

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

1. Call to Order

Present

- Nadav Konforty
- Julian Perricone
- Jake Engelman
- Noam Barnhard (Late)
- Jonathan Stanhope
- Marquis Palmer
- Zach Oscar
- Ysabel Coss
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Casey Codd
- Ben Rhind
- Sam Gordon
- Giacomo Cabrera
- Ian Chen
- Rachel Sutor
- Ben Katz
- Jordan D'Addio
- Nani Suzuki
- Connie Lorente
- Keith Ruggles
- Gianni Hill
- Elizabeth Groubert
- Diana Perez
- Maria Valencia
- Amanda Kim
- Eseosa Asiruwa

Excused

- Gillian Mak
- Penelope Hoopes
- Jiin Jeong
- Gavin Meade

Absent

- Lilly Pieper

2. Public Comment Period

- **Res Life Update — Travis Hill, Director of Residential Life and Giacomo Cabrera '19**
- **Travis Hill:** I'm Travis Hill, the Assistant Dean of Students for Residence Life. Thanks for giving me some time on what I know is a busy agenda. I want to give



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

a quick update on the existence of the Of the Residential Life Experience committee. We really want to take a look at the residential offerings here at Hamilton and to see if there's room for improvement. We want to assess why and where we need to make a change looking at statistical data to compare ourselves to other schools.

- The committee is made up of Travis Hill, Noelle Niznik, Kaity Werner, Ashley Place, Tessa Chefalo, as well as Andrew Jillings. Giacomo Cabrera is the Student Assembly representative, and then Kureem Nugent and Baillie Riggs are the other students.
- If at the moment you have any feedback on why Residential Life should change, Giacomo might be the best answer. We're really interested in that feedback because that's what we're discussing now.
- **Giacomo Cabrera:** Ultimately we would like to improve the school to make it as enjoyable as it can for the students. If you guys have anything you would like to change or see done, I would love to hear about it. I don't know that we can do everything but we want to do as much as we can.
- **Travis Hill:** Some of the things that we're taking into consideration is special interest housing. We'll always have the opportunity to take student feedback as that comes into fruition. We want to see what makes sense for first-years and upper-class students. We want to send out a survey and inquiring what students want. We also want to see what style of housing makes sense for the year each student is in. We certainly have a wide array of housing options and we certainly want to hear people's opinions.

3. New Business

- **Parkland, Florida — Diana Perez '21 and Nadav Konforty '20**

- **Diana Perez '21:**

On Valentines Day afternoon, 17 students at Majority Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida lost their lives in a school shooting. For those who don't know, I live 10 minutes away from Douglas High School and I had to help my best friend cope with the fact that, Nicholas Dworet, one of his closest friends was one of the 17 victims. After the massacre, My state senator, Marco Rubio among many political leaders voiced resistance to discussing gun control, provoking outrage among the students who survived the shooting & those affected by the shooting- including myself. Over the weekend, there have been countless protests in my hometown demanding change in policies regarding gun control and mental health, that because of the distance I have not been able to attend. Nonetheless, I feel I can do more than dwell and that requires your help.

First, I've been thinking that Student Assembly could host a phone bank and letter crafting day for students here at Hamilton to contact our representatives, senators, and major donors to demand action



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

remembering/honoring the memory of the innocent lives lost in domestic terrorism.

Second, thinking of the victims of gun violence so close to home and in the past couple of years, I couldn't help but wonder what would happen if a tragedy like this occurred at this campus. Therefore, I would like faculty to share with the student body the preventive measures they have in place and response methods to campus shootings. I believe that this information is valuable not only to those who live and work here on campus but to the parents, like mine, who are now worried about a tragedy like this occurring to their own children.

As mental health has been a focus for student assembly and faculty this year, I would encourage the conversations and actions to continue on this campus. Making sure we do everything possible to guarantee that students feel safe at Hamilton and have the access to get help when they need it. When one notices unusual and threatening behavior, it should always be reported. We are a small community and being kind and attentive of one another is our responsibility.

Lastly, I want to thank all those wearing black in memory of the lives lost at Parkland. Although I never thought I would be wearing black today to remember students I shared meals with or interacted with during Debate competitions at Douglas so soon, this shows we as students are willing to take action to demand our government to keep us safe and value our lives more than ideological points. In fact, this movement lead by BLSU reached the attention of the media and you can find coverage on the topic at the WKTV website. Just imagine what we can do as college students if we keep working together. This upcoming Friday, there will be a rally against gun violence at the events barn at 4:30-6:30. An all-campus email from BLSU will be sent out with more information.

All the hands and ideas in response to this tragedy are welcomed and if anyone in the student body has questions or suggestions they can reach out to me at dcperez@hamilton.edu.

- **Nadav Konforty:** Thank you. Just thank you. This hits home for a lot of people, some closer than others. One thing that I personally have been feeling is that I am overwhelmed by the amount of solidarity I see on campus. And yet, I still have that aching feeling that nothing is going to happen or change and it's a mix of sadness and anger.

People always complain that our generation doesn't do anything, that we're not involved enough, that we don't speak out enough, and when we do they tell us we don't know what we're saying and that we're just kids.

Honestly, it's bullshit. I love the solidarity that was shown today on campus for those who chose to wear black. Moreover, I would like to extend a message to those who wore black and those clubs who sent out an



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

all-campus email. If you're going to stand in solidarity, I would hope that students and organizations on campus would follow this up with some action. I am not telling you specifically what to do but action is very much needed. There's not much other way to put it. Otherwise this just falls by the wayside and that does a disservice to everyone.

I strongly encourage everyone to go to the rally on Friday. I think we can all agree that gun violence is an issue and this constant loss of life is an epidemic. I previously spoke with Diana and there's a professor who hosts "Write to your Representative" workshop and we were thinking of hosting one for ourselves. Let me be clear when I say that I'm not telling people what to write but I'm saying just do something. Something must be done.

- **Campus Spaces: *Productive planning discussion as to how SA can further support students to feel comfortable in spaces across campus***

Disclaimer for the Minutes from Nadav Konforty '20 in regards to the following discussion and section:

The intent of the following discussion was to find ways that Student Assembly could better support fellow students, particularly ones of minority and historically oppressed groups, not feeling comfortable in parts of their own campus, specifically the Little Pub.

*While I intended for the discussion to go a certain way, intent doesn't matter because the outcome was different. I was and am disappointed in myself for not immediately interjecting when the conversation pivoted and referred to an article previously published in *The Spectator* by Editor-In-Chief Charles Dunst '18 and led to comments about his character when he was not there to speak for himself. I apologize for lacking the foresight to invite Charles Dunst '18, knowing that the conversation had potential to discuss him. There is no full remedy for this mistake except for an apology and pledge to do better.*

- **Nadav Konforty:** Just a few things before we start this discussion. First, respect each other. Also, speak from your experiences. You don't know what other people have experienced. And be productive. We're not here to have a yelling match. We're here to see how we can best support the student body, because that is everyone's goal here. No one intends to disparage anyone. Don't question anyone's experiences.
- **Irina Rojas:** Thank you for allowing space for us for a little bit, Nadav, and thank you guys for listening. We wanted to come pretty casually to clear up a little bit of the confusion that there was about the intentions of the Pub Power group and women and people who didn't feel comfortable going to the Pub. Just for some clarification, the idea stemmed from some Women's Studies majors who were talking about it at a conference. We didn't really do anything about it because we didn't know how everyone



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

felt about it until the Posse Retreat. People shared sentiments about feeling uncomfortable in certain spaces on campus, and certain POC's and some people felt marginalized in some ways because of their identities. So Ysabel and I felt like our little way of making action was making a Facebook coalition that invited people to come. We often raise these issues and don't do anything about it. We didn't intend for aggressive comments or personal attacks to come but we are really happy it did create a welcoming space people felt empowered going to and to raise more awareness for these issues. We do want to share what we wrote publicly in the group, so if anyone is wondering what the whole description of it was. We feel pretty proud of what we wrote and we did it thoughtfully. We think that moving forward instead of having conversations through very personal media platforms, we can bring things like a fireside chat and have some open dialogue on campus to address these issues if people feel like they want to express their feelings more.

- **Ysabel Coss:** The description from the group is: *Historically, white, upper class, able-bodied males have dominated and claimed many 'public spaces' as their own. Here, at Hamilton College, the Little Pub Lunch serves as a prime example of a space occupied solely by men. Perhaps unintentionally, but undeniably the resulting space makes women, alongside other LGBTQIA+ and POC members of our community feel inferior, unwelcomed, and outnumbered. In an effort to make everyone feel welcome in every space on the Hill, and beyond, our mission is to challenge the hegemonic culture that continues to exist at the little pub.*

The idea was that we would have as many people at the Pub as possible to make it more comfortable and less intimidating for some people. That was the plan, it was just come to the pub. There was no ulterior motive, there was no bigger plan. We just wanted to get people talking about this and to let people know that it's okay and they are being listened to and we hear you and we feel the same way. We just did this as a response to what we were hearing.

- **Nadav Konforty:** Now we're going to open it up to discussion. Again, it's our job to support the student body, if it's within our power, we should do it. I'm also available outside of this if anyone wants to discuss anything.
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** There were two points I wanted to touch upon. First off, I appreciate the initiative. A lot of times, like Nadav said, our generation is accused of not taking action on things we care about and you guys took action. I appreciate that. The first thing I want to touch upon is the response given to Charles Dunst for his editorial. I'm not putting this at the feet of you guys or anyone in Pub Power, but I just want to bring it out here. Charles is a friend of mine so I do have a slight inclination bias on that front but I know he's a good guy and for me to see that he had expressed his opinion and people had suddenly come out labeling him as



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

“XYZ” and slandering him and abusing him and some of the things people said to him both privately and publicly were frankly appalling for me to see. What we’re trying to do is promote inclusivity and open communication so our campus community can have broader understanding of people. I feel it is counterintuitive to come at someone aggressively when you don’t agree with them on a specific issue.

- **Irina Rojas:** I agree. I felt terrible about the “XYZ” labelling, that was not our intention. I reached out to him although it was hard for me to read his editorial, it did feel like a personal attack. I said you should also be treated respectfully and we’re getting dinner tomorrow and we’re having a conversation just the two of us. And that’s where these things start sometimes, just getting to know the person.
- **Mirsadies Raber-Dunning:** One thing I want to say is that although I agree, it’s a complicated boundary and line of when and how to appropriately express one’s opinions. It’s not to say that therefore the actions that resulted are fair to Charles, but I think that it’s an opinion when some of the language used in his article was aggressive in itself. For example, I think the phrase intersectional cult was used which is very aggressive when talking about ideology or inclusivity within feminist discussion. I think using the word “cult” puts it in a negative light. I’m not saying therefore those actions were fair but it upset a lot of people. People were just trying to be inclusive and people just were trying to create a space on campus.
- **Alex Stetter:** I think it’s really important to remember freedom of speech on college campuses as we’ve seen a silencing of views that don’t align with the majority. I think it’s important to encourage honest discourse. Freedom of expression is protected in our first amendment rights. That’s something we really need to acknowledge when we have these discussions because people are entitled to their opinions and we need to listen to the other side. I hope that we can respect people’s opinions and if you disagree, do so respectfully. We need to hold onto that right and freedom that we do have, and if anything so that we can better understand where people are coming from.
- **Zach Oscar:** First, I want to thank you guys for putting this together as a rather casual way to increase inclusivity. We talked about this at Posse Plus so it’s great to see that it happened. I also think it’s great that regardless of what people think, a dialogue is happening. I was on a train, I wasn’t even on campus, and a friend of mine called me and we started talking about the article and about what was happening on campus, and I think that kind of dialogue is really important. I think that while I agree



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

that the language in the article jarring as well. As a white-passing cis straight male, I wasn't personally attacked by it, but I found it jarring. That being said, I think that in addition to freedom of speech and whatnot, I think it's important that people express when they think those kinds of things so that we can better address it. I too thought the cult line sounded bad, but for example, when talking with Charles tomorrow about the problematic language, that's a growing experience for everybody. While I don't personally feel the pain as closely as others might, I think that the dialogue we want to encourage is a part of that. I think the word ignorance is misused frequently but I think it's bringing that ignorance to light. It's not a bad thing. I mean, philosophers always say ignorance is one of the greatest teachers. Bringing said ignorance to light and saying, "here's the dialogue we should shape around it" is more important than necessarily saying "he shouldn't have put it that way." I'd rather him learn from the experience and maybe he could even convince someone that he's right. I think that's important and that's a key feature of our landscape and discourse.

- **Ben Katz:** Thanks a lot for coming in, I think Pub Power made some really good points about what is happening on campus. Just one small thing I found troubling was the assumption that just because you're white you have economic and class privilege, which isn't necessarily true. I have a lot of friends who are white who are first-generation college students, whose parents did not go to college, who are on financial aid at the College. I think that in the language on the Facebook group and in other forums it's kind of assumed that if you are white you have class privilege. I think that's something that should be addressed on campus because it's just blatantly not true. If you go the Financial Aid office they have statistics there to back that up.
- **Gianni Hill:** I worked with Irina in a little discussion group at Posse Plus Retreat and I thought it was awesome. We had a really productive discussion about campus spaces in general and how we can make them feel more welcoming to everyone. We talked about how we can go about resolving issues in a restorative manner where everyone's included in this conversation and to have these talks, and do it in a way that's changing the culture rather than just stirring up animosity. I know the intentions of Pub Power were great because I'm not taking credit for starting it but I was part of that conversation at the beginning and I'm an avid supporter of it. But I think that what's come of this group is there's a lot of people in this group who are activists in nature and who want to protest the Pub's environment and I just think going about it in that sort of way with all these hateful threads on Facebook will further divide us rather than bring people together to enjoy the space. I think it creates more animosity in the Pub environment. When we go about these conversations and getting



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

people together, and even going and occupying and utilizing a space, just don't form it in the view of a protest but rather changing the climate of the space and making it inclusive. One of the comments I saw was like "oh these white men need to check their privilege." We talked a lot about this at Posse Plus as well, it's something you can say but that's not really gonna change the culture unless you sit down and talk and say "this is why we feel this way." I don't think it's going to get us anywhere unless we start having respectful dialogues. I guess my whole point is set an example. I feel uncomfortable going to the Pub by myself, I think a lot of people do. The point of this is to get people to realize to take action rather than sitting there and complaining about it. Set the example by doing so.

- **Ysabel Coss:** I did want to reiterate that we didn't make this as a protest. This was framed as the action that you are talking about. This is something that has been an issue for years. This is what has resulted from all of that. Secondly, I wanted to say that on the first day there was maybe 20 women that showed up because of the Facebook group and it turned out fantastic. We ended up sitting with people we never would've sat with. It wasn't a concentrated group of girls separated from the rest of the pub. At my table, we mostly talked to two white able-bodied men who we wouldn't have spoken to before. That is what we were aiming for. The connections were supposed to come from those numbers did. That's the most important part. I'm really frustrated by the fact that there's so much negativity. All we want to do is make those connections that make our community stronger.
- **Gianni Hill:** I was there in the formulating of this idea. The idea is great in nature I just want to reiterate it's not the intentions behind it, it's the ramifications on social media and the conversations on campus that just portray this in a very protestful manner.
 - **Irina Rojas:** Women have always been portrayed as angry feminists from the media.
- **Nadav Konforty:** I just really think we should focus more on a productive "where we go from here." I just don't want people to walk away from here feeling animosity and negativity. I want us to walk away from here knowing what we have to do to be the best for the student body. I want to put that out there. There are some conversations that can also happen not in here but also I don't want this to get too heated or even potentially invalidate the merits or intentions of this movement because it is important and necessary.
 - **Ysabel Cross:** Irina and I also came for this to be an open forum and not to defend ourselves because we stand by our intentions. We're open to constructive criticism as long as it's just that.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

- **Noam Barnhard:** Thank you for coming in. So I guess just as classic white straight male - I wasn't invited to this facebook group and I'm not arguing against that, I understand why that was a case. But because this was a private group I didn't know anything about it. I'm wondering how people like me can best serve as an ally when I don't know much about it. How can people outside of the group support it?
 - **Irina Rojas:** What the two guys did by sitting with us and being friendly, that's great. For the people that feel uncomfortable going, is about going, and for other people to be aware of how other people feel and act accordingly.
 - **Ysabel Cross:** And think it's important to talk with your friends who might not understand and have those conversations. Not necessarily try to change their mind but show them your perspective.
- **Ben Rhind:** First to the free speech discussion, I think it's important not to mischaracterize people responding to comments they disagree with as an attempt to silence free speech. I think it's really important to remember which communities on this campus have actually been marginalized historically, and even today, and even in this conversation honestly. Second, as a stereotypical pub-goer, today I went to pub and it was 100% all guys. So how does this go from a one week thing to a continuation?
 - **Irina Rojas:** I think the fact that we're having this conversation is to find productive ways for us. An option is fireside conversations. I know Dean Martinez was interested in leading one where people attend. It's up to you guys I don't have the answers to everything.
- **Elizabeth Groubert:** I just wanted to say moving forward that we're in the process of working on a town hall where anyone in the community can come in and bring up a topic so hopefully we can kind of continue to have similar inclusive movements and this can be further discussed. Is there something we can do?
 - **Samantha Gordon:** This question has been asked three times. My immediate solution is invite your female friends. The easiest thing to do is you send a text at 11:45 and you go.
 - **Noam Barnard:** I don't go to pub. I think it's disgusting.
 - **Sam Gordon:** That's fine, but for people who go to pub it's an easy thing to do.
 - **Elizabeth Groubert:** I think that's a great idea. I was specifically referring to the physical space - like if there's anything that can be done to the physical space to make it more inclusive. Maybe we want a picture up or a banner?
 - **Karthik Ravishankar:** I want to jump off of what Sam was saying - I have some friends who were uncomfortable going last



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

year but they just got together and kept going. You get comfortable by going over and over again

- **Giacomo Cabrera:** I'm not sure if I'm 100% right about this, but what it seems to me is that the actual food at the pub is what's limiting the group of people. The food is not particularly healthy and it seems like we have a rather healthy campus from what I've seen, and so I feel like a lot of people avoid the Pub and the people that end up going are the people that don't really care about the calories. I could be completely wrong about that but that's just what it seems like.
 - **Nadav Konforty:** I mean, there's a lot of history and literature on pubs being a traditional white male space. We're just trying to change the culture, which is hard in and of itself. Yet it is doable if it means all students feel comfortable on campus. If you don't go to pub you don't have to invite your friends. If you already go then invite your friends. It doesn't need to be super controversial. I think we can all just go to pub. The notion of acknowledging that a space is and has been dominated by a specific historically hegemonic and powerful part of our society, is totally fine to acknowledge because, frankly, it is true. And working to open up that space to all the campus is an important undertaking that, while difficult, is necessary.
- **Zach Oscar:** I feel like we're losing the productivity aspect of the conversation. I think that if people have ideas about specifically things to do, I feel like now is the time to throw them in. Other than what's been said already, are there any new ideas?
- **Rachel Sutor:** I just get a little hesitant when we say the solution to problems is to go with a group of guys . It reminds me of telling women to walk home with a group of men at night to feel more comfortable. That's not the solution. The solution is fixing why people feel uncomfortable. I think that to someone who hasn't had the experience of feeling scared or feeling marginalized it seems like a great solution, but to someone who has it doesn't seem like a real fix. I also think that people are a little bit hesitant to acknowledge that it's a real problem. I mean, if people are bringing it up then it's a problem enough. Just knowing that the Facebook group exists means there are people on our campus who are in distress and as peer leaders I think that's something we should take to heart.
- **Jordan D'Addio:** In terms of changing things moving forward, I don't know that I have a solution exactly but I think one thing about this dialogue that we can address and change is one thing that was troubling to me. Noam touched on this, but the thing is that it was a private group. To me that was a little bit troubling in that part of the problem here was that there was a disconnect with the actual intention of the group and the people that participate. I think that part of it is that we want a more open



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

dialogue. And I understand it being private because the people who are in the group are people who want to come together outside of a public forum, but I think that if we're going to say that it's going to eventually come to a public forum, I think that as we've been trying to do the past couple of semesters, we need to promote SA as a place to do that. So one thing I would say is that maybe instead of making a private Facebook group, come to SA or send out an email saying "we want to talk about this." I think that people who aren't in the marginalized group but want to help can't do that if they're not already invited.

- **Jonathan Stanhope:** This should have been brought up earlier but you said that Monday more than 20 women showed up. I was wondering how attendance was throughout the week.
 - **Ysabel Coss:** I actually only went on Monday and Friday, but we both had a bunch of people come up to us during the week and there were a bunch of comments in the group saying things like, "I'm so happy you guys are doing this" and "I went to the pub for the first time, me and my friends." The difference between Monday and Friday was incredible. What it sounded like is that it's slowly increasing. I think that as it caught more attention from the campus but also through word of mouth, the attendance was high.
 - **Sam Gordon:** Just to respond to that, I actually don't think it matters how many people actually came as a result of the group. I think they achieved what they set out to achieve and I'm so happy that we're having this conversation.
 - **Jonathan Stanhope:** I was just asking in a purely informational sense how many people went.
 - **Sam Gordon:** That's totally fine, but I think that the implication of the question goes toward the success or the lack thereof of the event.
 - **Jonathan Stanhope:** Well, there were no women today according to Ben, so I was just wondering if it was going to carry over to this week.
- **Irina Rojas:** Thank you so much for your space and time. We don't want to make it about us. We introduced a really important topic to the table today, there's lots of other things that are happening on this campus aside from us. This is just a quick little "this is happening" and while we won't find a solution today, this is a conversation that should continue. We will keep listening to people and maybe moving forward we will do things differently. This was a really productive conversation in terms of learning from each other and hopefully we can all hold ourselves to that moving forward in all aspects and issues that were raised.
- **Update on meetings with President Wippman and Dean Martinez — Nadav Konforty '20 and Julian Perricone '20**



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

- **Nadav Konforty:** With President Wippman, I did confirm that while initially the Mental Health Center had been built to be able to be expanded, President Wippman and the trustees are expanding it already and they are hiring more psychiatrists. They're going off Colgate right now. Colgate is piloting a program for what to do when the Counseling Center and Health Center are off-hours, especially on the weekends, because there isn't someone in there at those hard hours of the night when sometimes a crisis will happen. So they're working on that right now. Hopefully that will be implemented in the fall. Also, we had a good meeting with Dean Martinez and she did follow up with that new program. It's called "Better Minds" at Colgate. We're also struggling to find funding for the Menstrual Hygiene Initiative, which we are working on. Also we are looking at the feasibility with Bon Appetit as far as to giving Dark Side and suites that 7-meal plan.

4. Old Business

- **Publicity**

- If you haven't already taken (or retaken) your picture for your profile on the SA website, do it!

- **Mental Health:**

- **Update and message from Isabel O'Malley '18:**

To address Ysabel Coss's question from last week: A full and detailed list of resources is available at the end of each screening questionnaire, regardless of your results. So, yes you will always receive information about some mental health resource, but you can tailor your resource selection to your needs (everyone can benefit from some resource!). If your behaviors and mood are not very consistent with anxiety, for example, you may want to utilize some general self-care resources such as "Wellness at the Wall" or Biofeedback. If your report is very consistent with anxiety, you are encouraged to utilize more personal and professional resources such as individual counseling, meeting with Dean Chase, or information about off-campus psychologists and psychiatrists.

- To address Ben Katz's question: Yes, the counseling center receives a utilization report each week tallying the number of each questionnaires that have been taken, and the severity of responses. The questionnaires are anonymous. The questionnaires ask for class year, race and ethnicity, and gender, but students don't report names or other identifying information. I agree with your desire to gage where the student body is at with our mental health concerns, and it's particularly important to gather information about students who might not want to come into the counseling center but still want to explore their behaviors and mood on their own, online. That is a central benefit of these screening tools, in addition to helping students explore their mental health concerns and learn



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

about which resources are available and best suited for their specific needs.

- I just put the screening tool on the counseling center's website a few weeks ago, and I'm still working out some details to make it more user friendly and sensitive to student needs. If you have any suggestions for me, or other questions or concerns about this tool please email:
iomalley@hamilton.edu

5. Acknowledgements

○ FebFest

- Thank you so much to the Social Traditions Committee, Student Activities, and the Campus Activities Board and everyone else who has helped put this year's FebFest together!
- Shoutout to our very own Nadav Konforty '20, AKA Mr. President, for winning Mr. Hamilton!
- Thank you very much to Amanda Kim and Rachel Sutor for filling in as Secretary for this meeting!

6. Committee Reports

○ Cultural Affairs:

- **Jiin Jeong:** We met with Kaity Werner to discuss the logistics and layout of International Fair Day. We're doing a final call for individuals or organizations who are interested in running a country booth for International Fair Day. It will be held on Saturday, March 31st, 12-2PM at the Events Barn. Please email Jiin Jeong (jjjeong@hamilton.edu) for more details by this Wednesday.

○ Facilities:

- **Connie Lorente:** The list of Lost & Finds is on the SA page. Stop losing your stuff.

○ Food:

- **Elizabeth Groubert:** Today in Commons there was barbecue sauce. I told them to stop overcooking the chicken and to season it, and they started doing that. There are also vegan burgers in the diner! They're made out of plant protein, they're completely vegan and gluten-free. We talked about more pescatarian options and we're getting the real soy sauce in Commons, it might not be there yet but you've been heard.
- **Jonathan Stanhope:** The chef actually made us a vegan burger during the meeting. You can barely tell the difference. They're very good burgers.
 - **Keith Ruggles:** Are the vegan burgers in the diner cooked on a separate surface than the other hamburgers? I feel like that could be a problem if they're not.
 - **Elizabeth Groubert:** I don't know but I can look into that. I know they have a separate grill space in the back.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

- **Alex Stetter:** I'm gluten-free and they do separate if I ask for anything cooked.
- **Keith Ruggles:** Some people have also asked me about turkey bacon at diner for Diner Breakfast. Just some food for thought.
- **Rachel Sutor:** I just want to throw out a radical Diner idea. Smoothies maybe? Anywhere I can use my swipe to access a smoothie.
- **Elizabeth Groubert:** We are in the process of redoing the Diner menu completely to have more healthy options and to accommodate vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free lifestyles. I'll mention that to them.
- **Jake Engelman:** There are smoothies in McEwen.
- **Rachel Sutor:** Well, there is so much almond milk in them that they only taste like almonds no matter what they put in them.
- **Elizabeth Groubert:** Another thing about McEwen is the press juices. I reached out because a lot of people are complaining that they're never there. It's because it's flu season. We don't want McEwen staff to be sick. So they haven't been there in the past few weeks but moving forward everyone should rest up, get healthy, and we should have our smoothies.
- **Sam Gordon:** You can also email Food Committee your food suggestions.
- **Funding:**
 - **Jake Engelman:** I'm working hard with all of the treasurers to make questionnaires on Google Forms to send to campus and look at ways that we can better the funding codes. That being said, if you know someone who is the treasurer of an organization or is involved in funding, please reach out to them and ask them to shoot me a text or an email about things they like or dislike about the current system. I'm trying to collect as much data on this as possible, so help would be appreciated.
- **Health and Safety:**
 - **Gianni Hill:** We met with Frank Coots and he just wanted me to put it out there for all of campus that he's very open to meeting with anybody about campus safety concerns. So if anyone does have any concerns, he's happy to grab a meal with you. And he said that if you're on the 14 or 7-meal plan he'll be happy to pay for your lunch.
- **Student Affairs:**
 - **Zach Oscar:** In light of all that's been happening on campus and across the planet and whatnot, we are going to do a task force walk-around thing.

7. Funding

Amount Remaining: \$21,172.80



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Approved
Mock Trial	Driving Reimbursement	\$227.81	\$227.81	\$227.81

Amount Requested: **\$227.81**

Amount Recommended: **\$227.81**

Amount Remaining if Funding Passes: **\$20,944.99**

- **Ysabel Cross:** What was the rule with reimbursements?
- **Jake Engelman:** The technical term is a driving reimbursement. Yes, we'll come up with a new term. It's the term the IRS uses. We'll try to come up with a new term moving forward.

Mock Trial Funding Passes as Recommended.

8. Announcements

- We want to echo BLSU's invitation and join them in the **Parkland Shooting Rally, Friday, Feb. 23 at 4:30-6:30 pm in the Fillius Events Barn**
 - "Poster making for the event will be held all day on Thursday, Feb. 22 in the Resource Room (3rd floor of Sadove)"
- **Message on Midterms (Nadav Konforty '20 and Julian Perricone '20):**
 - As the semester continues and midterms come upon us, Student Assembly wants to remind everyone to carve our self-care time, and find time to just relax. We all know that Hamilton students are notorious for overcommitting ourselves and virtually eliminating all of our free time. We want everyone to know that it is important to have **healthy boundaries** and that it's vital to give ourselves some down time. We all operate at such levels that sometimes aren't totally sustainable. Remember to be kind to yourselves, reach out to friends and take care of each other. College is stressful at times, yes, but it shouldn't feel like you're suffering. If you are, please reach out to someone. Keep trucking along! You're doing great!
- A reminder to everyone that the third floor of Sadove is home to the **Community Mosaic** spearheaded by **Irina Rojas '18**. Feel free to come by during the day to put a few tiles on and contribute to this wonderful project for the college.
- There are **two new online resources** both available on the **Counseling Center's website** under "[Resources](#)"
 1. The [screening tool](#): These brief screenings are the quickest way to determine if you or a friend may need to connect with mental health professionals. There are seven different non-diagnostic 2 minute questionnaires about a variety of mental



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

health concerns: depression, generalized anxiety, substance use, alcohol use disorder, PTSD, disordered eating, bipolar disorder. Non-diagnostic means that the screening results will tell you if your symptoms are consistent with a particular mental health disorder, but only a mental health professional can give you a real diagnosis. This program is completely anonymous and confidential, and immediately following the brief questionnaire you will see your results, recommendations, and key resources.

2. The [student resource site](#): This site provides general information about mental health concerns: the same concerns mentioned above, and additionally: relationship concerns, student athletes mental health concerns, myths about therapy, suicide warning signs, and tips for how to support friends in distress. The information on these pages is brief, and by no means all encompassing, but it is a good place to start if you are just beginning to explore information about a particular mental health concern. The interactive website is designed like a pirate map - pretty cheesy - and you can click on the different images to pull up the information on each topic.

