Meeting called to order at 7:33pm

I. Attendance
President Kat Klawes: Present
Vice President Katie Liubakka: Present
Treasurer Vito Giannola: Present
Chair of the Assembly Alex Hawke: Present
Advisor Lina Blair: Present
Advisor Carter Wilson: Present
Anne Marie Wellman: Present
Mitchell Sevigny: Present
Brianna Wright: Present
Teala Howell: Present
Sara Spragg: Not Present (Unexcused)
Danielle Schafer: Presented
Spencer Deering: Present
Lindsey Lieck: Present
TJ Aiyash: Not Present (Excused)
Sheila Williams: Not Present (Excused)
Jonathan Korpi: Present
Cecilia Smith: Not Present (Excused)
Jess Gula: Present
Olivia Steil: Not Present (Excused)
Secretary Katie Stumman: Present

II. Public Comment
a. None

III. Approval of Consent Items
a. Minutes 02.02.15
Jonathan Korpi voted no instead of yes for his appointment.
Motion to approve made by Jess Gula
Seconded by Danielle Schafer
Unanimous.
b. Agenda 02.09.15
Motion to approve made by Jess Gula
Seconded by Danielle Schafer
Unanimous.

IV. Executive Reports
a. President Kat Klawes: I will be speaking to the board of trustees where I’ll be presenting the Gender Inclusive housing. Thank you to everyone who helped out today, it’s a great networking experience. If you want to join the referendum committee we need no less than 8 ASNMU members, and if you do please ask to be added to the agenda.

b. Vice President Katie Liubakka: First, I wasn’t here last week and we don’t have record of a bylaw change, and you guys called for a referendum that we couldn’t do so you would have to change the bylaws and we can’t. I personally think it looks shady but if you want to go through with it you can. Second, I wanted to give my two cents on the appointments. I have strong feelings on them because I was contacted late last night about them and did not approve because I didn’t have enough time to get to know them. I think that especially with the committees; consider who you’re putting on the committee because if they have personal agendas don’t tread lightly. I think that it’s not ok for us to say just because its time sensitive to put whoever on the committee. I think we should fill them with adequate people, and that’s why I didn’t approve them. Make sure you’re looking over the minutes closely too.

c. Treasurer Vito Giannola: Balance is about the same, I spent about $100 on the tent, so the total is about $18,050.39. I’ll be talking about the bylaws later to clear that up. The Student Activity Fee Referendum is on the appointments and since we’re not legally allowed to do so we can’t vote but we can get to know them.

d. Chair of the Assembly Alex Hawke: In TJ’s absence, he requested that I ask several questions during the meeting, so I’m just warning that these aren’t my opinion, I’m just voicing them for TJ.

V. Committee Updates

a. Danielle Schafer: Thanks to everyone who came to the provost breakfast. If there are any feedback sheets left please give them to me because they’ve extended the date. I’ll speak with Jess, Jonathan and Spencer afterwards, because the provost committee would like you guys to speak.

b. Mitchell Sevigny: There have been whispers around the office of who’s running for what, but no one is allowed to campaign or tell people that they’re running for what because it’s a violation of the rules. You can hint but can’t say you’re definitely running because it’s against the rules. I just want to make sure you’re not campaigning. Second is for external, there’s a report on social media about on campus drug arrest, and we ranked 9th in the campus, and I guess every 1,000 there are 9 arrests. In 2012 we were ranked 46th, then in 2013 we moved up to 9th, and I think it’s significant and think we should look into it and talk to city managers and other forces to figure out why there are so many non violent arrests.

c. AnneMarie Wellman: PR met for the Talent Show, we’re handing out the Cat Cleats next Monday the 16th, but it’s hard to judge because we have 300 pairs with all the information for the talent show on them, so think about if you have time I would like a list of people to come and help. We’re thinking of starting around noon.

VI. Appointments
a. Technology Learning Committee-Jonathan Korpi: Presented by Spencer Deering

Spencer Deering: I would like to appoint Jonathan to this committee. If anyone was at the meeting today they got to hear him sing and that’s reason alone to put him on this committee. We all know the other reasons too, he’s been a great member.

Motion to approve made by Spencer Deering
Seconded by AnneMarie Wellman
Unanimous.

b. SAM Conference Committee: Presented by Mitchell Sevigny

Motion to appoint AnneMarie Wellman made by Spencer Deering
Motion to appoint Spencer Deering and Alex Hawke made by AnneMarie Wellman
Motion to appoint Jess Gula made by Danielle Schafer
Motion to appoint Danielle Schafer made by Jess Gula
Seconded by Danielle Schafer
Unanimous.


Kat Klawes: We have Brice, Nolan and Alex and they’ve all done work with ASNMU in the past.

Brice Burge: I spoke to you guys a little while ago; I’m a multimedia journalism student, hopefully my last semester here. I know with these referendums it means a lot ot the university in terms of shaping students rights. I was on the election committee when I first started here and to see how it happened there I think I can bring that to these committees to see why people care.

Nolan Craft: I’m a junior, but might be a senior. I enjoy working with ASNMU and spend time reading about the issues and would like to work on this committee. If anyone has questions about what Mitch said let me know.

Alex Prez: I’m a freshman here, Art & Design major, but I think I can bring a fresh and young set of eyes with a new perspective and point of view.

Kat Klawes: We can approve these appointments if you would like and need 8 members.

Lindsey Lieck: Why do you all think students involved in ASNMU should have a say in the constitution

Nolan Craft: Students need to have a say in things, but having an outside set of eyes that look at issues without going into personal issues.

Alex Prez: Going off what Nolan said, they’re creating the rules for themselves, which doesn’t really make sense.

Brice Burge: If you have a transfer student or someone who doesn’t know what ASNMU is and they see there are ways to get involved they’ll have faith in the process, whether it’s voting or running to vote, anything that will get faith should be done by the student government.

Katie Liubakka: A few weeks ago we were approached by our lack of committees have been betted so why should we approve this because we can’t vote?
Brice Burge: I think this is a good call because there is a question about why it's happening there are other questions. You have to have a start somewhere and you have to be a strong enough person to do it, we’re all busy with school and work, and it makes it harder to do and in this case we’re giving a great way to introduce ourselves to you whether there’s a vote or not.

Nolan Craft: I think it starts with the questions of if there have been betted in the past then we should look into that. I think this committee it would be wise to start acting on it now and normalize the application process.

Spencer Deering: This is more towards the rest of the assembly, we don’t have the ability to appoint anyone to the referendum so wouldn’t this still be for that?

Vito Giannola: Point of order, this can be called anytime, the members are appointed directly by the president so time doesn’t really exist and that’s a result of what happened tonight, a miscommunication on the Boards part. There are restrictions on the bylaws though.

Lindsey Lieck: Does there have to be a certain number of members? Personally I’m not sure if we should do this at the end of the year but looking at the constitution, how pressing is it to change it this semester? I think it’ll be more beneficial to take our time.

Mitchell Sevigny: I disagree with Lindsey, because something I notice that within the horrible things in the administration, they’re trying to change themselves so close to the end of the year. I don’t see why ASNMU shouldn’t do the same. We’re mostly a body focused on a trustee style, which we should move away from to promote transparency, because no one really knows what we do. I think going in and fixing the problems with the constitution is a perfect step. We should be doing as much as the university to become transparent. I see that with any legislative body, anyone can at least have that information available to them. It’s not as available as it should be to students, and this is a prime opportunity to come in.

Alex Hawke: Last week, a full board voted for this referendum and if anyone had concerns at the meeting when we talked about it, that would’ve been the time to do that instead of voting something through and raising concerns. As for the last minute addition to the agenda, if you think these are an issue, voice your opinions. I’m not trying to sneak anything past people, I made the decision to wait and maybe it was wrong but let your votes reflect that.

Katie Liubakka: If you have issues with the agenda or the changes that got made, you do not have to approve the agenda that gets passed out in the beginning. You can vote to approve the original agenda that was given to you.

Brice Burge: Agendas are weird, those things are good to discuss.

Teala Howell: So we need to have our own opinions and if you’re upset about something don’t vote for it. I really agree with Mitchell, I think it’s important. In regard to candidates, we know Nolan and Brice and how informed they are. In regard to Alex, he’s a freshmen but that’s a large population at Northern.

Danielle Schafer: Going off of Teala, I know there are concerns about the sketchy-ness, but we have seen all these candidates before, and I don’t think they have personal agendas. I think if we’re going to do this we should figure out what we want to vote for.
Spencer Deering: We have three candidates. We need a minimum to have 8 members, which we don't have. We don't have a clear guideline to what we want to change. We're getting ahead of ourselves of appointing and approving outside people if we don't think we can't even have a committee. We still don't have a clear plan for what we want to do.

AnneMarie Wellman: I think the point of nominating is to start those discussions, and that plan sounds silly of not appointing 8 members. It looks bad if we change our minds like that. If you want a say in any of this, nominate yourself for it. It's done and happening and the wrong time to have this conversation. We did vote unanimously and to change our mind is silly, and I nominate myself for this committee.

Jonathan Korpi: Considering I'm regretting my vote last week, and I think it needs to be done but it's too soon. It's February and that's how I feel. The discussion can start and planning can start but doing things too quickly can really hurt.

AnneMarie Wellman: We're not voting on changing anything, this is the people that will have this discussion and if you're interested in joining that discussion join the committee. We already called for it.

Teala Howell: I want to clarify. The reason we're calling for this referendum because last year we reviewed the constitution

Katie Liubakka: We did look at the bylaws last year but never voted on them. We never made it official.

Motion to appoint all three candidates made by Danielle Schafer
Seconded by Jess Gula
Mitchell Sevigny, Danielle Schafer, Jess Gula, Brianna Wright, Teala Howell, AnneMarie Wellman vote yes,
Jonathan Korpi, Spencer Deering vote no,
TJ Aiyash and Lindsey Lieck abstains,
Passes.
Motion appoint AnneMarie Wellman to the committee made by herself
Seconded by Danielle Schafer
Unanimous.
d. Student Activity Fee Referendum Committee: Nolan Craft, Brice Burge, Alex Perz: Presented by Kat Klawes
Can't vote on this committee.

VII. Discussion Items
a. Freedom of Information Act Discussion: Guest Speaker Cheryl Reed
Cheryl Reed: I'm here as a facility member, I teach journalism, investigating reporting and I teach the FOIA law. When I read in the North Wind you were considering this referendum, I wanted to make myself available for what this law does. The NW wanted to make sure you were aware of FERPA. I wanted to pass out information and answer questions and general there's been discussion of students wanting to FOIA their own records, which you can do free of charge and they can only charge you for copies. FERPA doesn't apply to police records, you would FOIA those. In general, some major changes are penalties are being late, and you need to
state very clearly a FOIA letter, has to be in the first 250 letter s and make a follow up email because it’s caught in spam it stops.

Lindsey Lieck: What is FERPA?

Cheryl Reed: Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act. I don’t use FERPA, I mostly use FOIA. If you go on the site, there’s more information. I think some of you need to see the FOIA example to make sure you are doing it correctly. If you’re requesting this, you need to state how much you’re willing to pay. People think FOIA is a detective way of finding out records, but all FOIA is, is giving you the right to public records that already exist. You can’t expect the government to do it for you, you can only ask for those records in that form. You can ask for it in an electronic form, but not a different form than what it is. Be specific on how you want these records delivered, paper copies, USB, etc. It all goes into the cost. The rules regarding Michigan FOIA are all available on the web, and if you have any questions I’m a FOIA expert and willing to answer any questions you have.

Vito Giannola: You’ve heard the proposes of a FOIA fund, so say it were to exist and whatever body was giving out the money, is there any restrictions or laws surrounding or providing funds for student groups?

Cheryl Reed: No. In most cases it’s up to the institution. Members of the media have their fees waived because they’re making it available to the public. Are these funds available and could they apply for FERPA are questions that should be asked too. You can make requests the way records are kept, but it doesn’t matter where you get the money, but make the case that you can’t afford it and take them to court if needed. There are all new rules about fees and grill down to make sure they’ve gone through all this.

b. New Science Facility Sun Lamps Budget: Presented by Kat Klawes

Kat Klawes: It’s identical to the other ones for the health center, and then it was recommended to get a new chair so we can have a movable station. I would love any questions you have.

Danielle Schafer: I think it’s great you’re putting one there. The first floor do you mean the entering one?

Kat Klawes: Yes.

Lindsey Lieck: Do we have any numbers of how many students are using them?

Kat Klawes: About 100 uses in a month which is above capacity, which is usually 75. Assuming we’re an average school, we should have about 2,000 out of 9,000 using these.

TJ Aiyash: How are these places asking for us to put them in or are we offering them?

Kat Klawes: I realized the ones here were a great success and I started talking to students about where else they would like them. They gave a few spots and then we were asked by the Health Center because they thought it would be a prime location.

AnneMarie Wellman: How are we going to monitor log usage?

Kat Klawes: The student custodians will make it a part of their routine. We don’t need to log usage a lot.
AnneMarie Wellman: I know you were talking about other locations but why is this one first?
Kat Klawes: I hear the New Science has a lot of morning classes, which is usually when they aren’t able to get that exposure. It’s not convenient for everyone to go to the library.
TJ Aiyash: What do you mean by upkeep?
Kat Klawes: Mostly bulbs, they do have a ten year warranty, so it would be about $15 a lamp per year.
c. Bylaws Discussion: Presented by Vito Giannola
Vito Giannola: Due to the lack of responsible record keeping last year, it was pointed out that there were no records in our previous minutes and what this is about is the referendum that we called last week. Under our current bylaws, we can’t do it. We did find the bylaws from last year that me, Kat and Spencer worked on with the previous president and vice president, so there’s plenty of evidence that we worked on them but none that we approved them. There are gaps in the history but it’s not something sneaky. To explain, the bylaws we approved last semester, there wasn’t an official document of them until I typed it up today. Keep in mind that things like that happen.
Spencer Deering: I would like to point out that I have the physical copies of the changes that I can bring, along with several different forms because of the changes. I have up to three versions of these.
Katie Liubakka: I would like copies.
Kat Klawes: Last week we passed the records keeping policies, which will be kept up in the office, this is an ASNMU issue as a whole. Just look at them yourselves please.
Vito Giannola: To show the important change, page 11 section 3, we took out the referendum must be called the fourth week of the semester.
Kat Klawes: That was one of the changes because we felt the bylaws conflicted with the constitution and the constitution overrules.
AnneMarie Wellman: Are we trying to approve these bylaws next week? We didn’t pass this language though and that would have to be changed through PR.
Lindsey Lieck: So I thought this would be a review and we don’t need a committee to review them?
Kat Klawes: If they wanted to make changes to the constitution they have to make them to the bylaws too. They’re small changes.
Katie Liubakka: They weren’t decided upon last year, they were discussed in work groups but there wasn’t a formal vote taken. It was the recommended changes.
Kat Klawes: I don’t have the records and don’t fully remember but will continue to look and will send an email if I find it.
Alex Hawke: We have no record of those being passed and we can’t go under the assumption that they were.
TJ Aiyash: The copy of the bylaws in our binder is two years old?
Katie Liubakka: Yes. We’re operating under the 2012 bylaws and looking to add the changes.
Vito Giannola: everyone’s bylaws are out of date and none exist except what I made today.
Katie Liubakka: We don’t have records of us voting on that we shouldn’t have to work under them
AnneMarie Wellman: Once we added the PR committee, those are the bylaws.
Alex Hawke: The only thing added is description to the legislative chairs and AnneMarie’s position.
Lindsey Lieck: So if someone is expecting to bring this back next week, I think it would be nice to have it as a discussion item next week.
Alex Hawke: You can vote to postpone it if you want to until next week.
Motion to table and move discussion to next week made by Lindsey Lieck
Seconded by TJ Aiyash,
Danielle Schafer, Brianna Wright, TJ Aiyash, Jonathan Korpi, Teala Howell,
Lindsey Lieck votes yes
AnneMarie Wellman and Jess Gula voted no
Mitchell Sevigny abstains.

VIII. Action Items
a. Vielemetti Health Center Sunlamps: Presented by Kat Klawes
Kat Klawes: Same proposal, to put them in the health center, it’s $370 because we don’t need to buy a chair. The manager helped me with the proposal and they’re really excited to get some down there.
Motion to approve made by Jess Gula,
Seconded by AnneMarie Wellman
Mitchell Sevigny, Danielle Schafer, Jess Gula, Brianna Wright, TJ Aiyash, Jonathan Korpi, AnneMarie Wellman, Teala Howell vote yes
Lindsey Lieck abstains,
Passes.
b. Vielemetti Health Center Sunlamps Budget: Presented by Kat Klawes
Kat Klawes: The first portion is where they’ll go.
Motion to approve made by AnneMarie Wellman
Seconded by Teala Howell,
Unanimous.
c. Student Nominated Faculty Award: Presented by Spencer Deering
Teala: This wasn’t supposed to be an action item but I would like to point out that I’m going to take over this project from Spencer. I move to table this indefinitely.
Seconded by AnneMarie Wellman,
Unanimous.

IX. Public Comment
a. None.

X. Open Forum
a. AnneMarie Wellman: I need a list of people who are willing to help on Monday for the Cat Cleats. Starting at noon in the academic mall, we’ll be handing out the Cat Cleats and maybe flyers. Don’t have a definite ending point because it depends on how fast we hand them out.
b. Danielle Schafer: If there is any feedback for the provost candidate, stick them in my mailbox because I need them by noon on Wednesday.

c. AnneMarie Wellman: My guess is that handing out the cleats won’t take longer than two hours, so I’ll email everyone.

d. Vito Giannola: The city manager approached me about the recycling initiative. They want to reach off campus students and referred him to us and off campus and PR reps, so I’ll send an email out.

e. Lindsey Lieck: Winterfest forms are due tomorrow at 5pm, so get those forms in.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.*