February Town Meeting – February 19, 2014

Attendance at 8:45: Aprox 25

Fundcom presentation

Dina Amz presents on the issue of Funcom stipends. She explains the role of Fundcom. Dina explains the workload associated with being a member of Fundcom. She brakes down the workload by position. She talks about the work load and hours worked by the various people. She describes the history of stipends. She presents how their jobs compare to work study job.

Question: Are you asking for the same stipends as before?

A: Yes

Q: How do those numbers break down into hourly wage.

A: No simple answer, about 5 dollars a week.

Q: Have you thought about asking for more money?

A: Perhaps, we have just begun to have those conversations.

Q: How will voting occur?

A: Through the online ballot

Jim LaChance with Bon Appetit:

Jim introduces himself. He describes his history with Bon App. Describes the current buying from the Hampshire Farm. Over 60 farm shares, 5000 pounds of tomoatoes, all pigs, all turkeys, half a steer. Describes how he plans to build relationships with local farms. Talks about rainbow milk. Talks about how he loves buying local and how much we eat. Talks about the bridge cooler, and the Hampshire Farmers Market.

Q: Where do you store the food over the summer and winter?

A: In the freezers behind the Dining Hall.

Q: Signage, some foods and prep areas have less than sturdy signs, can we make things more clearly labled?

A: Doing two things, looking at different sign holders, and we are thinking about putting signs over the stations.

Q: We have people making stir fry in the front, can we have more DIY stations in the front?

A: That makes sense, they will see if they can work something out.

Q: Are there any plans to include meat options in the bridge cooler?

A: Yep, it will be frozen but we plan on adding more. There will be a co-op setup eventually, think a miniature grocery store.

Q: Whats up with the bridge not having things in stock.

A: The plan is not finished yet, we are working hard on that issue.

Q: Appreciates the task you are doing. Are there some issues about Roman, can you elaborate about what might have happened? Has heard rumors about them getting evaluations in the correct time, might not have gotten evaluations?

A: Most of what you just asked me is confidential. Evaluations are clearly spelled out in the Handbook, one each year. Pay was given at above or at market rate.

Q: What does an evaluation mean?

A: What are you doing, how can you improve, how can I improve?

Q: Events like Christmas and valentines used to be very different, the food would be very different. The food would be more formal and they were events to look forward too. Thanksgivving is a prime example.

A: Special events are very much in the work. The chefs are still getting their footing, we are building momentum, and other cool stuff is coming. Comment cards are important! We love them, we read everyone, it’s the best way to help us design an amazing program.

Q: Can you elaborate for plans for construction.

A: Not yet.

Q: Mandatory meals plans for meal plans for interns in the dorms, why?

A: Not a great question for me, the school sets the funding policy.

Q:Are you in charge of the dining hall hours, it opens at 11am and it’s a little late.

A: We are open to hours changes.

Byron McCrae, Dean of Students

Talks about the library learning commons. The notion behind moving the hampstore of the library, as well as duplications, campus police. How can we move offices around to really maximize space for students.

Q: Where is the money coming from to money things to?

A: Not a large amount of funding to move, potential to actually have cost savings.

Q: It would be awesome for the library to be a quiet space. I’m nervous that if it becomes a community space, it could become loud.

A: Allot of what we did was look exactly at that dynamic between quiet and loud space. We have a ton of ideas about that.

Byron wanted to update the meeting on Strategic Planning. K&A will be here tomorrow, go to the opening meetings!