

ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE MIDDLE COMMON ROOM OPEN MEETING MINUTES

24 October 2021, 7pm, Catz MCR

Committee Members Present: Chloe Colson, Lucy Bartel, Aditi Agrawal, Tobias Hurst

Meeting started at 19:45

A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Guest dinner signup. The committee wants to bring this issue to you for thought, since we haven't done dinners in a while. The rules are complicated with ballot, priority, normal signup. Is everyone happy with the rules? There is the possibility to modify through discussion and motions.

Discussion:

Don't understand the point of ballots?

- To have a chance to bring guests if you don't want to use your priority pass

Why can't we have more seats at the dinner?

- Staffing issue with college. The hall manager has trouble calling in the casual workers. Committee is pushing with college to have this expanded.

Why casual, not fixed contracts?

- Staffing needs are unpredictable during the week so they don't know how many to hire

Can we know about the guest dinner menu in advance?

- We will ask college if that can be released prior to cancellation deadline

Is there any chance of changing time slot for sign-ups? It doesn't work with a lot of people's schedules

- If this is something people want, we can look into changing. We have usually done Saturdays at noon.

The ballot is very confusing for people.

- MCR members should apply for the ballot if they want the chance to bring a guest to the dinner but do not want to use the priority pass. If you win the ballot, you and your guests get one of the 12 seats reserved for ballot winners. In any future ballots you enter, your chance of winning will be lower. If you lose the

ballot, you and your guests are put at the bottom of the waiting list and you may not get to attend the dinner at all.

The problem is that there are too many people wanting to attend and not enough spaces.

Why can't we randomize?

- There are lots of details to think through in order to keep the system as fair as possible and allow for the possibility of guests, but this is certainly up for discussion.

What are the rules on priority passes?

- MCR members can use a priority pass once per year. 3 members can use their priority passes at any one dinner and can apply a week in advance (first come, first served). If your pass is approved, you and up to 3 guests will automatically get a spot at the dinner that week.

Can we put a limit on number of times an MCR member can attend a dinner?

- We have tried that in the past and can look into doing that for future dinners.

Have a think if you have suggestions for changing things. Reach out to the committee and/or present a motion at a future open meeting if you have ideas!

2. MCR constitution change: Committee informs the MCR that it is rewriting the constitution, a practice that occurs every 5 years. The current valid one is from 2015. You can request to see revisions by email. Still going through official college approval process, but we will update the MCR when it is approved.

Discussion:

Any big changes?

- Adjustments to the timing of elections, specifications on committee roles, reducing meeting quorums, adapted scope to include online forums for voting and meeting

B. MOTIONS

1. Motion to Donate £50 to the Osler House boat Club Fundraiser

Hannah Fuchs: Oslo house boat club (clinical med students), not supported by the college but provides important outlet for students on rotations. Boat club is rowing to London to raise money to support the boat club and for Tingewicke charities (two charities —Oxford Hospitals Charity, Calon Hearts- defibs)

No questions/comments

In person, email, zoom attendees vote: Motion passes through unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned.