**Women’s+ Liberation Society Meeting [Minutes]**

**[06/12/17]**

**Apologies, Matters arising, Minutes from last meeting**

10 people attended

Minutes:

Amy Atkinson (Womens Officer) updated the association on progress wrt. action points from last meeting.

**Actions:**

**LC to post LED meeting on the Women+ Association Facebook Page**

**AA to feedback to SOC and request more information**

**AA has been mandated to research this issue and draft a petition (also to discuss with Welfare Officer). LC and JD to work together on this.**

**Section A: Updates and Reports**

1. **Liberation, Equality and Diversity Committee**

The next meeting would include discussion of student engagement and diversification of the curriculum.

**Action: LC to post LED meeting on the Women+ Association Facebook Page**

1. **Women+ in STEM week**

To take place next semester: will be reaching out to third year students to promote post-graduate study among Women+ and plans to design cups for SU venues featuring prominent Women+ in STEM from history.

It was suggested that the university Athena Swan committee could be approached for support.

1. **Inclusion Policy**

UG Education officer will be developing an inclusion policy which involves:

* Diversification of the curriculum
* Increased accessibility
* A “broad strokes” approach initially.

It was requested that opportunities for students to assert pronouns be included in “icebreaker” activities as standard practice and that the timings of summatives (in particular, their concurrence) be examined in order to account for the accessibility needs of students living with mental illness/ neurodivergent students.

1. **Update from Activities and Opportunities Officer**

**“This Girl Can.”** The SU and Sports park held women+ only sessions. Other mixed sessions and mixed experience sessions were able to reach people outside of the sports clubs/ groups.

**BUCS “Take a Stand”** CK is on the inclusion board for BUCS (British Universities & Colleges Sport). Currently the board is re-working “Take a Stand” to improve inclusivity and to address the need for resources and further work to enact change.

There was a discussion on various points including regulations and restrictions, particularly related to trans and non-binary inclusion; issues of micro aggressions; initiations are subject to a blanket ban; work being done to address behaviour changes including raising awareness of expectations and penalisation of breaches; altering Derby Day to be more manageable, having non-drinking fundraisers; experiences of trans people in sports changing rooms and with sports centre staff; the cost of SAM membership; and the sports committee’s reaction to Colours.

**Action: AA to feedback to SOC and request more information**

**Section B: Items for Discussion**

1. **International Women’s Day**

The following were suggested:

* The giving out of flowers.
* Post-it notes with inspirational messages.
* Stickers or badges.
* Themed cups from SU venues.

1. **Reclaim the Night**

LC has been receiving e-mails regarding the organisation of this event, which will be largely student led. However, LC emphasised a need for support and advice from the SU and especially from the Women+ and Welfare officers. AA proposed the creation of a working group including both officers and interested students.

Vote: Do we want Reclaim the Night to happen?

* Unanimous vote in favour of the event
* All present indicated they would be happy to be involved in the Working Group.

Women+ officer’s role defined as an advisory one within the working group – providing answers and resources when requested by the student members.

1. **Refreshers’ Fayre**

The following were suggested:

* Badges and Stickers
* Stall
* Trans/Non-Binary friendly message from stall. Parent Friendly. (Clothes swap, flags) Action Point: Juliet to talk to Trans+NB Officer. Sophie to feedback to parents.
* Promote Charities: Leeway, Harbour Centre, Trans + NB support, Abortion Rights. (Vote held on donation split – see below)
* Proximity to Leeway Stall.
* Fundraise – (see point above, and vote below). LC emphasised the need to look at non-local and international charities too.
* Cake selling – SWM and EL volunteered to bake.
* Money Tree Lottery
* Guessing games
* Temporary Tatoos
* Glitter
* Letter Writing Campaign
* Pre-event crafternoon.

**Action: AA to submit funding request to SOC for £40 to cover costs.**

Fundraising vote:

* Leeway (3)
* Harbour Centre (6)
* Trans + NB Support (5)
* Abortion Rights (1)

Decision was made to split donations between the two charities with the highest vote count: The Harbour Centre and Trans+NB Support.

1. **Motion to establish quorum**

Due to typically low attendance at meetings, the attendees put forward a quorum of 4 (excluding the Chair and Women+ Officer). Should attendance increase, a subsequent vote could take place to increase quorum.

Motion was passed.

1. **Abortion support in Norwich**

Currently there is no specialised support service for abortion in Norwich. Suggestions to address this include: Petitioning councillors, demonstrations outside City Hall.

**Action: AA has been mandated to research this issue and draft a petition (also to discuss with Welfare Officer. LC and JD to work together on this.**

1. **Engagement in the Association**

A member suggested that efforts should be made to increase awareness of the association. AA indicated an Engagement review was being looked at by the SOC to address this and other issues.

Further suggestions from members for increasing awareness include:

* Use of TV screens in SU. (Difficulty regarding this raised by AA)
* Leafleting
* Stall in the Hive
* Posters/ Leaflets in Student Accommodation
* Film Screening
* Collaboration/ closer cooperation with UEA Feminist Society.

Also a suggestion was made for an open suggestion board/sheet made available at the start of the meeting.

**Section C: A.O.B**

EL (Leeway Society) requested help from members in promoting and operating the society. Help was offered by attendees, chair and AA

**Next Meeting will be held in the week beginning 15/01/18.**