

Hostos Association Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2020 | 11:00am – 12:30pm | Zoom

Minutes

In attendance

- Nathaniel Cruz
- Charles Drago
- Kelvin Pineda
- Brian Carter
- Ken Acquah
- Sherese Mitchell
- Leana Santana
- Rosina Asiamah
- Johanna Gómez
- Jerry Rosa
- Muiz Agbaje
- Lusleidy Pérez

Call to order

- Meeting called to order at 11:09am. Quorum established.

Review of minutes

- Minutes for previous meeting not available.

Report about CUNY Board of Trustees SAF 25% refund vote

- All earmark line balances read
- Clubs & Organizations balance (not on print out) went from \$74,642.47 to \$55,981.85
- Question: What was the balance of the Clubs & Organizations line after the actual proposals?
 - Funds given out. Some transactions are still ongoing. Waiting to place some orders but need to confirm if Receiving can accept shipments.
- VP Cruz – could make a motion that the pending balances not be placed in Reserve, but rather moved to next year's operating budget.
- Kelvin Pineda – we approved \$500 for a hydroponic tank and that is still pending
- VP Cruz – would need to do a double vote (current SGA, next SGA)
- Motion that the pending balances after all purchases are made not be placed in Reserve, but rather moved to next year's operating budget – Kelvin Pineda, Muiz Agbaje
 - Vote: 11, 0, 0 – motion approved
- VP Cruz – new SGA elect would have to endorse (propose motion again) and vote

Report about Spring 2020 Student Activity Fee referendum

- Dean Gómez – student body and SGA did an excellent job
- Board of Trustees will not be looking at any referendums this semester
- Will have to do process again in the Fall
- CUNY Central Office recommended proposing a higher increase (30% neighborhood)
- VP Cruz – Hostos followed every protocol
 - Much of the fault is on Central (poor communication)
- SAF increase has to be passed to cover Commencement expenses in the future

- Dean Gómez – Hostos exceeded expectations, but the climate is not good for an increase

Report about Budget Subcommittee allocations

- All proposals were reviewed (46 clubs, 9 non-student) and budgets were awarded for all
- Motion to approve Budget Subcommittee allocations (retroactive to 03/09/20) – Kelvin Pineda, Muiz Agbaje
 - Vote: 11, 0, 0 – motion approved
- Motion to reduce all Subcommittee allocations by 25% based on SAF refund vote – Kelvin Pineda, Muiz Agbaje
 - Vote: 11, 0, 0 – motion approved

Mail Diplomas Directly to Students Proposal

- Being proposed due to social distancing rules
 - Proposed by the new Registrar
- Funds are available (in the Commencement line) because the actual ceremony did not take place
- Question: Is the amount available in the line enough? Yes
- Professor Drago – not a good idea to mail them, students change address constantly
 - Students should pick up by appointment instead
- VP Cruz – Registrar could ask students if they prefer that the diploma be mailed or picked up in person
- Professor Drago – not safe to mail because diplomas do not fit in mailboxes
- Kelvin Pineda – could the diplomas be dropped off in person like the laptops were?
 - I volunteer and I am sure members of my team would also volunteer

Review of Fall 2019 Clubs & Organizations budgets to disencumber

- List of 32 student organizations that did not use all of their funds distributed
- Question: Are the numbers accurate (for the Reserve)?
 - Ken Acquah – these are the numbers for the 5% Contingency Reserve; also have a Special Reserve for Commencement
 - Special Reserve balance for fiscal year 2020 - \$70,626 (no ceremony)
 - Special Reserve balance for fiscal year 2019 - \$1,900
- Question: How many pools of Reserves are there and which ones can we tap into?
 - Ken Acquah – Special Reserve + Contingency Reserve = 15% of budget
- Question: How much money is in the overall Reserve?
 - Ken Acquah - \$1,029.18 (2019) + \$3,528.34 (2020)
- Jerry Rosa – the Special Reserve will need to be used for a traditional Commencement ceremony
- You should with the club funds that are being disencumbered
- Question: What can we use now?
 - VP Cruz – Define now. Are you talking about the current SGA or the SGA elect?

- Question: Given the transition to online instruction (and how that could affect SAFs), can we allocate funds to the next (SGA) administration?
 - VP Cruz – you already covered that with your motion
- Question: Where are we going to pull (funds) for Commencement?
 - VP Cruz – that is why we were doing the referendum
- Jerry Rosa – look at the Reserve as the “rainy day fund”
- Question: Will we have access to the pending balances?
 - Jerry Rosa – the minutes will reflect the motion that was made
 - VP Cruz – but the next SGA administration has to repeat the motion
- Question: Are SAFs being collected for Summer classes? Yes
 - Jerry Rosa – we will have the number in mid-July
- Question: How will the decision be made (about the use of those fees)?
 - VP Cruz – at the (Summer) Association Meeting
- Question: Can we set up an Emergency Fund with the disencumbered funds?
 - VP Cruz – when are you looking to use it? Between now and June 30th or after July 1st? Are these Emergency Funds to use during the Summer?
- Motion to allocate \$10,000 to the SGA Emergency Fund – Muiz Agbaje, Levin Pineda
 - Vote: 11, 0, 0 – motion approved
- Jerry Rosa – need something in writing to indicate how the funds should be used
- Dean Gómez – send proposal to Mr. Rosa by tomorrow

Discussion about Association Reserve balance

- Discussed under previous agenda item

Assessment

- Middle States coming in 2 years
- Need to report all Association transactions to them
- Dean Gómez – will work collaboratively with SGA

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:04pm

Minutes by Jerry Rosa, Hostos Association Secretary