

ATTENDEES

Chair- Jamya Graham
Executive Director- Alexandra Marchesano
President of CUAB, Vice Chair- Jasmine Orsini
Rep from Graduate and Professional Student Government- Michelle Thomas
Faculty Rep (School of Education)- Dana Riger
Director of Auxiliary Services- Scott Myers
President of Carolina Athlete Association- Kade Sutton
Speaker of the Undergraduate Senate- Alayna C. Powell
Student Appointment by the Chair- Kwaji Bullock
Student Appointment by the Chair- Kurshenna Jackson
Student Member at Large- Breanna Alexis Blake
President of RHA- Elli Alexander
CU Student Employee Rep- David Prendergast
Student Legal Services Staff Attorney- Tristan Routh
Student Organization Rep (Campus Y)- Montia Daniels
Student Affairs (Social Innovation Initiatives Coordinator)- Jakelin Bonilla
Event Services- Joe Singer

Meeting Summary

- The Board met with representatives from Carolina Dining Services and the Student Dining Board to discuss the plan to replace Wendy's with Bojangles and asks questions. A motion in favor of the Bojangles idea of creation and adherence to a reasonable timeline was passed.
- Committee updates were given from CUAB and RHA that highlighted the upcoming Latinx Heritage Month Speaker Event and Multicultural Development.
- The Board discussed the expectations for subcommittees and plans for subcommittee meetings were initiated.

CALL TO ORDER

Jamya calls meeting to order at 5:01.

Motion to approve minutes from September 8, 2021:

Jamya directed the Board to approve minutes from the September 22, 2021, meeting. Breanna moved to approve the minutes and Elli seconded. A vote in favor of approving the minutes was conducted and everyone voted in favor, so the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Jamya explained updates concerning the James Cates Memorial Project.

NEW BUSINESS

- Representatives from Carolina Dining Services came in to discuss the reimagining of the Wendy's space and answer questions. CDS has an agreement with the Student Union to collaborate on food projects such as the plan to replace Wendy's with Bojangles. The representatives shared that student focus groups identified Wendy's as students' least favorite dining options, and Bojangles as one of their requests for what was needed on campus. They highlighted the good price point (\$5-7) and range of options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner that makes Bojangles a good option.
- The representatives from CDS answered questions from the Board.
 - Tristan asked when the end date for the contract with Wendy's is.

- Scott Myers explained that because Wendy's contract is not tied to the university, they are not compelled to wait until a certain date. Typically, a 30-day notice is given.
- Breanna Blake asked how long the space would be without an occupant during the transition from Wendy's to Bojangles.
 - Scott said that it will depend on the conditions and that, with the way CDS is in need of food outlets right now to accommodate command, construction on this project would most likely be planned for next summer.
- Breanna also asked what the impact of the switch to Bojangles would be on Wendy's workers.
 - The Rep from CDS explained that the workers are CDS employees and would retain their jobs through the transition, with new training being needed.
- Jamya asked how many positions would be open for student employees.
 - The CDS Rep said they are open to hiring student employees, but often have trouble attracting their interest.
- Alayna Powell asked if the plan includes any healthier meal options.
 - The CDS Rep referenced the Bojangles menu and showed that there are some salads available that could be incorporated into the plan as meal options.
- Jamya asked if the use of Plus Swipes and Flex would be possible.
 - The CDS rep said that the menu sets up well for Plus Swipes.
- Tristan asked if it is possible for Wendy's to pull out earlier, upon hearing about the deal with Bojangles.
 - Scott explains that the plan is to wait for approval and a more concrete budget estimate before making the plan apparent to Wendy's.
- Tristan inquired if Bojangles is a part of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, which is the organization that students protested Wendy's lack of participation in.
 - The Board members weren't sure if Bojangles was a part of this organization.
- Brenna asked if further data about where students align on whether they prefer Wendy's or Bojangles has been collected more recently.
 - Scott explained that it is difficult to gauge current opinion on the idea given the circumstances of the last two years surrounding COVID. The information that showed the student population's interest in Bojangles was from 2019, but he explained the Student Dining Board has expressed steady support for the project over the past 3 years.
- Dana Riger inquired if, in the poll provided by CDS, the dining options students said they wanted were self-identified or choices provided by the poll.
 - Scott explained that the responses students gave to that question were verbatim.
- Jamya asked if seating in the Wendy's area would be impacted by the construction plans of Bojangles. She also posed the question of whether the goal would be to expand or confine the space designated for the restaurant.
 - Scott explained that that will be something discussed during design planning once the plan is approved.
- Dana posed the question of whether the Union wants another corporate chain in that space or if they want to offer that space to possibly an independently owned or black-owned business.
 - Scott responded that offering the space to a brand that doesn't get much business may be harmful to the goal of attracting traffic to that area of the Union.
- Tristan asked if it would be hard to fill a space that big with a minor business.
 - Scott responded that it is hard financially to offer that large of a space to a smaller company, and a big draw in the form of a popular business is needed to get students to that area of the Union.
- The rep from the Student Dining Board explained that if the question of what business they would want to take that spot were to be posed to students again, through polls and public interest surveys, the process dictates that we might not see a change for another couple years.
- Breanna asked why Bojangles was chosen by CDS to fill Wendy's space.
 - The rep from the Student Dining Board explained that focus groups showed that students were advocating for Bojangles.
- Jamya asked if CDS would consider redoing the study on what vendors students are interested in.

- Scott said that the Bojangles plan is ready and set to move forward and going back to the drawing board would put us back at least to the next year.
- Jakelin expressed confusion over how this process was approved by students and what constitutes the Student Dining Board.
 - The rep from the Student Dining Board explained that the data that displayed student support for Bojangles came from focus groups and surveys sent out to the student population. The Student Dining Board, she explained, is a group of 12 students, 6 from RHA, and Undergraduate or Graduate Student Government and 6 unaffiliated students, who have a deal to work with the Union for this project. The Student Dining Board has approved the plan and is waiting for the Union's decision.
- Jamya inquired as to what classes are represented in the survey. Breanna added that it would most likely be the classes of 2022 and 2021 who would've had the most impact on the survey's results.
- Elli Alexander, speaking as a member of the student dining board, shared that interest in Bojangles as the replacement for Wendy's has been a constant sentiment of the board. Furthermore, she said the Student Dining Board and CDS are working on plans to increase the amount of BIPOC farmers they're working with and possibly bring local, small businesses into the Bottom of Lenoir.
- Jasmine asked if vegan options as Plus Swipes at Bojangles would be possible.
 - The Board researched what vegan options are available at Bojangles and Scott said it would be possible for them to propose a combination of those items as a Plus Swipe option.
- Jamya initiated a motion to approve the Bojangles idea of creation and adherence to a reasonable timeline.
 - Alayna motioned and Kade seconded the motion. The Board conducted a vote with 7 being in favor, 1 being against, and 3 abstaining. The motion carried.
- Jamya ran through the things that will be discussed at the upcoming October 6 meeting, which she will be absent from. She explained that the plan is for the Board to address the Cubes location, building exceptions, the Union Art Collection, and new testing site locations for Spring '21.
- The Board then shifted to focus on subcommittees. Janya ran through which members were in each subcommittee and added some new members to certain committees. Jamya expressed that it is okay for those currently only serving on adhoc committees to wait until those committees are dissolved to join a permanent one. The Board discussed how to go about scheduling subcommittee meetings, and it was decided that Jamya and Alexandra would plan to send out individual emails for each subcommittee after the meeting, for them to coordinate their meeting times. Jamya shared the expectation that subcommittees are to generally meet once a month, with updates to be given to the rest of the Board at whole-group meetings.

Committee Updates

- **CUAB**
 - Jasmine shared information about the upcoming Latinx Heritage Month Speaker Event. She explained that more information will be coming soon about how to RSVP and tickets will be available to those who want to come and be seated earlier.
- **RHA**
 - Elli shared information about the Multicultural Festival happening this Friday. She talked about how the event will feature local businesses, music, and food from vendors like Cholanad, Que Chula, and Jamaica Jamaica.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 6:16.