

Student/Community Relations Commission Minutes

Friday, November 6, 2020 at 3:00 PM

1 Call to Order & Location

Hess called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM in a Zoom Webinar streamed on YouTube Live.

2 Attendance

2.1 Members in attendance

Dr. Matt Arbuckle, Sidra Capriolo, Prue Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, Lena Giang, Megan Hess, Emma Jewell, Chief John Jones (filling in for Lt. Lara Fening), Amy Macechko, Jennifer Marston, Molly McNamara, Cathy McVey, Steve Schnabl, Jonathan Shirley, Dr. Scott Walter, Andrew Wilson

2.2 Guests

Elise Elliot, Vishnu Gundamraj, Gus Lake, Dr. Steve Large, Emily McClary, Bridget Ryan, Baylei Zahoransky

3 Approval of Agenda

Hess asked for a motion to reorder VII(b) Health and Wellness Q&A to after II Approval of Agenda.

✓ **Vote:** Motion to approve re-ordered agenda by Dana, seconded by Capriolo. Unanimous approval.

4 Approval of October 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes

No vote taken. Will be postponed until November 20, 2020 meeting.

5 Reports

5.1 OPD

Jones advised that OPD offered security details at election polling locations and that complaints about parties and mass gatherings are down. Schnabl asked about the mass gathering citations being overturned. Jones responded that the ordinance remains but there was not enough evidence for those cases. Jones advised that citations may be causing the parties to move inside. Jones updated that most OPD activity lately has involved the greater Oxford community. Lake asked about the different types of issues for which the OPD can write citations and Jones provided several examples.

5.2 MUPD

No MUPD representative was available.

6 Updates

6.1 COVID-19 Information Committee

Capriolo updated the commission on testing and reporting, athletic events, and advocating for students in the Spring 2021 semester.

7 Old Business

7.1 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Recommendations

Hess read an ASG resolution that will attempt to hold the University accountable for implementing the DEI goals.

- ✓ **Vote:** Schnabl moved to endorse the DEI recommendations for the ASG resolution, seconded by Arbuckle. Dana voted nay. All others were in favor.
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8 New Business

8.1 Supporting Locally Owned Businesses (Creative Ideas)

Hess introduced students from Igoodea Creatives, a “student organization dedicated to solving problems by applying the creative thought process” and the group presented a slideshow. Zahoransky spoke about Igoodea and projects the group is working on at the moment, including working with the Chamber of Commerce, and how the group comes up with ideas. Ryan described many ideas, including cross promotional materials for businesses to share with customers and a President Crawford bike race, among others. Gundamraj continued with more ideas, including extra credit for students spending time to get to know businesses and prizes for making cashiers laugh, among a series of other ideas. Marston thanked the students and asked them to keep in mind that there are many businesses located beyond Uptown Oxford. Arbuckle asked about paid promotions. McNamara expressed appreciation for the idea for off-campus businesses to bring food on-campus so first-year students get exposure to businesses beyond the campus. Jewell advised that rewards programs can help attract commuter students. Zahoransky thanked the commission for providing feedback on the ideas presented.

8.2 Health and Wellness Q&A

Large spoke about his role at Miami University and how it is connected to COVID-19 response, including testing protocols. Large advised that there are two types of tests for COVID-19, based on individuals being symptomatic or asymptomatic. A commission member submitted a question about mental health resources, for which Large responded that telehealth and in-person options are available to students as well as a 24/7 H.O.P.E. (Help Over the Phone Everywhere) Line¹. Someone asked a question regarding local cases versus state-wide cases, for which Large responded that on-campus cases have declined from earlier in the semester and talked about steps Miami University has taken. Hess asked about supply of testing. Large responded that it remains to be seen how test makers will be able to keep up with demand. Hess asked about the Spring 2021 semester and Walter and Large advised that the University is still working out details which will be released during J-Term. Dana thanked Walter for assisting with a

¹ The phone number is 855-249-5649, as found on <https://www.miamioh.edu/student-life/student-counseling-service/resources/hope-line/index.html>

student who was in need of COVID-19 resources. McNamara inquired about students who receive positive diagnoses being eliminated from the wide net testing pool. Large answered that students who have had positive diagnoses within the past 90 days will not be retested under the wide net program but the science behind the program is constantly changing so the rules may change. Large asked the commission what resources the community may need. Ideas included important phone numbers as well as City and news resources. Ellerbe asked about parents and family events on campus and in Oxford. Large and Walter advised that no large events are planned at this time but there may be smaller, unofficial events planned by organizations. McNamara spoke about house-level events but there are no Greek-wide events allowed due to guidance from the University.

9 Adjournment

✓ **Vote:** Motion to adjourn by Dana, seconded by Capriolo. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 PM.