

Hostos Association Meeting

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 | 12:00pm – 1:30pm | C-596 Conference Room

Minutes

In attendance

- Nathaniel Cruz
- Jerry Rosa
- Leana Santana
- Brian Carter
- Johanna Gómez
- Kelvin Pineda
- Alex Essiamah
- Charles Drago
- Khalifa Diao
- Muiz Agbaje

Call to order

- Meeting called to order at 12:06pm. Quorum established.

Review of minutes from prior meeting

- Minutes reviewed and approved

Association Board elections

- Chair elected as per Association Bylaws – President or his/her designee
 - VP Cruz will serve as Chair
- Vice Chair – historically the Dean of Students
 - Motion to appoint Dean Gómez as Vice Chair – Jerry Rosa, Kelvin Pineda
 - Vote: 8, 0, 0 – motion approved

Appointment of new student representatives

- Motion to appoint Muiz Agbaje and Brian Carter as board members – Kelvin Pineda, Khalifa Diao
 - Vote: 8, 0, 0 – motion approved

Review of line balances

- Balance of all lines increased due to revised enrollment numbers
- Balance for all lines read by Jerry Rosa
- VP Cruz – should have final enrollment figures by today
- It has been 17 years since the last Student Activity Fee increase
- The Board will manage more than \$600,000 this year

Member Charles Drago enters meeting

Review of Earmark spending plans

- VP Cruz – Even though the funds are already earmarked, the Association always asks a unit representative to come and answer Board member questions

- Children’s Center – \$18,225.70
 - Tabled – no representative present

- Leadership Development – \$5,211.16
 - Tabled – no representative present

- Health and Wellness – \$4,081.32
 - Pause and Paint – buying new supplies but still have some supplies from last year
 - Pause and Paint and Mindful Drawing will alternate sessions
 - Raffle items range from water bottles to backpacks
 - Question: Are you looking at the enrollment (of the classes) to see if they are effective?
 - Yes. Used to have Boot Camp but was eliminated due to low attendance.
 - Question: Why are you offering nuts if they cause food allergies?
 - Nuts are protein. Usually have almonds as well. Students get to choose.
 - Question: Any surveys to determine reaction (to the classes)?
 - Yes, during class and when we table at the Bridge (to check what students want to see)
 - VP Cruz – take pictures of the classes and share with Mr. Rosa and SGA

- Sports and Recreation – \$61,625.30
 - Busy semester
 - Men’s Basketball and Women’s Basketball practice starts today
 - Personnel is always the biggest expense
 - Travel and meals are a huge expense (especially for tournaments)
 - NJCAA and Region XV dues
 - Special events: Student athlete orientation and Women’s Basketball Championship Ring Ceremony
 - Supplies also includes game films
 - Question: Any plans for recreational activities?
 - Waiting for some donations of exercise machines
 - Working on intramurals calendar – Coed volleyball and Coed soccer
 - Gym and weight room open from 10am to 6pm
 - Working opening the swimming pool – in about a month
 - VP Cruz – we gave Athletics a full-time line to manage the pool
 - Balance of Women’s Basketball championship rings
 - Proposing to spend out of Reserve account
 - Dean Gómez – Association set aside funds last year (Spring 2019), but did not order in time

- VP Cruz – outside of CCNY, we are the first college in NYC to win a National Championship
 - Only college in NYC to win men’s and women’s nationals
 - Motion to approve a budget of \$9,276.15 from Reserve to pay for Championship Rings – Kelvin Pineda, Brian Carter
 - Vote: 9, 0, 0 – motion approved

- Leadership Development (revisited) – \$5,211.16
 - Thanks to SGA members for coming to this morning’s Scholarship Orientation
 - Some of the office supplies are for the SGA Booth
 - Will contribute to the Thanksgiving Giveaway organized by PTK
 - Question: SLA has no Summer budget. How can we create that budget?
 - VP Cruz – you should be doing a referendum doing the road
 - Question: Why is there a difference between available fees and allocated fees?
 - Fees differ because not all enrolled students paid their tuition
 - VP Cruz – Student Activity Fee devalued by 34% over the last 17 years
 - Motion to increase Leadership Development budget by \$2,000 if funds are available in Reserve – Kelvin Pineda, Khalifa Diao
 - Vote: 9, 0, 0 – motion approved
 - Will have to follow up with the Business Office
 - Jason Libfeld – in terms of the additional funds, would appreciate assistance in the form of a referendum (instead of Reserve funds)
 - Something as small as \$0.50 per part-time student would make a big difference
 - Question: How do you determine learning outcomes?
 - Surveys are terrible – we do video interviews to evaluate learning outcomes
 - Try to get a little capsule based on 3-4 questions
 - Surveys have a low response level
 - Do not get all the value (from the survey) vs. the interview
 - Video provides much more detail
 - VP – should share interview videos with Athletics (for their consideration)
 - Dean Gómez – SLA members go through speed interviews
 - Unit keeps track of all events that students participated in
 - Unit also keeps track of GPA
 - Jason Libfeld – graduated about 85 students (of about 130); at a deficit now
 - Would like Middle States to have a conversation about a co-curricular transcript
 - Some sister campuses have it
 - Costs involved (staff and software)

- Student Activities – \$9,112.85
 - Question: Is \$400 enough for hardship?

- Jerry Rosa – not enough, but we improvise
 - Need more alumni to contribute to the hardship fund
 - VP Cruz – we are probably number one in terms of neediest students
 - Raised \$250,000 a few years ago hardship grants – spent in a 2-year period
 - Question: What would be the minimum you would need (for the hardship funds)?
 - Jerry Rosa – minimum of 100 book vouchers (\$50 each) plus 100 Metrocards (\$5.50 each)
 - Dean Gómez – you should take some time to discuss and set aside some funds
 - Question: How much money is in the Reserve?
 - Would need to check with the Business Manager
 - Conditional motion to set aside \$5,550 from the Reserve for book and Metrocard hardship funds – Kelvin Pineda, Muiz Agbaje
 - Vote: 9, 0, 0 – motion approved
 - Have to follow up with the Business Office
- SGA Programming – \$30,812.65
 - Various collaborations with Health and Wellness
 - New events – Art Contest and Public Speaking Contest
 - Planning to form a Hostos version of TED Talks
 - Created new scholarship (SGA Hardship Fund) – allocated \$4,000
 - Question: Do you evaluate events to see if they (financially) effective?
 - For example, is the \$600 for Día de los muertos (Day of the Dead) a good investment?
 - A lot of the stuff you do here is wonderful
 - Trying to get people to interact more (outside of social media)
 - Conditional motion to increase SGA Programming budget an additional \$4,000 if Reserve funding is available: Muiz Agbaje, Kelvin Pineda
 - Vote: 9, 0, 0 – motion approved

Furniture for C-Building balconies

- Question: Can we use some of the activity fee money to buy furniture?
 - Dean Gómez – SVP indicated that she will most likely buy some furniture at the end of the year (once there is a full picture of the available funds)
 - Jerry Rosa – the lines set here (for the Earmarks) are for programming purposes, not furniture

Review of Budget Cap Model

- Model set in place to avoid situation from about 10 years ago in which SGA allocated large budget to certain clubs and several clubs were left with no funds for their events
- Two-part model: Club Assistance line and Projected Proposals

- Jerry Rosa – recommend that the additional \$6,698 available in the Clubs & Organizations line be added to the Club Assistance line
- Motion to create a Club Assistance line in the amount of \$9,086 (from Clubs & Organizations) – Leana Santana, Muiz Agbjae
 - Vote: 9, 0, 0 – motion approved

Members Khalifa Diao and Leana Santana depart meeting

- Stipends Spending Plan - \$29,730.33
 - Motion to table discussion of Date for Budget Meeting until Stipends Spending Plan is reviewed – Muiz Agbaje, Kelvin Pineda
 - Vote: 7, 0, 0 – motion approved
 - Conditional motion to increase SGA Stipends budget an additional \$4,560 if Reserve funding is available: Muiz Agbaje, Kelvin Pineda
 - Vote: 7, 0, 0 – motion approved

Date for Budget Meeting

- Jerry Rosa will follow up with student Board members to see if they are available on Wednesday 10/09/19
- Will try to set up FaceTime or Duo presentation option for proposals that need further review (so that club officers do not have to travel to the college and spend an unplanned subway fare)
- Will follow Budget Proposal Review Subcommittee format used previous semesters

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm

Minutes by Jerry Rosa, Hostos Association Secretary