1. Call to Order
   - Attendance
     - Present
       - Jon Stanhope
       - Gillian Mak
       - Ramisa Tasnim
       - Nani Suzuki
       - Jake Engelman
       - Max Kohn
       - Noam Barnhard
       - Kureem Nugent
       - Marquis Palmer
       - Zach Oscar
       - Ysabel Cross
       - Jonathan Kirshenbaum
       - Casey Codd
       - Molly Clark
       - Jack Fischman
       - Max Phillips
       - Harry Dubke
       - Ben Katz
       - Jodan D’Addio
       - Nadav Konforty
       - Julian Perricone
       - Keith Ruggles
       - Gianni Hill
       - Elizabeth Groubert
       - Amanda Kim
       - Jiin Jeong
       - Maria Valencia
       - Eseosa Asiruwa
     - Excused
       - Cesar Guerrero
       - Diana Perez
     - Absent
       - Lilly Pieper

Public Comment Period
- **Katie Guzzetta ‘18:** I live in Milbank, over the summer I was not on a meal plan, did all of my cooking by myself. Now that I am gonna be in Millbank I have to be on the 7 or 14 plan. The main reasoning is that you can't lock your food away, so she's worried that
people will be stealing things. I feel like this is not fair to not be on the 7, because it is cheaper. It is such a good life skill to know how to cook. I would like to create a petition bc students are not aware you can't be on the 7 meal plan when living in suites. I just wanted to put this out there. I did a breakdown on how ppl are being charged for 21 and 7. It seems like people are being overcharged. Irene said the money, lunch at commons would cost $7, dinner $9.50 The difference for day is on the 21 you are losing a dollar during lunch and gaining a dollar on dinner. Of you are on 7 meal plan that would charge you $14 for food on commons per day. The reason is that extra money is going to hamilton college to pay for stove and ovens. I do feel like we are being overcharged for this.

- Harry Dubke: If you are trying to have a petition, where can we sign?
- Katie Guzzetta: have not done anything yet, just bought this up and wanted to share with the campus.
- Julian Perricone: She’s going to speak with Food Committee about next steps.

- Travis Hill: Katie and I have had some back and forth. Because I am the meal plan appeal process holder, for the food committee, when you get to this conversation I would like to be involved in this conversation. I might have input that would be helpful.

- Jiin Jeong: Freshmen are required to be on the 21 meal plan, do you think that this should apply to them?

  - Katie Guzzetta: personally I believe everyone should have a choice, but especially those who live in suites with kitchens. Most kitchens are not proper in freshmen dorms.

2. Old Business

- Dean Martinez: Good Evening, thank you all for coming. Recently I have been having conversations with students about the social issues on campus and meeting with them individually. Thank you for inviting me to have these conversations, I appreciate all the time that I have spent with you all. My goal this semester is to first listen and observe before I make decisions. I have had conversations about a diverse array of topics, and I know that the topic of social issues is highly important to the student body. I am glad to have heard various perspectives from the student body on these issues. My goal is to be able to clearly say “these are the things we will not compromise, and these are the things that students want.” The question is how we can stand in the middle and find common ground. I know Travis met with some students in the COOP. My expectation is to continue this conversation and hear student proposals. Our plan is not to make decisions without the student perspective, but to engage with you all so that you are all involved in
the conversation and be able to understand the reasons why some decisions are made. I hope we can come to an agreement on these issues.

- **Landis Hagerty**: Since I have come in to speak already, I think most of my opinions are known to the public. I recently met with Travis about CoOp specific issues and general policy change. I have had a lot of people come up to me, such as individuals from Greek life, RA’s, senior citizens, etc, and I am excited to hear that these issues resonate with people and how people are willing to be engaged with these issues. I would like to hear others talk and listen to their opinions that reaches beyond the COOP
  - **Dean Martinez**: Could you elaborate on your conversation with Travis Hill to help others understand the situation better?
  - **Landis Hagerty**: We talked mainly about why COOP residents felt tension between administration. We both felt that there has not been a lot of engagement. We talked about the COOP as a different kind of space. Everyone in the dorm is working cooperatively and has collective goals, designating a public space but also in the control of those who are utilizing the spaces. Is there anything you want to add Travis?

- **Noelle Niznik**: One thing I wanted to add really quickly is that when we talk about social spaces tonight, we aren’t talking about approved social spaces such as the Annex, Bundy or the Hub, but we are talking about informal social spaces for students like the Farmhouse and CoOp.

- **Jim Larson ‘18**: I have lived in the COOP for 3 years. After living there for so long and seeing what the COOP can do and how it can create a home for students, I am wondering if you, residential life, and administration have any plans to produce something similar?
  - **Dean Martinez**: I am interested in how we build community here. Essentially, I think it is about people coming together and having like minded interests. One of the things I shared, through the Strategic Plan, is how we look at our housing inventory, traditional first year dorms and semi and full suites. Students progress throughout the year and their needs change. I want us to look at how we accommodate different housing styles. I don't have a specific answer to this but I am interested in discussing this further and curious to see what would work well here

- **Harry Dubke**: Just to expand this past the CoOp, there has been similar concerns in terms of lack of housing and more importantly social options on campus. Having everyone live on campus shifts the social life on campus. In the past year we have seen restrictions on social spaces. Before my class year, I knew there were two other formal social spaces were removed as well as informal spaces such as the Farm House. A lot of
the spaces that Hamilton students used to have had become restricted, how do you plan on addressing this?

- **Dean Martinez:** I think there is a lack of social spaces on campus. I don't know if I am going to address that right now, but I do recognize that this is an issue. I believe that collective wisdom contributes to engagement, so my hope is continuing to have conversations about this in hopes of addressing this issue in an efficient manner.

- **Harry Dubke:** One main concern of students is that we love “conversations”. The CoOp basement was shut down before any conversation was made. For example, I emailed the person in charge of parking regulations regarding the removal of weekend pub lot parking and I received no answer except that it was “under review.” I think a lot of students are failing to see results from these conversations anyway. What is your opinion on this?

- **Dean Martinez:** I will make this expectation in the Division of Student Life. You have my commitment that we will have conversations with students, not electronically, but face to face conversations. One thing I often correct people on when they are talking about the administration, is that it is easy to say “the administration” and not talk about the specific person. When you talk just about the “administration”, it loses the face to face aspect.

- **Max Philipps:** Just off of what Harry said, I wanted to ask what you believe that the purpose of residential life is. I could not find a mission statement on the school website. You say that you don't have a concrete plan, but do u have prior experience concerning this matter?

- **Dean Martinez:** I definitely have experiences and examples. At Columbia, we had Brownstones. There was an unfortunate situation with a drug ring going on at Columbia, with three fraternities involved. We removed students from the houses because of the issues that arose from this complication. We had just renovated the brownstone buildings, and they were a highly sought after space. We put together a student committee and they put together a special interest housing council, where students would listen to presentations and decide who would live in these houses. There were Native American groups, pre-med students, Art Collective, etc. They had vast differences but were each able to come together as stronger because they lived together. Essentially, I really do believe that our residential building is where you call home, be comfortable, and create your family. I aspire for Hamilton to be able to reach this level of sentiment, but we are very far from that at this moment.
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

**Student Assembly Meeting**  
**September 25, 2017**

- **Noam Barnhard:** When you last spoke to SA you said you had no plan on making rash decisions without conversation. Obviously, we all appreciate that sentiment. However I have friends from Johns Hopkins and Hamilton who have expressed concern to me. Hamilton does not have an intense party scene which is why closing social spaces like the COOP basement is such a big deal and feels like a betrayal. Hamilton is low key in terms of what its nightlife is and so removal of an innocent social space hurts the student body. Although you don’t have a direct plan, do you have any sense of direction?
  - **Dean Martinez:** These conversation with Travis and Landis are the first step. From this conversation, we can come to some point in the middle. For other spaces, I need more time to have conversations and gather information in order to make decisions. The COOP is one issue we can work with right now.
  - **Noam Barnhard:** Of there were a spectrum between creating spaces where students feel comfortable and closing those spaces and creating big spaces?
  - **Dean Martinez:** I apologize for continuing to say this, but again somewhere in the middle. Conversations are the key in order to come to a compromise and reach an understanding.

- **Elizabeth Groubert:** Shutting down the social spaces on campus increases social activities off campus. This is unfortunate and unfair for students who cannot afford to go off campus.

- **Garth Robinson:** I think it is frustrating as a member of CoOp who brings concrete and specific concerns to the administration but gets little information back. I would love to hear a more specific illustration of what those conversation are going to look like?
  - **Dean Martinez:** I shared my concerns about Greek Life with members of the inter-council. I will meet with the co-chairs because they would like to put together a group to discuss these issues. I am also opening up the search for a new Title IX Director. I am taking a look at dangerous drinking behavior on campus, and I spoke with Gillian and Jon with students who will recommend students for these working groups. In each of these area I am hoping to have a working group. It sounds like I need to do something for the social spaces as well.

- **Peter Briccetti:** One of the things I have been thinking about is mental health and wellbeing on campus. This is a real issue for the campus population. Just this semester alone, I have witnessed people having to leave campus because they were unhappy. This issue is affecting the entire community. Second, when I talk to people on campus, I know first hand these dorms turn into hotel rooms and spaces where we live our lives. You might know the person living across from you, but you know no one else in the dorm. One thing I want to see is a solution to this problem. Places like Eels are perfect for
communal housing where individual communities can be built, but I have yet to see any inclination to do so. I feel like building dorm community would be beneficial.

- **Dean Martinez:** I am in agreement with you. We need to work together to fix these issues.
- **Travis Hill:** We are currently looking at this issue in my office, and the first meeting occurred this morning. We want to engage students in putting this plan forward. There is value in themed housing and potential opportunities. We need student feedback to help us out, and I will admit our office could have done a better job engaging the community. From now on we will try very hard to include community feedback.

- **Max Phillips:** I wanted to respond to your point about dangerous drinking on campus. I feel that dangerous drinking occurs when social spaces are closed down on campus. This is a very prevalent issue on campus. What do you believe is the best strategy to overcome this issue, based on your prior experiences.
  - **Dean Martinez:** I hesitate to give an answer to this based on my prior experience with other schools, just because you cannot cookie cut from one campus to another. Hamilton is different from other institutions, with a different dynamic and different social culture. We need to provide other opportunities for students to come together. I can't allow underage drinking to happen. That is against the law, and I will not do anything or give support anything that violates the law. I will not go the other extreme either. I want all students to have a healthy experience.

- **Max Kohn:** I think it's worth shifting the conversation away from drinking, because I think social spaces are not just about drinking. Mental health is about seeing people on a continuous basis and hanging out with them.

- **Kureem Nugent:** I also want to clarify, will the COOP basement be reopened?
  - **Dean Martinez:** We are still in the process of figuring this out, Travis and Landis will meet and come up with some proposals.
  - **Kureem Nugent:** The Eels common room basement is locked?
  - **Travis Hill:** Yes. Both of the spaces were used to throw parties that included damaging things. I fully recognize the population of students change, that is what led to those decisions

- **Rachel Sutor:** Since we are talking about the issues of social spaces, I want to suggest that we consider reevaluating the housing lottery if there is a way to make it easier, perhaps through an electronic process. The other point I had was the idea of creating an athlete wellness housing. Athletes are on a particular kind of schedule, and they also aren’t allowed to drink at times. Athletes living together is not a bad thing.
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

- **Dean Martinez**: I don't believe that all students are binge drinking. But according to campus statistics, 35% of students are binge drinking/engaging in dangerous drinking. I think that is an important and valuable point to make. The 35% is influencing the campus.
  - **Jon Stanhope**: Can you give more context to that 35% of students engage in dangerous drinking statistic?
    - **Dean Martinez**: That is a part of a national survey but this is the aggregated data looking at binge drinking for Hamilton specifically.

- **Gianni Hill**: I have been spending time researching mental health on college campuses through the Levitt Center. I wanted to share that in a survey of nearly 28,000 students on 51 campuses by the American College Health last year that “more than 60% of students said that they had felt very lonely in the last 12 months”. Loneliness is a primary cause of binge drinking. When thinking about social spaces, we need to consider mental health. It is not enough to simply look at the physical aspects of social spaces, but also the mental implications and ramifications.

- **Noam Barnhard**: Kureem made a good point about Eels basement and the COOP basement. Both of these social spaces were shut down because they were used for drinking. However, it is not a secret that the Babbitt and Milbank common rooms, which are also social spaces, are used as a drinking space. At what point does the administration consider boarding up those common rooms, as well?
  - **Dean Martinez**: I think that is absurd,
  - **Noam Barnhard**: I am confused as to why that is an absurd question
  - **Martinez**: we are not interested in boarding up these rooms, we are having conversation on how to use the spaces that have been closed off.

- **Jack Fischman**: I noticed a disconnect with what you’re saying and how campus safety treats these spaces. You said binge drinking is the issue, in my experience here, Campus Safety treats this totally different. For example, in my freshman year, there was a party in South and 90 kids got points but there were 2 thirty racks, there was no binge drinking. My question is how do we translate this conversation to Campus Safety's treatment of social spaces. This is what I think is more dangerous,and could cause more harm
  - **Dean Martinez**: Campus Safety gets calls through the TIPS line anytime they report to a particular instance. They have to respond and if necessary confiscate the existent alcohol or marijuana.
  - **Jack Fischman**: I think there's a difference with confiscating the alcohol and getting people in trouble for minor issues. I think people are being treated unfairly for small things.
○ **Dean Martinez:** we have been redoing the point system, and students have been engaged in the discussion.

○ **Zach Oscar:** I was on the committee that reevaluated the points system. We made sure the point ranges were broad because of there has to be a range depending on the severity and circumstances.

- **Elizabeth Groubert:** Just bringing it back to social spaces. They offer the chance for students from different grades to interact. For those who want to drink do have events staff right there. It is more beneficial to have social spaces in campus rather than the alternative, which is letting them go for campus

  ○ **Travis Hill:** Just to clarify, anything that is informal social spaces, do not have events staff

  ○ **Elizabeth Groubert:** I know the farmhouse was shut down, it was an informal social space. I was wondering if we could take an initial to make more social spaces available.

  ○ **Travis Hill:** I think, one the farmhouse wa taken down for the project that was taken, the house would sway when there were parties. The wear and tear that students put on these spaces. Are not necessarily what we would do in the future. Looking at spaces that we have added on campus recently, like Morris House.

- **Jonathan Kirshenbaum:** To potentially frame Elizabeth’s question, farmhouse excluded, I believe the broader concern students have expressed is that, over the course of two years, we have seen more regular housing shifted into substance free housing (generally to accommodate the increasing number of students who elect to partake in the sub-free lottery in order to avoid the general lottery) and that there may be an imbalance if those shifts are not accounted for without having to build new housing. Is this the case, and if so, is there any plan to realign the specific substance free designations to balance the shifts that are happening? For example, Anderson, Rogers Estate, 3944, etc.

  ○ **Travis Hill:** In terms of those specific spaces, (3944 and 400), were in rough upkeep. Anderson House was professor housing and we intend to restore it to this purpose once 100 College Hill Road is returned from the Counseling Center. The goal is to make sure we are offering high quality housing that better meets the needs of those who are developmentally.

- **Katie Guzzetta:** Another one of those spaces was Rogers Estate. Spaces that are small and communal are being taken away. One of the reasons parties get shut down in Millbank is because they affect more people. There are people who don't want to live in loud spaces and those who do. Grouping them together would be beneficial. Another thing, we talked about loneliness, I think there have been a lot of pressure on RA’s to
deal with loneliness. I think Hamilton students need to reach out to another and work on it at as a community.

- **Keith Ruggles**: Earlier you mentioned alternatives to going out on weekend nights, we already have an existing late night programming, hybrid between RAs and clubs. In this sense of creating alternatives, would you be more open to programming these events to have more variety or more advertising?
  - **Dean Martinez**: I think it is up with the Student Organizations. There are so many organizations are doing so much in the evening, it is incumbent on them to see what is working well.

- **Ysabel Coss**: First I wanted to say to Travis, that I am happy that Res Life is happy to work with students. Like Dean Martinez said, there needs to be common ground. I agree with the outrage over closing the Co-op basement, but I have seen the damage that has been a result of the weekend. It's frustrating to live in those dorms and have to deal with the mess the next day. I don't think closing of these spaces is the answer. However, I think that these conversation with students are important because it puts the responsibility on both parties. My question is, could you share any suggestions from fellow students that you have heard?
  - **Dean Martinez**: no one has said there has been any solutions. I have been hearing problems and issues, but no one has come up to me with solutions.

- **Max Phillips**: I don't know how Res Life transitions a space to SUB Free and shutting down spaces. I don't feel like there is student input on this.
  - **Travis Hill**: we have not had a system. In the past, my approach has been that I come to SA to say that we are closing spaces. It is awkward to announce to brand new residents about how we closed certain spaces, but sometimes it is something we need to do. We had some of this conversation with Landis. I am happy to explain why we make a decision, but I don't tend to want to put on a facade to take feedback and then ignore it and make the same decision anyways. These present conversations will help us in the future. I think Landis's argument is definitely attractive.
  - **Max Phillips**: It doesn't seem there is a specific process?
  - **Travis Hill**: The decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.
  - **Max Phillips**: I think there should a process and a explanation made public to the student body.
  - **Travis Hill**: The substance free decision are made by the interest of the students. Under our last President, we tried to fill all of the Substance Free demand. Rogers Estate was then used to satisfy this demand.
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2017**

- **Max Phillips:** There should be a process and students should be a part of it. I think there is a general lack of clarity and transparency when these decisions are made.
- **Landis Hagerty:** The narrative that there is an unhealthy drinking culture and nightlife on campus and physical damage to these spaces. When it was explained to us, it was because there was a mess left and we haven't learned how to respect the space that it was gonna be removed. If the reactivation is to remove the costs of property damage, a locked room is the perfect solution. I want to point out that there was no harm done to the CoOp basement and to students. Drinking may have occurred but it was not binge drinking. I am sure there were some scuff marks and some signs. The question is whether that is an acceptable cause to shut down the basement.
- **Jim Larson:** I know that I am not going to be on campus much longer; could you be specific in term of time line?
  - **Dean Martinez:** Some of the issues are longer term. The issues around social spaces, we could have conversations this semester and then maybe implement certain solutions. I see that happening with the alcohol working groups as well. Make some recommendations and socialize them into the fall. These issues have been longstanding issues and they will not have simple solutions.
- **Marquis Palmer:** I had a suggestion, is the history of changes that res life has made, been catalogued? If not, can it be? This way the students can understand why we do/do not have social spaces.
  - **Travis Hill:** We don't have official records on this. The challenge is that the expectation is that no alcohol will be used in informal social spaces. The only other spaces I can think of are the Bundy basements, which were locked years ago.
  - **Marquis Palmer:** In the interest of transparency, can there be a published record of changes? Both in the past and the coming decisions to satisfy the student demand?
  - **Travis Hill:** I can try. It is easier to engage in conversation but I will do my best.
- **Margaret Sophia:** I personally feel like maybe these students are selected in a closed process. It does not feel like there has been a wide variety of students in these committees. What is the process of selecting students to serve on these committees?
  - **Dean Martinez:** I have been speaking with Jon and Gillian about when I need more committee members, as they are the chosen representatives of the student body.
  - **Gillian Mak:** Generally, members of the administration come forward to the President and Vice President for suggestions of who will serve on committees,
working groups, etc. Usually, these requests are for SA representatives specifically; however, we have done all campus nomination processes in the past, for example with the Strategic Planning Committee.

**Harry Dubke (added after the meeting):**

I’d like to add that quite a few solutions have been recommended by students, even during this single meeting:

I. Formalize and record the process for closing social spaces (COOP basement, Eells basement, Bundy West basement) and converting housing options to sub-free (Roger’s Estate, Anderson)

II. Open this process to student input and clearly display the reasoning behind any decisions reached in a publicly accessible format (all-campus email, public forum)

III. Open more informal social spaces for student gatherings (start with those that have been recently closed to student use)

IV. Open more formal social spaces for student gatherings (past the 3 currently available)

V. Ensure that all aspects of student life and res life consult/engage with students instead of reaching a decision unilaterally on any social/housing issues

VI. Address the complaints surrounding the 7-meal plan (access to it in the suites and its overall cost)

VII. Begin cataloguing the decisions made by student affairs and res life and the reasoning behind them

VIII. Include more themed housing

IX. Assign student reps to the decision making bodies in res life to oversee the process

**NOTE from Gillian Mak and Jon Stanhope:** Next week’s meeting will have time set aside to look at these options. This week, a working group will begin to put together recommendations for the administration about actions that we think should move forward this semester. If you’d like to join in the conversation about solutions, please feel free to attend.

**Livestreaming Meetings**

- **Eseosa Asiruwa:** I met with Forrest Warner and Tim Hicks. President Whippman talked to them about the possibility of livestreaming. He found that since SA is an open forum there are no legalities behind it. However, it is a large expense. We would need 6 microphones, and at least 2 cameras. Also when you’re live streaming, audio is a big thing so it would pick up everything. It would all be on the live stream. Pres wants to help us out. But all the equipment could cost roughly 20 to 40 thousand dollars.
Jonathan Stanhope: Gillian and I talked about this in passing with David Wippman and the President has a lot of support for it. There’s a chance that this could happen. The school does not currently have a room they can live stream with these type of capabilities. Maybe that’s something other organizations and groups on campus would benefit from as well.

- Jonathan Kirshenbaum: Money needs to be a consideration, no matter whose pockets it is coming out of, however, I am still fully behind the spirit of this initiative. I think it will hold us accountable to conduct ourselves more professionally, ensure we offer the most helpful insight, and carry out our meetings more efficiently by eliminating side conversations. Were money be no object, I’d like to explore this idea at the next level.

- Ysabel Coss: This would really change the culture of SA. It would take us to the next level, and change our image for the better.

- Marquis Palmer: I agree completely, this is generally a great idea not only for SA purposes but to the wider Hamilton student body. The equipment would remain for other organizations and committees. I think we could lean heavily on the college for this. I know that we would have to go through the bureaucratic process but I think it would be worth it.

- Gianni Hill: I really like this idea. It brings legitimacy to the group in that people can access it wherever they are. At the same time, we should keep in mind that by doing this it makes people believe that what the Assembly is doing is more formal. That might scare people away from sharing their opinions with us.

- Zach Oscar: I don't think SA Should have a hand on funding in this, we can get this done externally. Would be beneficial for other organizations as well.

Gillian Mak: I have two points. First, it seems like there's a lot of SA interest in moving forward with live streaming, so you all should help pick up some of the slack for Sosa. She works really hard as a liaison with DMC and LITS and we appreciate her! Second, if you have recommendations or changes you want to make, create a clear proposal for Jon and I to take to the administration. We talk a lot about problems on SA, and the actions you do make a big impact on whether we are seen as legitimate or not. I’d rather us be an assembly that is pushing for a ton of change, rather than one that just talks for two hours every Monday.

Zach Oscar: A final announcement. Next week, I am looking for people to participate in the task force that will reach out to students. One of the things that we could do is say “we had a convo with Dean Martinez, do you have clear suggestions and that you will put
your name to for us to bring to the administration for next steps.” Come talk to me after the meeting if you want to participate.

3. Funding

Non-strategic remaining prior to Student Assembly Meeting: $5,460.27

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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Items/Services Requested</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Recommended</th>
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*Italics = Discretionary*

Total Amount Requested: $3,118.48
Total Amount Recommending: $1,406.54
Amount Remaining in Discretionary: $3,991.00
Amount Remaining in General Fund: $2,441.79

- **Jake Engelman:** First, shoutout to Ramisa for killing it on the minutes during a long meeting. Now, moving on to funding, Gaming Club is here, they resubmitted for $311. Their budget includes a number of board games. When we cut the budget during strategic, we knew the overall budget was going to be tight so we saw this as an opportunity to cut the funds. I now agree that $50 was low, and after revisiting we decided to fund another $200.
• **Ian Wilson**: Earlier tonight, there was a lot of discussion about places for students to congregate during the weekend. Gaming Club provides a consistent place to have students to congregate without alcohol. We usually have a group of 15-20 consistent members and many of them are freshmen. Funding is necessary to sustain interest.

• **Jon Stanhope**: Thank you for coming in. I think your argument is consistent with our conversation earlier in the evening. Personally I would like to fund them in full.

• **Keith Ruggles**: What is the discrepancy between requested and recommended?
  - **Jake Engelman**: The recommended amount is just to set their total funding for the semester to $250.

• **Keith Ruggles**: What do you plan to do with the full amount? Do you believe this would make a tangible impact on attendance at your events and awareness of your organization?
  - **Ian Wilson**: We have a different types of people come to the club, and they all do not want to play the same type of game. If we had a lower level of funding we would have to make a choice on what group we are serving.

• **Noam Barnhard**: I think Gaming Club is a great and important club. However, I believe there should be a precedent put in place. It just seems like a lot of money for the games each semester, totaling almost a thousand dollars last year alone. What do you think should be the precedent set?
  - **Ian Wilson**: We have been trying to keep the budget to 400-500. Once people play these games, they play them and get bored. The funding provides funding engagement. There are a lot of other clubs who provide leisure activities who get funded at a higher level.

• **Jiin Jeong**: Maybe you could rent your games to other clubs and organizations?
  - **Ian Wilson**: In the past we have had a close relationships with People Who Like to do Fun Things as well as RAs. I am happy to led them out in a more official sense.
  - **Talia Vaughan**: If we were to do such a thing, my fear is losing and damaged items. Mostly these games can't be played without everything.
  - **Ian Wilson**: If we were doing this in an official sense, that person would be responsible for it.

• **Amanda Kim**: Could you buy used board games?
  - **Ian Wilson**: It is difficult to say, sometimes but not always we try to find the lowest prices available on amazon.

• **Jake Engelman**: In light of our conversation earlier, I think this club does a lot of good. I personally recommend fund in full.

*Gaming Club Funding Passes in Full.*
Mock Trial, Coding Team, MSA, and Vegan Club

- **Jake Engelman**: Mock Trial, we only funded them for two days worth of food. This $233 covers the remaining days on their three trips.
  - **Coding Team**: they have requested money each week since strategic. However, they made a real effort to seek out other resources for their funding so we are their last resort.
  - **Muslim Students Association**: We had some questions about dates, which they corrected so we are now recommending in full.
  - **Vegan Club**: Requesting money for home cooked meals.
    - **Noam Barnhard**: The Vegan Club only makes vegan food, they aren’t educating people on being vegan. Other than the fact that vegan, it’s just funding food. I think our dining halls have lots of good options of vegan food.
    - **Nadav Konforty**: I know from vegans that there are minimal options on campus unless you enjoy just eating salad. Noam, just give them the food. They’re sad and they’re vegan. Just let them be happy.
    - **Julian**: I agree with Noam, like, why not spread their message about veganism in addition to their programming?

**Coding Team, Mock Trial, MSA, and Vegan Club Funding Passes as recommended.**

- **Jake Engelman**: Philanthropy submitted a budget last week which had an item we missed, so we’re recommending funding them in full with discretionary for a bake sale. The total left with be 3,990 left in discretionary.

**Discretionary funding passes in full for Philanthropy Committee.**

- **Jake Engelman**: I just wanted to flag that Model UN came to us at the beginning of the semester and requested over our 10% limit. Initially when we talked to them about their budget, we gave them the option to either cut food or a trip. After telling us they didn’t want funding for food, they changed their mind and want to cut some participation at a small loss. We allowed reallocation, but wanted to make sure the Assembly was aware of this. We will be following up in the future as there are many things on both sides of this that we need to look at.

- **Kureem Nugent**: I have a final thought. Gaming Club came and sat through 90 minutes of our meeting and there were minimal comments on their budget. Please be thoughtful
when you are listening to people’s budgets and ideas and don’t just rush through the meetings.

4. Announcements:
   - **Fall Fest is Saturday, September 30th.**
     Any groups or organizations interested in hosting a table should email soctrad@hamilton.edu.
   - **Levitt Leadership Institute (LLI) Applications are open!**
     LLI is a two-week intensive leadership training program promoting transformational leadership practices and social action. During the first week of the Institute, January 7-12, participants will engage in discussions and exercises that develop their transformational leadership skills including active listening, collaborative communication and action, social change, and interviewing skills. After the first week of shared training and practice, students will have the opportunity to select their next leadership experience in either Washington, D.C., or at the Highlander Center for Research and Education in Tennessee. You can find more information about the program here.
   - **Marquis Palmer:** BLSU has created a bi-weekly meeting place where people can call senators back home and advocate on behalf of keeping DACA and other issues pertaining to immigration and the administration. Check your email for more information!