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FEBRUARY 15, 1980

THE BRUNSWICKAN 3

Fewer regular SRC meetings?

By GORDON LOANE

A change in bylaw five of the UNB Student Union sparked a controversy at Monday's regular council meeting. The motion, introduced by SRC president Perry Thorbourne sought the permission of council to lower the required number of times council could meet each month.

Presently council must meet three times a month during the academic term. Thorbourne's motion would have changed this motion to read "up to three times per month". Thorbourne said the reason for this change was to facilitate more work at the committee stage so that council could meet less often but make more meaningful decisions when it did meet. Thorbourne implied that too much time is spent on matters which would better be settled prior to coming before council. Thorbourne also expressed the hope that more committee work would spark the interest of more councillors.

Several councillors including Engineering Rep Carol Ann McDevitt spoke against the motion.

"Council is being asked to be a rubber stamp," she claimed. The motion was finally defeated because it did not get the necessary two-thirds

approval of council to change the bylaw.

In a related matter, Vice-President Chris Earl introduced a motion which would give councillors free admission to all SRC sponsored events, such as orientation and winter carnival. This motion is scheduled for debate at next week's council meeting.

Another motion introduced would give the comptroller and the assistant comptroller of the student union free passes to attend all events of clubs and societies sponsored by the union. This motion, as well, is scheduled to be debated at council's next meeting. A quick negative reaction to this motion was expressed by Forestry Rep Andrew Wort who felt this motion created "loopholes for possible abuse".

In other business council approved a motion to appoint four members to the Student Union building Board of Directors. The new members appointed include former SRC president Steve Berube and CHSR director Doug Varty as well as SRC Chairman David Kay and senate candidate Michael Collins.

Council accepted the decision of the applications committee and approved the appointment of Bob Jacobson as the new Campus Police chief. He replaces Gord Bryant who recently resigned. Two new assistant CPs were also appointed. Jim Pellerin and Victor Lentini

will assume their new posts immediately

Thorbourne in his report to council announced that several representatives of the AUNBT would be present at council's next meeting. "They will be available to answer any questions council may have," said Thorbourne.

A second student leadership conference sponsored by the alumni will be held Sunday, March 9th at 10 a.m. Thorbourne hoped a good attendance would make the event meaningful and worthwhile.

In other council business, Earl reported that several positions have had nominations extended to Wednesday, February 13, for the upcoming student elections.

SRC Comptroller Steve Howes reported that he was presently looking into the possibility of having a non-liquor event on campus. "Cooperation from the SUB and CPs appears to be excellent," he commented.

Council also approved several housekeeping measures of a financial nature. Howes would not comment on the state of financial affairs involving last week's winter carnival but did not deny that financial losses were involved. A full report will be presented when all particulars have been accounted for, he said.

Council's next regularly scheduled meeting will take place Monday night.

Earl upset

Student Union Vice-President Chris Earl blasted councillors in the wake of events which took place at council's regular meeting last Monday. He is the second member of the SRC executive to blast council in recent weeks. SRC President Perry Thorbourne scored councillors lack of attendance at council meetings on a previous occasion.

In an interview with the Brunswickan following the meeting Earl said "the majority of councillors appear to feel that the SRC executive are untrustworthy." In addition he said, councillors lack the interest to bring forward concrete proposals to council. Earl's comments may have been sparked by council's refusal to pass a motion which would in effect have lowered the required number of council meetings from the now-standard three per month to "up to three" meetings per month.

"The problem is amplified by council's lack of preparation for each SRC meeting. Coupled with this is a lack of involvement in committees and events on campus bringing about a lack of awareness of what's going on behind the scenes and lack of contact, in the majority of cases, with their constituents," Earl said.

"The problem is so serious that council does not even trust its own committees," Earl said. In fact, they may not even trust their own executive, he concluded.



Campus Security Chief Charles Williamson reminds drivers that his force is in the midst of an active tow-away campaign. The two-away zones are clearly

marked, Williamson said, and vehicles parked in these zones will be removed at the students expense and inconvenience.

DWAYNE MCLAUGHLIN Photo

UNB may take over SUB

The Brunswickan has learned that the University of New Brunswick may soon assume the operation of the Student Union Building. A preliminary report present to the SUB Board recently recommends "that the university assume the operation of the student union building in terms of staff, maintenance, purchases, etc."

The report, written by UNB's Manager of Conferences and Food Services Howard Goldberg would see the appointment of an activities co-ordinator hired by the university. The co-ordinator would be responsible for overseeing the plans and implementing student activities on campus.

The SUB Board would become an advisory board and would advise only on policy and space allocation matters for the building.

Funding for the plan would come from the university and from the UNB SRC. The report notes "that three-quarters of the cost of operating the SUB are already borne by the university and the university is the legal owner of the building. The UNB SRC will also be required to support this new plan as well. New funding from the student union will be required, the report notes. The extra funds provided will be used by the new program board "to fund activities which students can attend free or at a greatly reduced price."

The new administrative structure would see the Student Union Building come under the supervision of the dean of student's office. The director of student activities and conference services would be directly responsible to the dean of students for the operation of the building. It is to be assumed that the director of student activities and conference services will be Mr. Goldberg. The SUB director would then be responsible to him and the new position of activities coordinator would report as well to Goldberg. The report presented to the board was in response to several problems involving the coordination of student activities on campus.

The Brunswickan has also learned that a second working paper on the administrative structure has been prepared by SUB Director Cindy Stacey. Briefly, the administrative structure would see the university take over the operation of the SUB but all activities would be coordinated out of the SUB office.

The Student Union Building Board of Directors met yesterday evening but results of the meeting were unavailable at press time. It is believed that action on several proposals outlined in both reports will be taken at that time.