Student Commission Meeting  
Thursday, November 9, 2017

Present: Nick Cunningham, Anthony Custard, Jonathan Davey, Marc Geborkoff, Phoebe Glazko, Lynda Heinonen, Amy Howard, Judy Klutts, Erin Matas, Dave Nordstrom, John Nowosad, Matt Rennell, Brenda Rudiger, Abu Sayeed Md Shawon, Hossein Tavakoli, Sam Willard,

Welcome
Matt welcomed the new GSG Vice President Abu Sayeed Md Shawon and President Hossein Tavakoli.

New Items
Bike Friendly Campus – Lynda
Congratulations to Michigan Tech for being named a Bike Friendly Campus by the League of American Bicyclists.

Spin Stationless Bikeshare – Lynda
Lynda will electronically share the Spin Stationless Bikeshare 2018 Pilot Program with the committee and this will be discussed at the December meeting.

Updates
Lighting behind the SDC – John
John reported that there wasn’t any update or new development except that this issues has been forwarded to Les Cook and they are waiting for feedback from him.

Sidewalk or Walking Structure for Fairview Street Next to Daniell Heights – John and Anthony
John distributed and reviewed a map of the proposed changes to Fairview Street. John had attended the recent Houghton City Council meeting and it was reported there that the City plans to make Fairview Street a one-way street. Also additional lighting is on the to-do list.

Anthony distributed and reviewed a draft petition that IRHC (Inter-Residence Housing Council) had written.

PETITION TO ADD STREET LIGHTS TO FAIRVIEW STREET

It has been brought to the attention of the Inter Residence Hall council and McNair Hall Association by the students of Michigan Tech that the section of Fairview Street connecting the residence halls to the Student Development Complex (SDC) is poorly lit and dangerous at night for students. Particularly, during the winter students are forced to walk on the street because of the lack of a sidewalk and the amount of snow build-up along the side of the road. Walking back from the hockey games at the SDC can also present a danger to students as it is a very high foot and vehicle traffic time. Along with this, Fairview Street is mostly a curve and it is difficult for drivers to see students and bicyclists. In addition it is hard for students and drivers to see ice patches on the road. Furthermore, there are new apartments being built along this street which
will lead to more traffic and students walking along it. Due to all of these concerns, sufficient street lights should be added to improve the safety on Fairview Street for students and community members.

After discussion, it was decided that Anthony will have the IRHC Governing Body sign the petition. He commented that IRHC represents 2,000 Michigan Tech students. Hossein commented that GSG would also support this initiative. John volunteered to bring the signed petition to Eric Waara. It was suggested that John ask for a timeline when he speaks to Eric Waara. The Houghton City Council has upcoming meetings on Wednesday, November 29 and Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

Maintenance of Campus Bike Stations – Dave and Lynda
Dave reported there are four bike stations on campus and they could incur the following expenses (approximately).

- Complete unit - $1,200
- Tool kit - $130
- Air hose - $45
- Pumps - $75 - $600

Dave commented that the SDC would cover the cost of the bike station at the Tech Trails.

Lynda had received an update from Travis. It read, “Many thanks to Dave for providing the information for ordering replacement parts for the bicycle repair stations. Housing is ordering supplies for the bicycle repair stations and will create a plan for ongoing maintenance and potentially use student groups to help with maintenance. If not, then the department will use the operation assistants to maintain the stations. We will work on getting stickers for the stations with an email and/or phone number for students to call when something needs repair. This is the plan, we will now work on the details.”

Hossein commented that GSG had done a survey and 68% of their members would like to have these pumps available to use.

Accessibility Issues – Draft Charge and From Subcommittee
Since the USG Vice President Leadership recently changed there was question as how to move forward on the accessibility issue. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that GSG will spearhead this issue. Travis and Shawon will meet to work on creating a charge before a committee is formed. It was commented that the charge need not be lengthy but rather could be a paragraph in length. Travis was unable to attend the meeting so Lynda will reach out to him.

Lynda will share the Disabilities Research Finding April 2017 presentation in the Student Commission Google Team Drive.
For the record regarding potential committee members, the following information was presented at the October 26th meeting:

- Jimmie Cannon (USG Student Affairs committee lead)
- Corinne VanOstran and Allison Shoemaker (Panhellenic Council)
- IRHC – Members did not have interest until meeting dates were determined
- GSG – No interest
- IFC – Nick Cunningham will check with his group to determine interest
- Madison Duensing and Erin Richie have not proposed a committee chair yet

All In Campus Democracy Challenge – Jonathan
Jonathan explained that the All In Campus Democracy Challenge goal is to increase student voting rates and encourage democratic engagement at the university. A committee at Michigan Tech has been formed to create an action plan and they met this morning to determine the next steps. The committee would like to get student representation on the committee from USG, GSG, IFC, and Panhellenic. Two one-hour meetings will take place in December with a finalized plan of action created by the end of December. Jonathan would like the committee members to continue with their representation and involvement for the 2018 spring and fall semester.

He also reported that committee members are listed nationally on their website http://www.allinchallenge.org/participating-campuses/.

Please contact Jonathan at jrdavey@mtu.edu if you are interested.

Next Meeting
Lynda reported that traditionally the December meeting has been canceled due to being so close to final’s week. After discussion, it was decided to move the meeting to Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. in 404 Administration Building.