

Student/Community Relations Commission Minutes

Friday, September 11, 2020 at 3:00 PM

1 Call to Order & Location

Hess called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM in a Zoom Webinar streamed on YouTube Live.

2 Attendance

2.1 Members in attendance

Dr. Matt Arbuckle, Sidra Capriolo, Prue Dana, Zoe Douglas, Kyndal Fletcher, Lena Giang, Chair Megan Hess, Emma Jewell, Amy Macechko, Jennifer Marston, Molly McNamara, Cathy McVey, Steve Schnabl, Megan Schoettler, Jonathan Shirley, Joy Usner, Dr. Scott Walter, Josephine Webb, Andrew Wilson

2.2 Guests

Madesyn DeVivo, Michael Rudolph

3 Approval of Agenda

Hess asked for a vote to approve the agenda.

✓ **Vote:** Motion to approve by Dana, seconded by McVey. Unanimous approval.

4 Approval of August 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

✓ **Vote:** Motion to approve by Dana, seconded by Webb. Unanimous approval.

5 Reports

5.1 OPD

Lt. Fening was unable to attend the meeting.

5.2 MUPD

No one from the MUPD was able to attend the meeting.

6 Updates

Hess explained that ASG is continuing outreach at the Oxford Farmers Market and that Walter provided thermometers.

Hess met with ASG cabinet members to discuss a flexible spending strategy for student organizations to spend money on things such as food. Hess also spoke to the Secretary for Communications and Media relations to discuss posting about the Oxford Recreational Trail on social media and collaborating with other student organizations represented on the SCRC. Douglas asked if there had been any changes to allow for food in Armstrong Student Center. Hess responded that details were still being worked out.

Dana asked for clarification about mask usage and whether masks are required when students are walking outside. She is concerned about their lack of distancing while outside. Hess responded that students are aware of when masks are mandatory but that ASG is working on new messaging to students about wearing masks while on High Street. Capriolo offered that the Safe Return Committee is adjusting messaging in response to students choosing to not wear masks when outside. Walter agreed that students are not distancing themselves physically and not wearing masks appropriately. McNamara suggested that messaging should distinguish between athletic and casual walking around Uptown. Schnabl agreed with changing messaging to students. Douglas advised that messaging should emphasize the legal aspect of wearing a mask, to reflect the City Council ordinance.

7 Old Business

7.1 Choose a Third Goal

Capriolo suggested that the community start planning for a more accessible Oxford, post-COVID-19. Douglas asked how the SCRC could work with the Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) and the Business Improvement District. Wilson advised that SCRC should reach out to Councilor Ellerbe. Douglas advised that business accessibility for people with disabilities makes access easier for everyone. The commission contrasted accessibility and sustainability. Arbuckle suggested broadening the definition to “access to resources”.

✓ **Vote:** Motion to adopt Accessibility to Resources as a third goal by Schnabl, seconded by McVey. Unanimous approval.

8 New Business

8.1 Women Helping Women: It's On Us bar training

DeVivo described the It's On Us bar training. Women Helping Women has trained 22 bars in Cincinnati and wants to bring the training to Oxford. The first aspect of the program is a review of a bar's sexual harassment policy towards employees and make suggestions. The second aspect is bystander intervention training, a two-hour session, and includes a review of the harassment policy. All employees receive the training. Training includes a review of the spectrum of violence, teaching employees what behaviors to look out for, including overserving, isolating an individual from a group, and inappropriate touching, and how to intervene. The third aspect is the Ask for Lexi program. This program puts educational posters in the restrooms, which explain that if one feels unsafe they should ask bar staff for Lexi. Bar staff are trained to get the person out of the bar or contact the police or an organization if necessary. The final piece is technical assistance with how to follow-up with Women Helping Women in how to navigate an investigation. Women Helping Women provides the posters and stickers for outside of a bar, and the organization asks bars to recertify each year. The cost per bar is typically \$500 to \$1,500 and Women Helping Women encourages bars to fundraise for the effort. DeVivo explained the partnerships the organization has with other on-campus groups. Miami University Student Wellness made a donation to pay for the first four bars that agree to the training.

DeVivo asked for the commission to support the program. Schnabl asked if Miami University supports the effort. Walter responded affirmatively, explaining how the donation from Student Life was made.

✓ **Vote:** Motion for the commission to endorse the It's On Us bar training initiative by McVey, seconded by Usner. Unanimous approval.

Schoettler offered to draft the letter of support from the commission, which she will provide at the next meeting on September 25.

Marston asked about the challenges of bringing the program to Oxford. DeVivo advised that larger bar owners said the cost of the program was too high, despite the price of the program not being prohibitive. DeVivo and the commission discussed the difference between the Angel Shot and Ask for Lexi programs, and why the Angel Shot initiative did not advance in Oxford.

8.2 Community Health and Wellness

8.2.1 Quarantining

Hess explained that students will be returning to campus as previously planned, and described the Miami University definition of "quarantining". Hess advised that students have expressed a fear of testing because of the burden of quarantining, including sharing spaces in a house and acquiring food. Capriolo advised that 91% of students have complied with testing requests by Miami University. Walter explained that if students refuse the surveillance testing twice they will be suspended. Jewell suggested that students contact the Student Success Office, as it has grants and resources available for people in need. Schnabl advised that the Senior Center can offer some support to non-seniors, and suggested that students contact Talawanda and Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS) for food. Douglas expressed concern about Miami University students overwhelming Oxford community resources, as a result of the university deciding to bring back students. Shirley suggested that testing invitations and the testing centers include information explaining that students should have two weeks of nonperishable food on-hand. Shirley also explained that his roommate's testing results went to an email spam folder, and that scheduling a test was difficult. Hess responded by saying that messaging could include what to look for emails containing results. The commission discussed methods for explaining what students should do if they test positive, including having groceries on-hand and what roommates should do. Marston offered to talk to TOPSS and the Family Resource Center to set up funds to be available when needed. Hess shared that emotional support during quarantine is also important. Douglas explained the need for planning as a household for what to do if someone tests positive and that examples would be helpful. Dana asked about campus counseling services. Hess and Walter responded that services are available and students receive daily calls checking in as well.

9 Announcements

Dana commended the Oxford Police Officer for his patience, approach, and respect in dealing with the student who was in the bodycam footage.

Schnabl thanked the City of Oxford for providing CARES Act funds to local organizations. Schnabl announced that the Oxford Senior Center will not open until at least October 5 due to the high infection rate locally. Schnabl also announced that the Senior Center will host a drive-thru flu shot clinic on Friday, September 18 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, by appointment. Someone from Walgreens will be providing the shots outside. People of all ages can get a shot and everyone is asked to bring an insurance card. Call 513-523-8100 to schedule.

Hess encouraged commission members to reach out to her between meetings.

Wilson said he will share the discussion with the Assistant City Manager because CARES Act funding still needs spent.

Rudolph thanked the SCRC for supporting local businesses and for working together to improve off-campus student behavior.

10 Adjournment

✓ **Vote:** Motion to adjourn by Giang, seconded by Fletcher. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 PM.