagram into the wording of the motion, and Kelly suggested that we can have our own internal policies about how we govern our Instagram – it doesn't necessarily need to be incorporated into the wording of the motion.

Brandon clarified that he was asking because we held a vote before amplifying the MLSA's event on Instagram.

Julie's concern is that we don't monitor the Instagram closely enough to act on every request to amplify within the 24 hour timeline.

Brandon explained that the motion doesn't account for requests made well in-advance by clubs to have things amplified on Instagram.

Julie re-worded the motion to account for Brandon's concerns.

Julie also asked that Reagan add a similar statement to our Instagram bio.

Reagan raised the issue that things we post to our Instagram are directly coming from us and may be seen as our own views, compared to the Newsletter which is something we facilitate but that comes directly from the clubs. Although for story shares, it's more similar.

Julie clarified that the statement can account for those concerns, we'll workshop the wording as a team.

MOTION THAT: The Legal and Literary Society will amplify submissions sent by ratified clubs in its E-Communications, as defined in By-Law XX, provided they comply with The Code. This practice may be modified through the passage of a motion, approved by a 2/3 majority, based on recommendations submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee, which may propose changes to By-Law XX regarding L&L's E-Communication policies.

(Julie motioned/Brandon seconds) CARRIED

4. Osgoode Alumni Association

"The Osgoode Alumni Association is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who represent the diversity of experiences and professional interests of the School's graduates. The Board provides counsel to the Dean and promotes and supports the activities of the School and its students."

Action Item: Are there any comments, suggestions, or issues that the Executive would like Julie to raise at the next Alumni Board meeting, scheduled for Thursday, November 14th?

Julie missed the last couple meetings because they are scheduled at the same time as one of her classes.

They want her to speak at the next meeting about issues the student body is facing – so she'll be skipping her class to attend. Are there any issues she wants us to raise on behalf of the student body?

More specifically, she wants our opinion on sharing the budgetary issues that our council is facing with them.

Kelly supported informing them of our financial issues.

In order for the levy to be supported by referendum in the March, we have been informed by the York administration that we need 100 signatures by the end of the month.

Multiple executives supported moving forward with the levy and suggested we should be able to get those signatures by the deadline.

We're going to move forward and push for the levy referendum to happen this year.

Julie is also going to ask the alumni association if they have any ideas for ways to raise our budget that wouldn't affect the student body.

Once Julie writes up some copy on why the levy is integral to our continued functioning as an executive & for the club, Reagan will promote on our socials.

Julie asked if there were any more issues for us to have her raise? Nobody raised any issues. She will also inquire with Caucus before the meeting.

Social Conveyor's Items

5. Blue Mountain Retreat Committee

we have opened applications for our winter 2025 Blue Mountain retreat, that will take place sometime in January. If any L&L exec members would like to sit on the committee – in any capacity – please let me know! Last year's retreat was so much fun, and with a little more help from our exec, it'll be even better this year 😊

Please promote on your personal socials!

Anyone who wants to join the committee can message Joyce.

Julie also asked Kelly if it would be possible to send a school-wide email since we have quite a few initiatives/events being promoted right now that need some attention.

6. November Pub Night

Our November pub night will be on Thursday, November 21st at *Soluna*.

Secretary's Items

7. Approving the October 23rd 2024 meeting minutes for posting.

MOTION THAT: the Legal and Literary Society approve of the minutes taken on October 23rd to be posted.

(Kelly motioned/Jasmine seconds) CARRIED

8. Motion to formalize the weekly newsletter reminder email.

There was some discussion on whether this newsletter email is even necessary, especially after the first couple months of the year. No final decision was reached, and in the interim the email will continue to be sent.

MOTION THAT: The L&L Society send reminder emails on the Wednesday before the Friday deadline to the clubs listserv, reminding clubs to submit their postings to the newsletter prior to the deadline and instructing them on how to do so.

(Kelly motioned/Julie seconds) CARRIED

1L Rep's Items

Jasmine spoke on behalf of the 1L reps.

They are looking at venues this week and hoping to put down their deposit soon.

They are avoiding March 8th because there's the OWN conference on that day, they're thinking the weekend after or before that. Julie mentioned they should also reach out to Mock Trial and OUTLAWS to avoid conflicting with either of their events too.

They are also considering how they want to accommodate if it occurs at the same time as Ramadan.

Julie said that we will try our best to have at least one of the formals falling outside of Ramadan, but the MLSA understand that the event may need to happen in March and so the conflict may be inevitable, so long as we do accommodate their members.

They also inquired into whether they should host the event on February 27th, to avoid a conflict with Ramadan.

Kelly mentioned that it could make a lot of sense for them to host at the end of February, because there are a lot of conflicts otherwise and all of the formals end up happening around the same time. She also mentioned they might be able to negotiate a discount if they host it in February? Something to consider.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting (1:36pm)

(Julie motioned/Kelly seconded) CARRIED