

Student Union wants to take over Social Club

by Gail Anthony

The Student Union has expressed an interest in taking over the College Hill Social Club.

A proposal was presented to the board during the middle of August. Since this point there has been little communication between the two groups and both have resorted to dealing with the issue through their lawyers.

Randy Hickey, Chairperson of the College Hill Social Club Board, says the Board is mainly concerned with the interest of the paying members.

"I am still puzzled as to why they decided to pick on us. We are a non-profit independent business. Next thing you know the Student Union will be trying to take over Travel Cuts or Flannery Jewellers," he says.

Hickey says the Student Union claims they could offer better service to the students. wanting to take over the Social Club is because they could offer better programming, by having access to better bands, and holding the socials there instead of at the residences. . .The Social Club is an inexpensive meeting spot for students," he explains.

"Their justification for

"If the Student Union is so interested in owning, maintaining, and operating a bar, they should open up their own instead of requesting to take over ours. I have no opposition to this, competition is good," he adds.

According to Hickey, the final decision is up to the members of the Social Club, but says he feels it would not be in their best interest.

"As a board member I feel it would not be in the best interest of the members. . . The Social Club is a business. We are not there to spend the student's money, we are there as a service," Hickey notes.

"The Board of Directors exist

Candidates disqualified from by-elections

for the members. We have not raised liquor prices since 1985. We are not there to raise money," he adds

He speculates that if the Student Union manages to take over the Social Club there will be a lot of changes including free memberships for members of the Student Union. He admits worker's jobs may be threatened if the Student Union is successful with this endeavor.

"We have a few plans to protect the members, but it is their decision, and they have the say. If they want the Student Union to take over that is their decision," Hickey states.

"Presently we are at the legal stage. So far there has been a substantial amount of money spent on legal fees," he adds. According to Hickey the board tries to meet the needs of the members through surveys and electing people to the board, while maintaining an inexpensive meeting spot.

"The board gears everything towards what the members want. That is our main concern. Personally if I was in the position of the Student Union I would not spend that much money trying to take over a bar. I would start my own, especially when most members are against it," he concludes.

Kevin Bourque, President of the Student Union, does not view the situation in the same manner.

"All we did is issue a proposal to initiate discussion. We have the ability to offer better programming for students. . . Who would we be taking the Social Club from, if the students are the ones who have memberships? We are the official organization of all students, so of course we are interested," he says.

Bourque admits the two groups are dealing through lawyers.

"We have a running account for legal fees. There is no total for this. We always consult a lawyer before making a proposal," he states.

Bourque says the Student Union is presently in the process of obtaining a membership list to determine if the members are students. He explains there has been no public discussion, because council has not come to any conclusions over the issue. In addition he says the Student Union would have no problem with management since the Social Club is working well.

Photo by Randy Goodleaf



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by Aime Phillips

Burton Empey and Arthur Doyle were disqualified from this week's SU by-elections.

On October 15 V is h Nandlall, Chief Returning Officer, issued a memo stating that due to non compliance with election bylaws the candidates were disqualified. Apparently, there were complaints from candidates and students that campaign posters were still up.

At the Council meeting held Wednesday, Empey and Doyle presented their appeals.

Empey claims: there are contradictions in the wording of the constitution and he should therefore not be held reasonable for the misinterpretation; both candidates were in violation of the by-laws and so neither candidate gained an unfair advantage over the other; and there is no existing by-law which deals with the disqualification of unsuccessful candidates, only successful candidates. Therefore the Chief Returning Officer had n o grounds for his actions.

Doyle, on the other hand, based his appeal on the fact he made every attempt possible to remove his posters and did so, and claims someone or some group of people went around and put his posters back up near and around the polling stations.

Seeing as how both candidates were in violation of the by-laws, council decided to uphold Nandlall's decision and thus both Doyle and Empey are disqualified from the Board of Governor's ballot.

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