

Royal College of Science Union

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Entertainments Board

Held at 12:00 on 16th December 2016 at the RCSU Office (Sherfield 214D)

PRESENT:

- Lloyd James – RCSU President (LJ)
- Griffin Farrow – RCSU Honorary Junior Treasurer (GF)
- Charlotte Hampson – RCSU Vice-President (Activities) (CH)
- Michael Edwards – RCSU Honorary Secretary (ME)

APOLOGIES:

- Benson Lee – RCSU Events Officer (BL)
- Isabella Withnell – RCSU RAG Champion (IW)
- George Brooks – RCSU Sports Officer (GB)
- Ben Collier – RCSU Publicity Officer (BC)
- Michael Suarez - OM, Entertainments Board (MS)
- Henry Alman - OM, Entertainments Board (HA)

ABSENT:

OBSERVERS:

Meeting opened at 12:00.

A. Event at Hoxton

RECEIVED: CH delivered this item.

NOTED:

1. CH raised what sort of event we should hold at the Hoxton Square Bar. It is thought that having a post-exam event will be the best avenue to go down, with publicity to happen during the revision period. GF pointed out that the event will need a new theme – since the venue was chosen for its Xmas theme initially. CH suggested smart dress or a dress-up theme. LJ asked whether we should sell it as a 'Ball'.
2. Involvement of RAG was questioned, especially considering the proximity of their Valentine's Ball which will negatively impact their publicity arm. We need to find out when this is.
3. The major issue raised was attendance – ultimately we need to hit minimum spend of £5,000 to ensure the return of at least part of the deposit. It was largely agreed that people will be looking for an event like this (post-exam / subject night out). CH offered to email sports teams to make it a night out on their halves too, as well as DepSocs, who could organise pre-drinks on campus. This was discouraged by GF, who raised the issue of having drinking events on College grounds as against the regulations.

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4. GF raised that the major issue is publicity, and more needs to be done to drive attendance.
5. LJ raised the prospect of CGCU attendance – this was positively received, but they are acknowledged as being risk-averse. CH offered that since we just need to hit minimum spend, we could take them on board for free, with the ultimate goal to maximise attendance. A ratio of 200:300 CGCU:RCSU was suggested. LJ to contact CGCU VPA and Ents team.
6. ME raised the idea of having tokens included in ticket prices – the general feeling was that charging double digits would adversely affect attendance, but offering under £10 (i.e. £7?) inc. a drink could work. The venue needs to be consulted whether this is a plausible avenue to pursue.
7. Provisional dates are 23rd or 30th January, both Mondays. Issue with 23rd – 24th is the Science Challenge Launch, and Life Sciences freshers are still locked into exams.
8. CGCU to be offered co-branding and expected to sell 200 tickets.
9. ME raised that essentially 50% turnout will be needed to hit minimum spend – the drink sales from 250 people at the venue's prices should be sufficient to hit £5,000.
10. A poster needs to be made ASAP – details confirmed over the next week, and publicity to start pre-term.

RESOLVED:

- a. CH and IW to liaise with venue on Points 6 and 7 to confirm date and drink tokens.
- b. LJ and CH to liaise with CGCU on Point 5 and 8.
- c. BC to make a poster.

B. Revel event

RECEIVED: LJ delivered this item.

NOTED:

11. This year's 'Revel' event with DoCSoc will be conditional on not making a significant loss on the above event. We'll get 50 % of tickets, and subsidise to what we see fit. DoCSoc are organising this event, and largely have it all under control.
12. An offer of £74 per person was made by the suggested venue, Cirque de Soir, and ME asked if this accounts for VAT. This needs to be confirmed to ensure we can maximise savings to the members.
13. The £74 includes unlimited drinks, canapes and entertainment all night. CH suggested with a subsidy to £40 this event would be an excellent sell, since entry to CdS is typically £30 without the package.

RESOLVED:

- d. LJ to liaise with DoCSoc.

C. Tri Union Bar Night V2

RECEIVED: CH delivered this item.

NOTED:

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14. The prospect of another Tri Union was raised, but discouraged in favour of a standard Union Bar Night halfway through term.

15. It was requested that a Thursday be avoided, but the Union booking system only lets us have Mon, Tues, Thurs or weekends.

RESOLVED:

- e. CH and BL (when introduced to role) to organise bar night.

D. Sports Day

RECEIVED: CH delivered this item.

NOTED:

16. GB is not present, and as such cannot discuss this.

17. ME to contact the sports network on FB.

18. CH offered the idea of a post SD bar night in the Union Bar to make it more attractive.

RESOLVED:

- f. To raise at next meeting - GB to attend.

No AOB - meeting closed.

Meeting closed at 13:00.