CALL TO ORDER 9:07 PM
Emily: Hey y’all! I’m going to call this meeting to order.

MYSTERY ACTIVITY 9:07 PM
Emily: Recommend a little ditty!

ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS 9:08 PM
Saskia: Hi everybody! So when I call your hall, if you can give me the number of people representing your hall, how many RHSA shirts you have on, how many NRHH shirts you have on, how many Conference shirts you have on, and a hall report from your hall gov if you have one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hall Name</th>
<th>Number Present</th>
<th>RHSA Shirts</th>
<th>NRHH Shirts</th>
<th>Conference Shirts</th>
<th>Hall Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashokan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nothing to report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bliss</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Holding a program on Thursday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bouton</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capen</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Holding an event tomorrow night.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College-Shango</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nothing to report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esopus</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Self care/destress program on Wednesday, March 9th at 8pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gage</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nothing to report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenape</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Land Before Time program with dino nuggets being held this Thursday, time TBD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnewaska</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohonk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nothing to report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgeview</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Program ideas brewing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scudder</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Tote bag painting program tomorrow at 7pm.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bought a whiteboard for the study lounge.

SENATE 9:11 PM

**Chet:** The Senate is supporting an event called Artists for Ukraine supporting the suffering in Ukraine at the moment. It starts at 11 in the third floor of the rotunda of the Fine Arts building, so if you can make it please come. There is going to be something called a Heart Chant, kind of similar to a vigil, which has its roots in Eastern European traditions as a collective meditation for peace. Afterwards, everyone is going to be allowed into a fundraiser where they are selling art pieces and different items. All of the funds are going to go toward organizations which are supporting the relief efforts for Ukraine. If you’re interested, spread the word. That’s 11 in the art building rotunda.

NRHH 9:13 PM

**Emily:** Eric isn’t here, but we will hopefully get an NRHH report the week after next.

OLD BUSINESS 9:13 PM

- Motion to Open Old Business: Lenape
- Second: Bliss

**Historian**

**Allison:** I’m going to announce the winners from the riddle in the minutes this past week. In second place we have Bliss! *Moose Clap* And in first place we have Gage! *Moose Clap*

**Secretary**

**Saskia:** The riddle in last week's minutes was “Where is the RHSA office located?” The answer was it is in Capen hall, specifically Capen B16. That’s where you can ever find us if we’re in our office hours or committees! Keep your eyes peeled for the next riddle in the minutes, which is going to be in the riddle from this meeting found in the email blast, on the website, and on our Facebook.

**Historian**

**Allison:** Here’s your weekly reminder, that whenever you put on a program with your hall government, you should fill out a lovely PUP sheet to earn GFPS! All the PUP sheets are available on our website, and you must have them filled out and either handed into us or emailed to us no more than 2 weeks after the event took place. I’ve been receiving some lovely PUP sheets and would love to see more as the semester goes on!

**Secretary**

**Saskia:** We wanted to say thank you to everyone who came to our Coffee House event last week because it was a great success and tons of fun! Thanks to anyone who performed, all the performances were fantastic. And if you won one of the books we raffled off, please tell us if you’re liking it or not so far because we would love to hear what you think! Also, news pending on a potential professional quality recording that was done by the radio station since we were in
collaboration with them. So if any of your performed, we will be getting back to you on that info hopefully soon.

Motion to Close Old Business: Mohonk
Second: Esopus

NEW BUSINESS 9:15 PM

Motion to Open New Business: Scudder
Second: Gage

Positional Q&A

Emily: Each and every one of us on the E-Board know how nerve wracking it can be to run for an E-Board position. It’s so different to read the duties in our Constitution than learning from that person in that position so we’re going to have a positional Q&A just about every meeting so you have a chance to ask us questions you have about joining the E-Board. Does anyone have any questions about any position in particular?

I explained President and NCC briefly, so I’m going to explain Treasurer next. The treasurer works with our budget and CAS, which is the Campus Auxiliary Services. They basically fill out DOs, make sure we get our money back if we pay for things for events, and are generally just in charge of the budget.

Cam: What’s a DO?

Emily: A dispersing order. I’m pretty sure most hall gov’s have done this by now, but if you buy something for a program you have to fill out a form and attach a receipt and attendance sheet. That way CAS knows the event was put on and people attended it, and you can get your money back. Any questions about any positions? 3, 2, 1. Seeing none.

SLC

Allison: This weekend we’re going to the Spring Leadership Conference, which is a regional conference where we meet with all the RHSA’s in our region. If you went to NPLC, it’s kind of what we model that after. We try to replicate what those regional conferences are like here. There, we go to meetings, we vote on things, and we attend educational sessions. This time it’s going to be me, President Emily, Eric from NRHH, and another delegate we’re bringing from the AC is Sion! If you have any questions or if you’re interested in going to a conference in the future. Emily and I have both been to one before so we have experience if you want to ask us anything.

Emily: And this weekend Allison will be president of RHSA because she’s representing us at the Presidents' Boardroom!

Break until 9:30pm or 10 minute break | 9:18pm

Emily: We will now begin the Vice President elections! Just a reminder that if you leave the room, you cannot reenter and there is to be no verbal communication in this room and no technology. You have to write notes to the people who will be voting if you have anything to tell
them. We will have an E-Board member keeping an eye out and if they catch you with technology, they will ask you to leave.

If you are running for Vice President, please stand! We are going to ask Sion to leave the room and we will invite you back in for your speech.

**Parker:** The roles of Vice President are
The Vice President shall serve as Acting President in the event that the President is unavailable or the position is vacant as per Article Six Section 2.A.1 of this Constitution;
B. Attend all President's Cabinet Meetings;
C. Works closely with the Student Activities and Union Services (SAUS);
D. Contracts all campus venues using the Facilities Use for Scheduled Event (FUSE) form;
   1. Attends all individual/group event consultation for all events;
E. Contracts all security and crew for events with SAUS;
F. Contracts transportation needed for off campus events;
G. Contracts catering for events as needed;
H. Books, coordinates and plans both the Fall Associate Council Retreat and Spring Associate Council Retreat;
I. Maintains and organizes all information needed for events on and off campus;
J. Prepares and disburses evaluations for large programs (i.e. Spirit Weekend, Condom Casino etc.);
K. Prepares and facilitates scoring for large programs (i.e. Spirit Weekend, etc.).

**Emily:** We are now going to have 5 minutes to list expectations of Vice President.
Expectations:
- Good chemistry with the rest of the EBoard
- Reliable and on time
- Enthusiastic
- Good communication and people skills
- Flexible schedule to be able to attend all events
- Accountable
- Good knowledge of VP responsibilities
- Open to criticism
- Well organized
- Growth in the position, personal or professional
- Passion for the organization

Motion to End Expectations: Lenape
Second: Bliss

**Mohonk:** Point of Order. Can I, if I get a second, move to vote by acclamation and bypass the voting process? Unless people want to question the candidate, would that speed up the rest of the process?
**Allison:** If anything, that’s something that might come after discussion once we’ve gotten the general idea of if everyone agrees. We should definitely hear from the candidate first because then you can make an educated decision.

**Emily:** We are now going to invite Sion back in for his speech.

**Candidate 1:** Sion

Hey everyone! For those who may not know me, my name is Sion and I am a sophomore here at New Paltz studying music performance and composition. I am here in front of you today because I want to convince you all that I am the perfect candidate for the role of Vice President of RHSA. Ever since I started attending meetings representing Ridgeview, my residence hall, I have felt a sense of purpose. The way everyone fosters a community to bring people from on campus together really brightens my day, and when I say that I am sure all of you are passionate for being here I mean that with 100 percent certainty. As someone who wishes to do more for my community I have stepped up and taken lots of time making sure I am not stuck inside my room doing nothing. I am for one, a member of the RHSA representatives here at New Paltz, but I have also recently been elected president of Ridgeview hall gov, and the amount of momentous support that I have received is immeasurable. I am also a student ambassador and night host taking significant hours out of my week to help my community. I have thrived in these positions because I am already a kind and accepting person who does not care about the situation that precedes you, and I make sure to look at people from all angles. I am determined to make sure that every single colleague of mine is content with my way of problem solving, coordinating, and leadership, all which I have learned and improved upon during my time here at New Paltz. As for the improvements that I would like to make here in RHSA, I would like more notable partnerships with either clubs or departments here on campus. I notice that a lot of issues brought up in meetings are the neglect of certain activities that happen on campus that would benefit us all as a whole. We live on campus in order to have the best experiences possible, so why not bring those experiences to our association? I make these bold propositions because I want to be the change I see and as your vice president, I will make sure change happens. I am always looking to help others while also improving myself because I am not perfect, none of us are. We all have made mistakes and learning to work around them can be one of the most difficult parts of life. My greatest weakness is ironically my voice. Even as I make this speech in front of you all, my voice tends to falter quite a bit. Given time however, I can learn to find my footing and continue moving forward because I am determined to use my voice for the good of my community no matter what it takes. I want to give you all the chance to be open here, the chance to learn and grow, and the chance to take away valuable skills that you will use for the rest of your lives. I am Sion Kikuchi, running for Vice President of RHSA, and I yield to questions.

**Emily:** Since the candidate yielded to questions, we will move right into Question & Answer. We will now have 5 minutes extendable up to 3 times.

**Question & Answer**

What’s something hard you had to overcome at Ridgeview that you could apply to the EBoard position?

**Sion:** I joined hall government my first semester on campus after spending a year online and I was looking to jump right into something and make some change happen. I think my open
mindedness and my readiness to jump into any task will really prepare me to take on the many responsibilities a Vice President will have on the RHSA EBoard.

What does accountability look like to you?
Sion: To me, accountability means stepping up. It’s something I personally take very seriously. Being able to use your voice for good and help others is what accountability means to me, and as Vice President I would like to bring a determination to make sure all voices are heard.

What do you view as the most important responsibility in the Vice President role?
Sion: I think in the Vice President role, putting together events and coordinating meetings with other clubs because, because I’ve heard that happens a lot, is the most important part. I deal with a lot of scheduling on my own. As a student ambassador and night host I manage my time and make sure I do those jobs efficiently, so I would like to bring that skill forward into this position.

How do you plan on balancing schoolwork and the responsibilities of being Vice President?
Sion: I’m pretty sure all of us are preceded by a lot of work, and that can be tough for us. What I plan to do is that I have been working within my jobs to manage my time better. I love video games and as much as I just want to hop on a game with my friends, I know that I must learn some accountability and responsibility. As Vice President, I will make sure to make those things happen.

What inspired you to pursue more leadership roles in general?
Sion: A lot of factors drove me to want to do more. Quarantine sucked. Spending a year just seeing people's faces but not knowing who they are made me want to step forward and get to know people better. Having all those faces in front of me as I lead inspires me. Especially as a musician, I’m always surrounded by a crowd. I would like to transition smoothly to bring those experiences together.

What is your experience with teamwork and how do you plan to coordinate an EBoard?
Sion: I’ve recently been elected President of Ridgeview hall government. I was reluctant at first, and afraid of tackling these responsibilities. But as I grew over these past couple of weeks, getting to know the members of my hall gov, I realized they are great people and are really willing to step up. We planned so many activities and ideas together in a single meeting, and it surprised me to see the capability of others. In that sense, I really appreciate teamwork.

You said one of your greatest weaknesses is adequately using your voice. That being said, do you feel prepared to properly advocate for us when dealing with outside sources? For example, if a caterer is being difficult and you need to advocate for someone with allergies.
Sion: Certainly. Going off your example, I’m someone with a lot of allergies and so I would be passionate about dealing with an issue like that. Can you repeat the question one more time?

Motion to Extend Question & Answer: Scudder
Second: Gage

To repeat the question, do you feel you’re prepared and able to properly advocate for others on this campus?
Sion: Absolutely. I’m passionate about getting to know all of you. All your experiences matter to me and I really want to be able to advocate and speak your voice through mine.

Motion to Close Question & Answer: Lenape
Second: Mohonk

Motion to Open Discussion: Bliss
Second: Gage

Discussion

**Emily**: We will now go into a discussion period for 5 minutes extendable up to 3 times.

- We feel he qualifies for the position. He has an enthusiasm and willingness to work with the rest of the team that will be a great fit for the EBoard.
- We feel that there is an opportunity for growth, which was mentioned as an expectation. He does want to grow as a leader and gave a couple of examples of that, so it would be a good opportunity for him.
- We feel that he has already shown his dedication to RHSA because he makes the trek from the Southside to attend every single meeting.
- He is well qualified and has proven his dedication because he has come to every single meeting this semester and last. He is also dedicated in his being a student ambassador.
- We feel he is qualified for the position because ultimately from his speech we got everything we needed to hear and didn’t have any questions. He came well prepared and well researched. We also think a big strength of his is that he’s a listener, because he brought up things from past meetings to do for future development. He can really grow in the position.
- We agree that based on his speech he seems like a stand-up guy. There are no ostensible flaws that would inhibit his ability to perform the duties of Vice President.
- We feel that it was not only admirable that he acknowledged his weaknesses, but also said how he wanted to use the position to grow from them and that he was willing to look past them to advocate for us when we could.
- We feel that because he was elected for hall gov president, he is a natural born leader and will gel into this particular slot well.
- We feel as though his position of Ridgeview president does prepare him for the role of Vice President, particularly stepping in and replacing the president if needed.

Motion to End Discussion with Additions: Bliss
Second: Gage

Motion to Open Voting by Secret Ballot: Gage
Second: Bliss

**Votes:**
Sion Kikuchi | 14
No Confidence | 0
Abstain | 0

**Emily**: Congratulations to Sion, the next Vice President of RHSA!
Nominations

**Emily:** Before we open nominations, Abby from Lenape was nominated for President. Do you accept, table, or decline?

**Abby:** I accept!

Motion to Open Nominations: Gage
Second: Bliss

**Emily:** Are there any nominations? Currently, we have no one nominated for NCC, Treasurer, Secretary, or Historian.

**Gage:** We nominate Caroline from Gage for Historian.
**Esopus:** Second.
**Caroline:** I decline.

**Lenape:** We nominate Star from Esopus for NCC.
**Ashokan:** Second.
**Star:** I table.

**Ridgeview:** We nominate Mazee from Ridgeview for Treasurer.
**Lenape:** Second.
**Mazee:** I table.

Motion to Table Nominations: Esopus
Second: Ridgeview

**Emily:** We’re going to push the Treasurer elections back since we don’t have any materials tonight. Next week, the Secretary application will be due so if you’re planning on running for Secretary you must be nominated as well as have all of the application materials. The materials are 1 Candidate Form and 15 copies of the Candidate Application and resume or co-curricular transcript.

Motion to Close New Business: Bliss
Second: Scudder

STUDENT CONCERN FOLLOW UP | 10:04 PM

**Emily:** Thank you for all your concerns last week! We are currently working on getting in contact with administration to voice these concerns and come up solutions, and we will update you all accordingly. We did meet with administration and briefly discussed their future plans for renovating halls and other buildings. We expressed our concern for accessibility when designing and renovating, and we were told going forward with full scale renovations accessibility will be a priority. But we will still advocate and address these concerns as well.

**Allison:** You guys have brought up a couple of times that the library should be open later, so for the month of March every Wednesday the library is going to be open until 12:45. *What kind of
PUP sheet is used for hall gov programs done in collaboration with an RA or CM?* On Wednesdays and Thursdays, the library is open until 12:45am. I’ve said in the past that we’re not able to be open until 12:45 every night because we unfortunately do not have the supervisor staff to do that and the school is currently looking for more. Something I did want to share is that I personally work the night shift on Thursday nights so I’m there until 12:30, and we really don’t see numbers on those late nights. So as the library goes forward and hires this new staff, we do head counts every hour to see the engagement at certain hours and if the library isn’t seeing engagement they’re not going to be motivated to have it open late. So I hear the concern but also they’re not going to see the proof. I would really recommend you utilize it and through this Month of March with it being open late on Wednesdays show that you appreciate it being open late at night because that in turn will show the staff that it’s worth it. Otherwise they’ll question if it’s even worth it because they have to pay student assistants to be there and whatnot. I would recommend showing support for those late hours because I know that is a concern that has come up a few times and I would like us to be open later too!

HALL CONCERNS 10:06 PM

Emily: If there’s something wrong in your hall that you have already talked to your RAs, SRA, and RD about and nothing has been done, this is your time to tell us. 3. 2. 1. Seeing none.

Lenape: On the third floor we have a large lounge and the ceiling is dripping.

Emily: Do you know if anyone has put in a work order?

Lenape: No, but we should. This has been an ongoing issue since I’ve been in Lenape, where the tile ceiling tiles will fall down or drip. Also in general we spoke about all of the buildings being worked on and renovated, but we really need to work on the asbestos and mold issues in all of the buildings because there is mold in Lenape. Especially if we’re using Awosting as a quarantine building, it’s not healthy to put quarantined students in there. I don’t think they deserve to be quarantined in a building that has asbestos in it.

Lenape: In Lenape, we also do not have our exercise room open for the exact same reason of there being mold. It would be nice for us to be able to use that room since it’s there for us.

Emily: I’ll be in contact with Roman to see about that. I know they’re trying to renovate, I assume, all of the halls, but it takes time and a lot of money. We’ll definitely still voice that issue.

Cam: It’s worth noting that asbestos is one of those things that plays into renovations, as well as making things more accessible and work better. The asbestos abatement is also a major reason the renovations are going around.

Lenape: Also, speaking of problems with Awosting, I was quarantined there earlier in the semester and there was no heat in the middle of a snow storm.

Emily: I’m sorry. We talked about this last meeting and I’m currently trying to figure out who to contact about that, how to voice these concerns, and how to create a solution. I will update y’all accordingly. Thank you for your concern.

STUDENT CONCERNS 10:09 PM

Emily: If you have general concerns for things going on campus-wide (something’s broken, wrong, administrative concerns, faculty concerns), this is your moment to tell us so we can relay the information to the administration AND if you have any food concerns (type, quality, price, location), we will hear them at this point, or you can always email us at rhsa@newpaltz.edu.
**Ridgeview:** There should be more gluten free options. They also all sell out really fast. I also know that outside of college we have to pay extra for dairy free milk, but I feel like we shouldn’t have to here because it’s already a lot of money. I’ve noticed from last semester that the prices of the food have increased. Besides gluten free, there should be more options for people with food restrictions in general.

**Emily:** With the gluten free options, is that in the dining hall or everywhere on campus in general?

**Ridgeview:** Everywhere. I don’t go to the dining hall anymore because it’s really hard, and people are just nervous going anywhere because of cross contamination. Some things aren’t specified as gluten free or not.

**Lenape:** To add on to the cross contamination issue, my mom is gluten free and when she was here last year for parent orientation we went to the dining hall for a meal she didn’t feel well afterwards. Some of the food was definitely mislabeled or cross contaminated. They should do a better job labeling. If it doesn’t say it on the label, we won’t trust it. They should start checking the ingredients on the packaging so they don’t cross contaminate for people.

**Lenape:** I work at the Roost and this is something I discussed with someone I work with. She suggested that maybe we could get the general manager who is in charge of all food on campus to come into one of our meetings so we can bring up everything we’re discussing today. Because there are managers, but then there’s the general manager who is in charge of everything. You’ll see him around the SUB all the time. I think it would be a great idea for him to hear all of this because she said he’s pretty new to all of this but he’s very open to new ideas. He should come in here and get feedback directly from students, because currently he’s not hearing about it. If he’s not hearing it, how is he supposed to fix it? So I was told to tell you that.

**Emily:** We can definitely see if they would be able to come to a meeting. I think that’s a great idea.

**Gage:** I noticed that there has been chatter among the Student Association about getting that exact meeting set up, so we can coordinate with Chet and see where they’re at with that. The SA has been collecting comments and concerns for a while. We used to do it on paper and now we’re doing it online. For the paper versions, 25% of the concerns we received were about food options. Of the new concerns, 40% of them have been. Mostly it’s about variety of food, because although technically we have a lot of places to eat it's a lot of the same food and a lot of fried food. The treasurer of the Black Student Union described SUNY New Paltz as a food desert, which I think is super accurate. There were also concerns from Muslim residents in Gage about the inability to find food that is Halal.

**Esopus:** To piggyback on the allergy concerns, they are serious and I’ve watched people have full blown Celiac crises over mislabeled food in the dining hall. There is also an assortment of food on GrubHub which have no description or ingredients other than their title. Especially in Starbucks where things have weird names, you have no idea what they’re made of. Also at Starbucks there is an issue of things being labeled as sold out when they obviously aren’t, like a certain size cup only for a specific drink or even being sold out of the light ice option which is not possible. Also, since the Roost was brought up, I understand that we’re paying for convenience but a single frozen meal can cost upwards of $10 which is absurd. It’s also an accessibility issue because if you have noise or light sensitivity and can’t make it to the Atrium or the dining hall, the Roost is your only option to eat in your own dorm unless you want to trek to Tops or Shoprite. Having to pay twice that to get accessible food is not fair.
**Lenape:** I talk to the manager all the time because she’s my boss. It’s something to do with inflation from the places they get the food from overall. They are trying to get more vegan and vegetarian stuff. She’s really trying because she’s heard the feedback from students, but there is only so much she can do. That’s what I mean by going to the GM as the best option, because while she has some freedom she is still very limited in what she can do. She can’t do much if the people above her don’t let her. They’re actually trying to get the point that she can order all of the food that comes into the Roost, but even then there is still someone above her who has to approve that. It’s a whole process. They have been trying to get new stuff or bring old stuff back, but lately they can’t. The prices of the frozen food is just inflation happening across the country, it’s not really the Roost’s fault from what I’ve heard. I think it should be addressed at a higher level.

**Ashokan:** I was working on a show and coming in early to bring items from McKenna theater to Parker Theater. Apparently, sometimes on Sundays the door by the ramp and elevator is locked and closed off. In terms of accessibility that is not okay. Starbucks is the one place on campus that is open from morning to night and many people tend to rely on it, whether they are theater majors or just people living on Parker Quad or heading to class. Also, there was a member of our crew who needed that accessibility but on Sunday at midday it was locked. I feel like that should be addressed.

**Emily:** I’ll definitely check in on that because that seems like a weird time and day to be locked.

**Gage:** My concern is about cross contamination at the dining hall. The new omelet option is good but I’m vegetarian- which is not the end of the world but I would see this being a concern for Muslim students as well- and the meat could stick to the utensils used to prepare them. I’ve been finding a lot of ham in my food, so I have to avoid the omelets. Especially since it’s a fresher option, I was bummed.

**Bliss:** I have heard concern after concern about unwashed utensils at the dining hall. I overheard a conversation the other day between Danielle, who is the operations manager, and a student about the unwashed silverware and she didn’t even know we were having that problem. I don’t know if it has come to you guys yet so I wanted to point it out.

**Emily:** We haven’t heard that concern yet, so I’ll definitely check in on it as well.

**Collango:** Not only silverware, but plates and bowls in general almost always have stains on them. The coffee cups as well.

**Gage:** People have had uncooked or undercooked chicken at WOW. Also, a few students of color working at the dining hall have said they’ve experienced racism from the head chef.

**Emily:** Thank you for telling us that.

**Ridgeview:** Why do we have to pay extra for light ice?

**Parker:** It’s because you’re technically getting more of the drink so you have to pay for more of the ingredients since there’s less room taken up by ice. That’s what I’ve been told.

**Emily:** I can double check on the reasoning and see what can be done, and will relay the answer to y’all.

**Ridgeview:** It’s not all that bad because it’s typically only $0.25 or $0.75, but it does add up and it’s generally just weird. The way I see it is that the school just wants money. Also, I feel that with all board meals they should give a drink with it. Some places don’t specify it and so the staff doesn’t provide it.

**Emily:** I’ll check on that, because I know it can be very inconsistent.
**Esopus:** What’s going on with them constantly reminding us at the dining hall to not throw out the food on our plates and leave it on the trolley? If anything it sounds like more work for the Sodexo workers who are underpaid and overworked, and it’s probably having to do with why the dishes are dirtier.

**Cam:** If I had to take an educated guess, it’s because a lot of students don’t do it correctly by not composting or throwing away silverware. It’s probably easier for them to do it themselves.

**Bliss:** Students continue to throw food in the trash, which is not helpful when the school is trying to be better about composting. They have been hiring students, so there is more of a workforce there this semester.

**Collango:** On the topic of pricing, I’ve only seen this pop up once but sometimes when you try to order from a place on campus that uses the reusable containers with the coin you don’t have the option to do that. The only other option is to pay an extra dollar for a paper container. It forces you to pay an extra dollar for no extra reason and you can’t choose the option to get a reusable container. That might be a one time issue so if it comes up again I’ll revisit it.

**Emily:** I’m assuming this was Element? They’re the only place on campus that uses the reusable containers to my knowledge.

**Collango:** It was Element. For the salads, you can either use the reusable container or a paper one for an extra dollar and there was a day when for the entire duration that they were open the reusable container option was not there. It’s not a big issue, but it was interesting because if they’re not going to let us use the reusable container for free, why are they charging extra for a paper container?

**Gage:** I’ve seen that problem too, and then sometimes it’s not marked as required so if you don’t choose either they’ll give you a paper one regardless of paying. Also, when they were doing it last semester it seemed worth it but these paper containers now can’t be worth a dollar. They used to be like the WOW ones which are sturdier.

**Allison:** I feel that that’s something I’ve witnessed a lot in my time here. Pomodoros has switched the boxes their stuff comes in multiple times a semester.

**Emily:** We can check in on that to see why it’s happening so frequently.

**Mohonk:** I think it’s peculiar that there are so many Starbucks. I liked the Element 93 coffee because it was cheaper and you didn’t have to pay extra for half and half. I’m noticing that, as a business major, maybe there should be a Dunkin on campus or something to have a little competition. It’s weird that there are so many.

**Emily:** I don’t know technically what brand Dunkin is, but we have a contract with Coca Cola so we have to utilize both Sodexo and Coca Cola products. But I can still check in on getting more variety other than a Starbucks on every quad.

**Esopus:** Something I’ve seen at Starbucks, and I think I’ve heard it happening at Pomodoros, is denying people a water cup. It’s state law that all eating establishments which have the capability, and Starbucks definitely does, are required to give you free tap water at least. At Starbucks you’re not able to get water unless you bring a water bottle and fill it up by the bathroom. It’s not unreasonable to just fill a cup with water, no matter how busy you are.

**Esopus:** Also in Pomodoros, Sub Connection, and Hissho Sushi there are a lot of workers who are very reluctant to give out a water cup. It is state law that if they have the capability to provide a cup and water of any kind that they must provide it.

**Gage:** I understand that Starbucks are very easy to put on college campuses, but I like that New Paltz tries to use less plastic utensils and cups on campus. When we add more Starbucks on
campus, it directly takes away our capability to do that. Starbucks is a terrible company which is not eco friendly, is against unionizing, and abuses their workers. All of those are things we should have less of on campus, not more.

**Scudder:** Concerning the container issues and how they keep changing, I’m 95% sure it’s because of the shipping issues around the country. Getting shipments in in general is really difficult right now and that’s why things are always out of stock. Also it became a new rule that all to-go containers need to be paper so getting paper containers of a specific kind is getting harder and we have to work with what we can get.

**Ridgeview:** I’ve been experiencing weird issues at Pomodoro with the pizza there. You pay approximately $3 for a slice of pizza, and I’ve noticed that a lot of pizza I’ve been getting recently is smaller on average than what I’m paying for. I don’t know if it’s hard to make consistent sized pizza or what.

**Emily:** I think the decreasing portion size has been an issue around campus, so I’ll check with every establishment but especially Pomodoro if that’s where you’ve noticed it.

**Ridgeview:** For the gluten free pizza, you have to pick a topping and if you don’t pick a topping you can’t order it. You have to pay extra for all toppings and one topping is cheese, so you have to pay extra for even just a cheese gluten free pizza and that’s not fair. The cheese option should just be the same.

**Emily:** Hopefully that’s just a GrubHub error that we can solve quickly. I’ll relay updates on that.

**Lenape:** Can we move to close discussion? Or is that off the table?

**Emily:** I will entertain the hands I already saw, and then after that we can close discussion. This is not ending concerns because I know there are a lot of concerns about food on campus, so if ya’ll still have any concerns, definitely email us at rhsa@newpaltz.edu. We love to see the concerns and love to make New Paltz the best place it can be. We’re not shutting off concerns completely, so please email us with anything else.

**Gage:** I thought the sandwich station in the dining hall was open at dinner time last semester, but it’s not anymore. Also, is it true that our Sodexo contract is coming up and there’s something we could do?

**Cam:** I think they actually just renewed last year.

**Allison:** I think it’s on a five year renewal cycle though so it’s not too long before it comes again.

**Emily:** That’s still something to keep in mind so we can voice concerns with Sodexo overall as we have in the past, and hopefully the next time they come to reevaluate Sodexo and see if they want a different company they’ll have more points to back up their reasoning.

**Cam:** I’ll add that at the President Cabinet meeting that at those renewal times the school does put their feet to the fire, so to speak. Obviously it’s still not where you want it to be and it’s always going to be a pull and tug, but thinking about how it was in 2020 it has significantly improved recently. I was a student in 2014 and 2015, and it’s significantly improved from where it was then. There’s always going to be something so continue to advocate at these meetings so we can achieve gradual change over time. Then at those renewal times, it becomes a huge factor.

**Ashokan:** I don’t know if there is any resolution for this, but the Pomodoros’s pizza made me feel sick. Everytime I eat the pizza from there I don’t feel well, to the point that I called my doctor. I didn’t report it, but I don’t know if there are some potential health violations or if things aren’t being done properly.
Mohonk: We feel that Element 93 should empty its green container admittance device more often because it’s always full and then you’re stuck with a dirty dish.

Emily: Thank you for all of your concerns. Again, if you have any more after this meeting please email us at rhsa@newpaltz.edu.

OPEN FLOOR 10:39 PM

Emily: If you have a program, meeting, or any other announcement that you would like to share with the Associate Council, now is your time to share! Are there any open floors?

Esopus: We have a program on Wednesday at 8pm. You can come to get a self care goodie bag and maybe do some coloring! Also, I’ve recently taken up the project of getting Esopus to have a sensory friendly study room. We’re going to have different scents, different lights, and different stim toys. If you have anything to donate that is new or like new, or if you have any ideas, I’d really like to hear it so please come to me. I’m always at these meetings or in the Esopus main lounge. I took up this project because the other person running it had an emergency and now I’m in way over my head.

Lenape: RA Alyssa and I will be having a March Mango Madness program this Wednesday at 6pm in Shango hall. We’re going to make mango smoothies and talk about the importance of mangos in nutrition.

Ashokan: We are holding a Scooby Doo: Spooky Island movie night on Thursday at 8pm in the basement lounge. All people attending are encouraged to wear Scooby Doo themed attire. All of Ashokan hall gov will be dressing as separate characters, including Scrappy Doo and the van. We’ll be having Scooby snacks as well, the gummies and the crackers.


PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE 10:41 PM

Emily: Unfortunately Molly was not able to be here. She is super scared of thunderstorms and because of the severe thunderstorm warnings she is staying inside. So we’ll see her next week, and hopefully the weather will be better.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK 10:41 PM

Emily: “The only way to learn is to live.” -The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

ADJOURNMENT 10:41 PM

   Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: Parker
   Second: Sion!!!!

   Next meeting will be in SUB409!