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Minutes for the Budget & Finance Committee

Date and Time: April 29, 2019/3:30 PM—5 PM

Location: Division of Administration and Finance Conference Room (135 East 146th St)

Presiding: Ernest Ialongo (Chair)

Present: Ernest Ialongo, Tram Nguyen, Yvette Luyando, Linda Ridley, Vyacheslav Dushenkov, Alisa Roost, Sarah Church, Daliz Perez-Cabezas, Carol Huie

Absent:

Guests: SVP Esther Rodriguez-Chardavoyne

Minutes Prepared By: Yvette Luyando

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| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Call to Order | The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.  Prof. Ialongo thanked SVP Chardavoyne-Rodriguez for reaching out to the Committee and turned the floor over to her. |  |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Acceptance of Agenda |  | Tabled until after SVP Chardavoyne’s presentation on upcoming budget. |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Approval of Minutes |  | Tabled until after SVP Chardavoyne’s presentation on upcoming budget. |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Budget Outlook for 2020  FY 2020 | Newly released info: Preliminary City Budget  State enacted budget includes $251.3 mil for community college operating aid; the $$ amount was reduced by $7.8 mil  Budgets are based on a lag of a year.  HCC has maintained enrollments when the other colleges have not. HCC remains flat.  Restored funding for ASAP, child care centers, CD; CUNY in the Heights $100K not restored  Family empowerment pilot program will support single parents and was allocated $2 mil  All city agencies have to prepare to take a 10% cut.  An effort was made to try to get an increase in State budget to help offset cuts, but was unsuccessful; the budget is still below by $220 to $300  The City has overcommitted by $916 mil  The City has asked every agency to take a 10% cut.  At HCC, this means a potential cut of $700k plus an additional $800K for a total of $1.5 mil. | Reviewed City Preliminary budget analysis for FY2020  Based on 2019 |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| City Council decision  and its’ impact | Preparations are being made by all agencies, however, the City Council has to meet to make a final decision on budget.  Hostos will be meeting its’ revenue; we are in the black.  This translates into we are not firing or terminating people. Note: Vacancies will be prioritized.  Grants are being encouraged. The new Grants Officer will be starting shortly and comes with lots of experience. | Waiting on City Council decision |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| What’s next | The new Chancellor is meeting with all College Presidents in May and will set directions on how to proceed with lobbying and/or other efforts.  To stabilize the institution; OTPS budgets will remain flat and no increase to temporary service area.  The SVP will meet with P & B in the Fall to give update on budget.  If a Financial Plan needs to be prepared in the Fall, the Budget & Finance Committee will be convened. |  |
| **TOPIC**  Continued Budget discussion & Q & A | **DISCUSSION**  Ques. Asked: If Hostos continues to keep enrollment flat, do we get a bigger cut of the pie.  Response: No.  Fact: Hostos is meeting the enrollment target with transfer students. | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| **TOPIC**  Other topics of discussions: | **DISCUSSION**  Excelsior Grant & qualifications  PSC contract negotiations—challenged/the state is not funding  Senior Colleges need to set aside a 2% reserve to meet salary increases.  The City is funding the Community Colleges fringe benefits and salary increases.  The City has to balance its’ books by June 30. | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| **Auxiliary Budget** | HCC gets revenue from: Cafeteria, vending machines, ATM’s, etc  Accountants that work on Auxiliary get paid from Auxiliary.  Side note: an inquiry was made on the status of food labeling by Metropolitan Food. | Review Auxiliary handout  Metropolitan Food is following NYC guidelines as well as the advice of their attorney’. |
| **Association** | The budget is based on the number of students.  Student Government has a budget committee.  Clubs present budget to Association Board to request funds.  There are referendums that have money earmarked for Child Care Center and Clubs.  Review of Association budget handout.  Auxiliary and Association budget reports will be finalized June 30.  The SVP shared that news that a 10 year audit came up clean. Students run a tight ship!  The meeting with the SVP ended at 4:41 p.m. | Review Association handout |

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| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Call to Order | The Committee scheduled a short mtg. at 4:43 p.m. to discuss what happens next. The committee will not meet again until the fall. |  |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Approval of Minutes | May 22, 2018 minutes | Accepted with a correction on page 3. |
| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **DECISION / ACTION** |
| Discussion for future: | Costs of supplies are too expensive. The state mandates that we must use minority and women owned  Business.  Are we empowered to discuss costs and alternatives?  Grants: Indirect bonds from grants go to:  65% space  25% RF at SUNY    At SUNY a certain percentage goes to the Department.  Meeting ended at 5:02 p.m. | What if all CUNY presented itself as a package? Would we get a discounted price?  Alternatives to be discussed at next meeting. Prof. Ialongo suggested that Alisa Roost, Vyacheslav Dushenkov and Sarah Church meet and bring points to be discussed at the next meeting.  Why don’t academic departments get some benefit from grants at HCC?  Good questions: to be researched and discussed at next meeting. |