1. Call to Order

Present:
- Kureem Nugent
- Lizzi Tran
- Gillian Mak
- Kaitlin Dunne
- Conor O’Shea
- Phoebe Greenwald
- Katherine Conroy
- Jose Olivares
- Lauren Mulligan
- Ben Schafer
- Kacy Hobbis
- Michelle Woodward
- Samantha Weekenman
- Lilly Pieper
- Gabby Troya
- Zach Oscar
- Isabel Grieder
- Ryan Franquiz
- Marquis Palmer
- Alex Black
- Annalie Garcia
- Maggie Horne
- Rachel Dawson
- Ram Franqui
- Raza Zubair
- Jeremy Cottle
- Ellie Ducommun
- Chris Lee

Excused:
- Jordan Zeng
- Elizabeth Ughetta
- Jack Vissicchio
- Jim Larson
- Mari Hiller

2. Old Business
   - Class and Charter Day Poster Campaign

3. Public Comment Period
   - Paula Weiman and Caroline Kriedberg - Hillel
Caroline Kriedberg: We are here to talk about the fact that there is no kosher kitchen on Hamilton’s campus. We have used Azel Backus in the past but the kitchen is not actually kosher. It is used by other organizations who cook non-kosher food. The administration has expressed concern and has said that they want to work on this issue. Plans have been presented to us, but very little has moved forward, and we have not been given a clear timeline. Students are coming here that are used to keeping kosher but there is no option for this in the dining halls or even a place to cook kosher options on campus.

Caroline Kriedberg: Last week, I attended an event held by a different student organization and when I got there, I realized that organization was using Hillel’s pots and pans to cook foods that were not kosher (they included pork and shellfish). Because this happened, none of our kitchen stuff can be used for kosher. We have to buy completely new pots and pans and plates etc. We are meeting with the Dean of Students tomorrow and hopefully we can find a long term solution that includes more transparency as well as short term solutions that will help our students.

Paula Weiman: Anything used to prepare food that is not kosher, is no longer kosher. The meals were never kosher in the first place because the kitchen is not kosher, but now we don't even have kosher pots and pans and other kitchen utensils. In the short term, we need to replace dishes, silverware, pots, and pans. Long term we need to educate students better. We need to have a kosher space (our own kitchen) this is the only way that we can ensure that an issue like this doesn’t happen again.

Ellie Ducommun: As a short term solution, once the materials are replaced can there be a lock provided and a sign?

Paula Weiman: There was a sign. The lock on the closet had broken

Ben Schafer: Who provided the pots and pans?

Paula Weiman: Our advisor bought some of our pots and pans out of her own pocket initially, and over the years we have accumulated over five hundred dollars worth of different kitchen utensils that we have bought from the Hillel budget.

Ben Schafer: Have you met with Bon Appetit?

Paula Weiman: We did, but they never got back to us after our meeting.

Ben Schafer: Bon Appetit is trying to be more accommodating to student dietary needs, I encourage you to come to food committee, but I’d also be happy to put you directly into contact.

Jose Olivares: Thank you for coming. I like your idea of educating the community well. I was wondering if you could elaborate a little bit more as to what exactly is kosher.

Caroline Kriedberg: There are a lot of Kosher rules. Some examples include that no meat and dairy can be served within the same meal. No shellfish, no pork, no insects (though that isn’t an issue here). The animal
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has to be kosher in a kosher way. For instance chicken is a kosher meat, but it needs to be from a kosher butcher.

- **Lizzi Tran:** Has this problem come up before? It seems like students would easily borrow pots and pans and not ask permission.
- **Caroline Kriedberg:** This is the first time we have been personally aware of this situation. I talked to an organization leader who informed me that a different organization had told her that they regularly used our closet.

After the event the following day, I talked with a physical plant employee who informed me that he and his coworkers have seen students taking pots and other utensils out of our closet. We know that these are not Hillel executive board members, because we do not remove the kitchen supplies from the kitchen.

- **Lizzi Tran:** That’s completely understandable. You’re proposing a new kitchen just for kosher.
- **Paula Weiman:** There will be a vote for the administration. We have proposed a space in the basement in Bristol. We have given them the proposal from an architect.
- **Lizzi Tran:** How would you like us to help?
- **Caroline Kriedberg:** The main thing that SA can help us with is spreading this information. Much of the campus is unaware that this is a problem and that there is no access to these resources.

- **Lilly Pieper:** In addition to the minutes and social media, we would give information to the whole campus as well.
- **Phoebe Greenwald:** Are there other pots and pans available in this space?
- **Paula Weiman:** One of the rules for the space is that other student organizations cannot use the utensils and cooking materials in that space. These rules are posted inside the Azel Backus kitchen.

- **Katie Guzzetta:** If people are using your pots and pans because they need to provide their own. It might be a simple solution to provide them in that space. Perhaps

- **Annie Garcia:** What will you be doing with the ruined pots and plans?
- **Paula Weiman:** We have discussed selling them to another student group or donating them to a soup kitchen.

- **Gillian Mak:** You should also submit a nonstrategic budget to Student Assembly. We might be able to help out. I will also attach your letter when I distribute the minutes after the meeting.

○ **Katie Guzzetta and Marta Antoniv**–

- **Katie Guzzetta:** All science students have to take labs and no science student gets credit for these labs. A lab class is typically once a week for three to four hours. Depending on the class, you have pre lab and a lab write up. So having lab and a class takes eight or so hours a week. We would like to propose that lab courses count as a half credit or a quarter
credit. We don’t think that students accumulating excessive credits will be an issue. It might be the equivalent of Hamilton students taking orchestra or music lessons for a quarter credit. Many students who take extra credits still take four credits every semester.

- **Zach Oscar**: Do you know how other schools are addressing the credit problem?
- **Katie Conroy**: A lot of schools go by credit hours.
- **Ben Schafer**: Lab courses take significantly more time than other courses that are half credits or quarter credits. I’ve taken orchestra and two lab credits every semester I’ve been on campus. There’s a huge time disparity between these courses.
- **Phoebe Greenwald**: Our next step should be going to a faculty assembly meeting with a written resolution. In answer to what Zach was talking about, I think we could take a lot of ideas from other institutions, such as Brown.
- **Katie Conroy**: We might be creating a slippery slope. I’m in a film course that is meeting for a comparable amount of time. I’m a little concerned about what counts as a quarter credit.
- **Marquis Palmer**: Are you familiar for the justification for the credit system we have now? What is the reasoning for the system we have now? Are you advocating that science courses in general receive more credits because they take up so much time? Or are you saying that any course that demands more hours be put in.
  1. **Marta Antoniv**: We think that the standard 1 credit per class is fair. When you have the equivalent of half of a class added on, it shouldn’t be a zero credit.

- **Katie Guzzetta**: My next concern was that there are dual-sport athletes who can only use one of their varsity spots to fulfill a PE credit.
- **Kureem Nugent**: I believe the Registrar could best answer this question
- **Katie Guzzetta**: My final concern is the Gender Blocking in housing. Dorms have a 40/60 ratio. This is problematic in the substance-free lottery because there were many more females than males who wanted to live there.
- **Kureem Nugent**: Res Life is often flexible with this ratio. I’ve talked to Travis and Ashley; they ended up reaching out to those were initially interested to fill those spots.

4. **New Business**
   - **Andrew Jillings -- Point System 2.0**
     - Co-Chair of the Points Committee
Nancy Thompson formed committee to re-address the points system. This committee is not formed to create radical change in the points system. It is not here because something is broken, but to find things that could be changed.

Students will be receiving an email from their RA with a survey so they can make their opinion known. Students may not be familiar with every value on the points system, but they can go in and look at it online. Based on survey results and further discussion, we are going to make some recommendations to Nancy Thompson.

Zach Oscar: It is important to know that this committee is about assessing the objective system, not the subjective process that students go through. It is likely that the committee’s discussions will lead to more changes about the system.

Marquis Palmer: Why prioritize the objective system rather than the process? What is the justification behind this?

Andrew Jillings: We were asked to look at the points system as opposed to the system.

Zach Oscar: Ten years ago when the points system was designed it was in response to the severe vandalism on campus. Some of the point values are skewed to those issues now.

Jose Olivares: I was wondering if you could talk about the Committee’s reasoning for sending the survey to staff given that they aren’t directly affected by points.

Andrew Jillings: We can separate answers based on who is answering and they are on the receiving end of these behaviors. For instance, the employees who live on G Road might have a strong opinion of excessive noise. We are just collecting data.

Isabel Grieder: Is this an ongoing committee?

Andrew Jillings: Our job is to get information to Nancy Thompson by the end of the semester. There have been other committees in the past, such as the Alcohol Commission that met for years and years.

Lilly Pieper: What areas are we looking at the most? I just took the survey and I didn’t know a lot of the stuff on there. I felt like the ranges for each specific offense seemed large.

Andrew Jillings: We are just getting information back from the student body. There are one or two issues that have already come up, but we are most interested in what people have to say.

5. Committee Reports
   • Cultural Affairs- Chair: Katie Conroy
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- Setting up Think Tank on education inequality Thursday at 6:00 in KJ 102. Anyone is welcome to join the conversation! We will be talking about addressing differences in education and academic preparation coming into Hamilton.

- **Food**- Chairs: Ben Schafer & Gillian Mak
  - Meeting this Friday 4:30 in McEwen. We will be talking about Class and Charter Day and kosher options.

- **Health and Safety**- Chair: Annalie
  - Working with Student Affairs to make Class and Charter posters.

- **LITS**- Chair: Chris Lee
  - Hamilton App has launched!
  - **Maggie Horne**: Is there any way that the app could have hours of buildings on campus?
  - **Chris Lee**: We are looking into it.

- **Philanthropy**- Chair: Jeremy Cottle
  - This Saturday: Working with the Swim Team and Gamma to raise money for Kate Pinkley ’95, a Hamilton Alum with pancreatic cancer. There will be a DJ, pool games, and snacks.
  - Annual Silent Auction Gala on Sunday, May 1st at 2:00 in Sadove Living Room/Sun Porch.
    - If anyone has ideas or connections for items to auction off, we would love to hear from you! We will be auctioning off things like VIP seating at commencement and Senior Week tickets.
    - All proceeds are going towards our Young Civic Leader Scholarship that will benefit a local high school student who has demonstrated commitment to civic leadership in their community.

- **Social Traditions**- Chair: Ellie Duncommun
  - School spirit event on Saturday from 11:30-4:30. Foam fingers and temporary tattoos.

- **Senior Week Committee**-
  - Ticket sale kickoff event at the pub this Thursday!

**6. Funding**

**Rollbacks:** $1524.00  
**R.A.R.E:** $1524.00

**Amount Remaining:** $6783.01

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Amount Requested: $1051.99
Amount Recommended: $204.02
Amount Remaining if Funding Passes: $6,578.99

- Write Back @ You, Colleges Against Cancer, and Hogwarts at Hamilton passed as recommended.
  - Write Back @ You: Student Assembly doesn’t fund member t-shirts.
  - Colleges Against Cancer: Not funded due to the 10 week probationary period.

7. Announcements
   - Student Assembly Class President/Treasurer/Representative elections are coming up!
     - Lookout for emails from Lizzi.
   - Ashley Place from Residential Life will be hosting open hours in the Sadove Sun Porch anytime between 1 and 2:15 on Wednesday this week to answer questions about the housing lottery.
   - Happy Birthday to our Treasurer, Mari!