

Marlboro College Alumni Council
August 1, 2021

In Attendance: Ellie Roark, Kate Hollander, Melanie Gottlieb, Pamela Nye, Bess Poehlmann, CJ Churchill, Mark Genszler, Gretchen Gerzina

Meeting called to order: 1:06 PM EST

Approval of agenda

Approved without amendment

Approval of Minutes

Approved without amendment

Officer Reports

- Treasurer - Mark - Erik has shifted over all our recurring charges, so now all expenses are off the plate of the current council.
- Clerk – Ellie – Requests to push the meeting back one hour, to make it a slightly easier time in the Western Pacific without inconveniencing Dagmawi too much. Council agrees to consider this.
- Moderator-- Melanie - We've received confirmation that our application for 501(c)(3) incorporation was received but have heard nothing since then. Will send a follow up into the void this week.

Committee Reports

Communications

- Email report - Kate has been responding to literally every email, which is very nice, but not necessary if she runs short of time for email responses. Melanie does not respond to every email that comes in on days when she's monitoring the account. Recent emails showed that people are really happy about the sale of the campus to the Music Festival. One person checked in wanting to know how the Marlboro Institute at Emerson was going so far.
- Upcoming communications- Last month we had a great turnaround on getting the newsletter out. We'll take August off and just send a gorgeous campus photo and a vacation message. In September we can aim towards sharing some Archives stuff, and try to get an archives portion of the website up and running.

Resources

- Continuing to meet with important constituents and begin conversations with the Music Festival.

Governance

- Stalled at the moment, waiting for Ellie to draft the next article; continuing to discuss committee article.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Proposal to move the meeting time 1 hour later. Melanie will check in with the group about this via email to make sure everyone is included.
- Discussion of a potential retreat for the Council where we can meet in person. Maybe we should do a virtual social hour and then also some kind of in person meeting (hybrid if necessary for those of us abroad).
 - We had previously discussed having some kind of meeting for the whole MCAA body in

October-ish, and now with the campus purchase we can consider having an in-person reunion on campus at some point. Will keep this in mind for conversations with the Music Festival. We want reunions of all sorts, but it would be great to have a committee or other MCAA body or group spearhead planning them, not the council.

- Things to do in the fall that we can begin prep for now:
 - Reunion committee
 - Community survey
 - Start a survey questions brainstorming document- Bess will create this and send it around in the next couple weeks.
 - Regional gathering hub on the website where people can post their planned gatherings, share photos, etc.
 - A Boston regional gathering might bring questions about our relationship to Emerson to a head and inflame old tensions that flared during the merger. This is a bridge we can cross when we come to it-- it may absolutely be complicated because there are so many mixed feelings. But we can strategically help guide the tone (appreciative discussion of the “Tim Little tone” for difficult conversations).

Open meeting adjourned 1:53 PM EST.
Closed meeting session followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Roark
Clerk