

Rachel asked how staffing was in the dining areas. **Michael** responded that the staffing situation had improved but was not 100% back to what they had hoped for. **Kevin** shared that a few staff members had commented that the food quality at Element 93 was not as good as previous semesters. **Michael** responded, "I've heard that it's kind of a go-to spot for most people as far as offerings, flavors, everything, so that's disappointing to hear." **Michael** noted that Element 93 was the "most consistently staffed" location with most of the staff carried over from previous semesters and asked if **Kevin** could share more details offline so they could further investigate the issue. **Steve** stated that he would be interested to hear the issue as well, noting that he had already shared his concerns with Michael about the lines and expediting several orders at the same time. **Steve** commented, "GrubHub is here to stay and ordering online is here to stay. Being able to facilitate individual, customized orders for dozens and dozens of people at the same time is just an obstacle that we're going to have to learn how to surmount."

Kevin noted that a faculty member was recently concerned about whether cash would be accepted in retail outlets again. He asked if there was more information regarding payment options on campus. Cash and card were currently accepted at Element 93, The SUB's Concierge Desk, and Starbucks at Parker Theatre. **Michael** noted that Sweets & Treats and Nesters currently accepted card and would soon accept cash payments as well. **Michael** also promoted the new express menu offered at Element 93. Created with faculty and staff in mind, the express menu offered a mix and match selection of soup, salads, and sandwiches to be ready for pickup within 10 minutes of ordering. **Steve** asked if there were any updates with the 10% discount being added to GrubHub. **Michael** confirmed that the faculty/staff 10% discount had been added to GrubHub and would be applied automatically for orders paid with a credit card. Faculty and staff members could also receive the discount in-person by showing their campus ID card at registers.

Stephanie commented, "I'm very sensitive to the fact that we charge student meal plans and sort of bill the food services program on their finances and then give faculty and staff a discount." She asked if **Michael** could explain the objective of the faculty/staff discount. **Michael** explained that a discount was applied to student meal plans across the board and dining dollars also gave an incentive discount of purchasing \$100 to receive \$110 or \$200 to receive \$225 in dining dollars. **Michael** said, "So this is a supplement to that. If you choose not to buy dining dollars, you can still go to a register and receive that same incentive just for being a faculty member." **Stephanie** asked if students buying food outside of their meal plans and community members would be the only ones paying full price. **Steve** confirmed and noted, "It's not easy. Faculty members are very careful about how they spend their money generally, and it's just an olive branch." **Stephanie** responded, "I guess for context for the students on the call, the departments do a lot of catering, not so much in the last couple of years, but we do support food services in that manner."

Steve asked if there were any additional comments. There were none. **Steve** shared that The Budget Committee would begin to meet soon and asked Melinda for an estimated timeframe. **Melinda** responded that the committee would begin to meet in March, explaining that she was "...gathering data right now, trying to figure out participation of meal plan so I have some data to back up the numbers that I want to provide." **Jaca** reminded the board that **Michele**, **Emily**, and **Corinna** volunteered to serve on The Budget Committee.

Steve asked if there was anything else to discuss. **Stephanie** reported that Student Affairs met with CAS and Sodexo to "...talk about our partnership and sort of supporting one another, and I really appreciated the response. I think that's something that we're going to do regularly."

Kevin asked where the Follett Access Program stood with the corporate change and if CAS was actively working towards the program being implemented for the upcoming fall semester. **Steve** confirmed that Jefferson River Capital did stand behind The Access Program, however it would take a lot of leg work to be the first 4-year SUNY school to implement the program and would probably not be ready for the fall semester. **Steve** explained, "I feel like it's a great thing. I don't have to deal with the down sides too much, but I think that everybody's concerns and possible objections need to be addressed before moving forward, so stay tuned." **Rachel** asked if Jefferson River Capital ran other bookstores. **Steve** said that he knew they were invested in other businesses but was unsure if they owned other textbook companies. **Steve** shared, "I do know that they've hired a lot of talent, not only this guy from CVS, but there's somebody very big in the textbook field that they hired also to be part of this. So, I think they're hiring their expertise."

Kevin shared that Brian Obach forwarded a request from someone with the CUNY system to Lisa Mitten and himself. The CUNY employee was asking for guidance with creating a plastics reduction plan per the New York State requirement. **Kevin** stated, "...they basically are looking to almost model the CUNY plan on what we've done at New Paltz." **Kevin** applauded the CAS Board and Sodexo for their work on the initiative that was being recognized amongst the state. **Steve** appreciated the great news and stated, "We're going to try to push it forward every semester and try to come up with something else, like the reusable beverage containers, more OZZI machines... This is something we shouldn't just rest on."

Steve thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reminded the board that the next meeting would be held in April. The Budget Committee would be contacted in the meantime.

Meeting adjourned: 1:24 pm