Finance Board Meeting

Minutes

Date: September 18, 2012

Commons 318

Call Meeting to Order at-- 5:52pm

**Roll Call**

Mani Gupta

Sam Spehr

Macy Bokhari

Chisom Ebinama

Mark Crenshaw

**Prep Time**

Minutes Approved.

**1) Coptic Club**

Description-

A representative did not come to describe this request.

Questions-

A representative did not come, so questions could not be asked

Discussion-

Max-I think that we should wait till next week.

Sam-They submitted this allocation last, last week. Another issue I had with this is this allocation was sent from the Vice President.

Macy-We can’t take this request, because we don’t have the correct signature.

Chisom-I don’t think we can submit this, because we would be starting a precedent where anyone can sign allocations. We should keep this for next week, but communicate with them to resubmit this form.

Sam-Has Meena contacted you at all?

Chisom-No he just sent this form.

Sara-Is it just me, but doesn’t it say if you don’t come there has to be a written description?

Sam-Yeah it does.

Sara-I think that we should start to communicate back to people if they don’t check something.

Sam- I would really like to get rid of this box.

Sara-and make them all come to the board.

Sam-I would just love people to just come to these meetings.

Michelle-I remember that there was a discussion about this a while back about wanting everyone to come, but we didn’t change the allocation request.

Kian-I remember that a little different, wasn’t it because we were running low on money and we were saying we should get rid of the minimal amount.

Michelle-I don’t remember why exactly we kept the box.

Sam-I remember this box and I know that we wanted people to come in. The written description were never really enough and we can’t even ask questions. We would always come back and need more information. We always ended up tabling the response, which did get very frustrating. But we didn’t get rid of the box; we sort of just kept it there.

Michelle-I remember David saying if we want every org. to come in and ask for a request for seven dollars for a certain thing. Should we have them go through this lengthy process.

Chisom-I think that we should keep the check box, because they know if they check this box off that this org knows that they are giving us the power to deny this org. If they really want to hold an event I’m sure they would have had someone come in to represent their club.

Sara-They did not know, because they did not know that they need a written response. If we were to vote on this now, they may not get the fair chance to share their idea.

Kian- Is the board going to accept a signature like this?

Sam- This is going to be named under a line item. Mainly since this isn’t signed from the Vice President and we only communicate with the Treasurer or the President.

Michelle-We should tell orgs to write the names as well as in print. The signature on this allocation, would not signal to me that he/she is not the president.

Sam-Lets say Meena was the president and everything that is written on this request is correct. Would you vote on this right now?

Macy-I would personally vote for it right now, because it makes sense.

Sam-I would agree if the president signed this, only then I would vote on it. Would you vote on this without a written description?

Michelle- No, because if they are planning on having any events they should come in because it helps the finance board have a better communication with the org.

Sam-If people did not check in the box to come in and talk than I don’t think they want to fight for this event. If they don’t get.

Mani-I’m confortable with going forward with this.

Sam-Do you want to amend the Allocation form.

Michelle-I don’t think we can go around that at all…

Tabled.

Votes-

In favor, opposed, abstaining, not present

$180.00 was/not allocated to Coptic Club for the “Weekly Bible Study”

**2) Africana Studies Council of Majors**

Description

This org wants to hold an event on October 18,2012 in the UC Ballroom. They are going to have Congressman Cummings speak at UMBC about how to manage there future more effectively. This is the first time this group of student are going to hos this event. ASC is hoping with the success of the event it could shed some light on the University. We are also trying to get more orgs involved in this event. They are also going to have Freeman Habrowski at this event to introduce the Congressman to the University.

Questions

Macy-Hi! I was just wondering if this location is confirmed.

ASC-Yes we actually have the layout right here.

Chisom-Have you had this before?

ASC-No this is the first time.

Chisom-How did you estimate 150 people.

ASC-We’ve been speaking to the presidents office department and they are getting some advertising done for us. Other students from other orgs are coming. Also since Freeman Habrowski is coming, it is open to the whole campus.

Donta-They’re also bringing out there members and well as others orgs. The five organizations coming are Asian Study Council Majors, the Weekly Retriever, The College Democrats, the Chess Club, and the National Black Club. These were the first five clubs to sign up.

ASC-This is open to a lot of other schools as well.

Chisom-Talk to me about the French Foo Display.

ASC-Since we have a Congressman coming we wanted to have something simple and minimum, because the Congressman did not want to stay for dinner. We didn’t ask for any lunch, but we kind of want to have some orderves. We also wanted to ask the other orgs to bring out some food or drinks.

Michelle- One last question. So you have market packaging. How are you going to advertise for this.

ASC-Yes we are going to use the 1,000 flyers, supports from the presidents office department, UMBC spotlight, and several other social media connections.

Michelle-Do you have any other resources of funding.

ASC-No.

Discussion

Macy-I’m in favor for this event. This event brings a lot spotlight to our school and our community.

Mani-I think that it’s good. It brings in a lot of people and we will get more publicity.

Macy-Would this just count towards the African Studies Council, or would it go to the other five orgs coming.

Sam-No this would just be under the ASC Allocation request.

Mani-Move to Approve.

Macy-Second.

Votes:

5 In favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining (Donta), 0 not present

$963.64 allocated to Africana Studies Council of Majors for “Congressman Cummings”

**3) UMBC SASA**

Description-

SASA wants to hold an event at the Walker Court Yard to promote their club as well as bring students something to do. They are asking for $518.12 for food. They have held this event before and each time it has been successful.

Questions-

Mani-The breakdown that you have is a little confusing.

SASA-The 2nd page on that back is where we are getting our Halal store. When I turned this in I was little confused, but this is from that last treasurer so she changed everything around. I think that everything for food id is for Peapod.

Mani-Are the utensils you have under “food”.

SASA-Utensils would be separate from the food.

Macy-I crunched the money and it looks like your numbers don’t add up. Yet on the other page is does add up? So this is right, but I just wanted to make that clear.

SASA-Yeah it’s supposed to be two pages. I can ask her, could I check my email. I think she sent everything to my email?

Sam- Everyone offer out your laptops.

Mani- Are you expecting 150 or 350?

SASA-Uh I think its 350, but we put the number there because we know there are going to be a lot of people.

Sam-with events in the past, we don’t allow people to cook raw food.

SASA-We are grilling the food.

Michelle-Its different with Res Life.

Sara-They are in the middle or revising and I think there is a little confusion. I think we should stop by events planning and speak with Jackie!

Macy-Out of the expected attendees, how many members are in your organization?

SASA-I would have to look at the mailing A list, but I am guessing more than 100. But we are seeing a large turn out. I don’t just see our members coming to this; I really see a huge student body involvement.

Sam-Where did the 350 come from?

SASA-The estimate we have had it from the previous years. So they just put down that estimate. I wouldn’t know because I didn’t go last year.

Michelle- Are we going to move the utensils out from the food?

Sam-Yes, so utensils would be a second line item. So food is 502.24 and utensils are going to be 15.88.

Sam-So does anyone have any questions?

Mani- For the Halal Chicken Cost, where did you get that number?

SASA-They don’t have a website so we called them. That is the only way we got to contact them.

Michelle- Are you going to advertise?

SASA-I know that we are going to have a Facebook page but I’m not sure if we are going to do anything else.

Macy- Do you know about the 1,000 free copies?

SASA- Yes

Sam- so the chicken you are going to get from the store is it going to be cooked.

SASA-No we are going to grill it on out own.

Sara-Just make sure you talk to Jackie

Room 355

Discussion

Michelle-If we don’t have this confirmed from Jackie, if she doesn’t approve of this then all of these quotes will change.

Chisom- When you come to the location, it is by Walker Courtyard. I don’t think Jackie can change anything about this issue?

Sara-When it comes to food it has to be confirmed from events planning. When it comes to space it has to be approved to Res-Life.

Chisom-Is food the incentive?

SASA-We are not using the food as the bribe to get people to come.

Chisom-If you took out the food would it be as great.

I still think that people would come to this, but food does play a large role. It is a Barbeque.

Sam-Um we are in discussion haha just saying. But I guess we can go on with discussion? haha its okay.

Mark-I don’t think this could happen without food. Hahaha I mean it’s a barbeque so we can’t take out the food. There wouldn’t be an event? I think this is one of the events we completely fund or don’t fund.

Mani-I would not want to fund this because it is kind of focused around recruitment.

Chisom-I think this is a great idea but the problem is we set a precedent. I would not want to fund this because of that precedent we set the past two weeks.

Sara- Explain the new Precedent.

Chisom-The precedent came upon two weeks ago when a club asked for a Barbeque. They wanted the food in order to give it to the people. There was no moral behind the event. To elaborate more we cant give orgs money for food. Each student plays a certain amount of money and the student.

Sam- We really don’t want you to think that we don’t like your event. It seems like a great idea! It’s just a lot of orgs asked for money but we don’t want to make it seem like we pick and choose.

Donta- I actually like the fact that they picked Walker. What I am not particularly fond of is that is it not on the weekend. If we were to put it on the weekend, it could give student something to do.

Michelle- When we talk about using this pot of money, we like to give money orgs which affects the whole campus. A lot of orgs try to target certain location and want to have events like this, but we don’t have such a large supply of money to give every org on event only focused on the school.

Michelle- Move to approve.

Mark-Second.

Votes-

0 in favor, 6 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 absent

$518.12 not allocated to SASA for the “Barbeque.”

**4) UMBC Mock Trial**

Description-

Mock Trial is a National Student Event. What this student orgs does is impersonate the trail runs, where they are judged on how they can mimic an actual trial. There are two tournaments one in Georgetown and American University. These invitational help them prepare for the National Mock Trial. They also want to shed more light on this organization as well as promote the school.

Questions-

Mani-You have more than 10 people, can the other members be apart of this Mock Trial?

MT-The rules are that we are only allowed 10 people per team.

Mani-How will other members learn from this who aren’t participating in this event.

MT-We will bring some more light to UMBC. So people can see wow UMBC is a good team.

Michelle-can you touch on how in the past, how other members felt who didn’t participate in this event.

MT-We have told people that don’t get a position to come to discussions and speak to us individually and show us that they want this. If they go to the Mock Trials, they help themselves. It is a learning experience.

2nd Allocation

Mani-Will the teams be the same

MT-We are working on it. We want to get people who are experienced and inexperienced. It helps both sides.

Discussion-

Mani-I would like to fund this because, it adds prestige to UMBC’s name.

Macy-I agree with Mani because this event has a lot of promise. It brings national attention to our school from other schools attending these Mock Trial Events. Its an Intellectual Sport, if we compete it only brings prestige, also non-attending members benefit from this as well. They mentioned that if more people join they will keep on attending more Mock Trials to give every member a chance to compete.

Mani-Move to approve.

Michelle-Second.

Mark-I personally don’t want to fund for this because I don’t think it would benefit the UMBC community as a whole.

Chisom-Based on what they explained, I am fully supporting this org. He did say that it is open to everyone; the team just consists of 10 for each competition. This also improves our reputation as a school

Michelle-At first I was little hesitant. I do see a fair chance for the whole org because even the people who are not on the team can learn from this event. We should keep in mind that there are other intellectual sports teams, which might want to have events for the future.

Macy-Move to approve.

Second-Chisom

Votes-

5 In favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 absent

$175.00 allocated to UMBC Mock Trial for their “Georgetown University Invitational

5 In favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining, and absent

$125.00 allocated to UMBC Mock Trial for their “American University Work Trial Invitational”

**5) Vietnamese Student Association**

Description-

This event is held every fall and its had a huge turn out every time. They always add an educational aspect. They want to appeal to student from UMBC opposed to students from other schools. They are requesting $1,300 for food and an additional $200 for decorations and utensils. This event is going to be held on the weekend, so students will have more things to do than stay in the dorm.

Questions

Mani-How are you advertising this?

VSA-We are going to use Spotlight, Facebook event, announce it during our meeting. We have our Asian Student Connections.

Mani-How are you targeting non Asian groups?

VSA-We have a Facebook group.

Michelle-Could you walk us through this event.

VSA-Educational Portion, then Food, 7-7:15 a performance. Sorry I don’t have the linguistics down!

Michelle-Do you guys have a reason for not going with a marketing package.

VSA-it just seemed like a costly amount.

Macy-it sounds like your event is educational and raising your organization name.

Chisom-Why do you need the food?

VSA-It adds to the atmosphere and food to me is a very large part of our culture. For people who have never knew much about Vietnamese, you can learn a lot more when you eat food and talk to others. Food is an educational material.

Mani-Is there a venders list to show where the food is coming from.

VSA-Yes and everything has been clarified with Shawny.

Michelle-Do you have a place to store this information?

VSA-We are just renting them.

Macy-Do you know about the 1000 free copies?

VSA-Yes.

Donta-Is the food already cooked or is it raw.

VSA-Is it prepared, we just have to assemble everything.

Discussion-

Macy-I am in favor for this event. This event is not all about food. It has an educational aspect to it. The food in itself is educational and the posters add to the event.

Michelle-I have a question to the board. Last meeting we agreed to a new venders list. Does this meet the requirements?

Macy-This is enough of a breakdown for me. But they did not account for a tax, because the food is from Virginia.

Chisom-I think the idea behind the event. It seems to me though that most of the money is going to the food. I see this event as more about the culture.

Michelle- Move to Approve.

Macy-Second.

Vote:

6 in favor , 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, 0 not present

$1,500 allocated to VSA for their Pho Night

Michelle-It was easier for me to fund for this organization. They really do make this food essential, but they show how food is so important to the culture.

Mani-I feeling the same way, but the educational part did make it a lot more easier.

Chisom-I definitely understood where the event was coming from, because they are really putting a lot of emphasis on the meaning behind the educational.

Sara-What makes this event more is that there is a moral behind this event. This

Macy-They emphasized the educational device this event serves, they did not use food as recruitment, or for retaining current members, the way they presented themselves was the key difference here and why I supported this event over the BBQ earlier and the Cookout from two weeks ago.

Sam-For the event, they make the food fit in with their cultural aspect. The food was a great perk, but they really build up on the event.

**6) Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.**

Description-

This is a group of student held this event last year and it was a huge hit. This event, A Haunted House, will be held on October 30 at 6pm to 10pm. It will be located in the UC Ballroom and for construction purposes they reserved that area for one extra day. They are requesting $7,000 to construct the Haunted House and several other line items totaling to $8,399.64. They hired a professional company. Last year they had over 600 attendees. It is free for all UMBC students. There is no food, expect popcorn and small snacks.

Questions-

Macy-Do you have any other funds?

ZSC-Most of our money has come from fundraisers. We also use our money to get a truck to move in and out all the material.

Chisom-I this number 600 based on the number of people you got from last year.

ZSC-yes.

Chisom-If we don’t not fund for this will this occur?

ZSC-no, we don’t have that kind of money.

Sam-What will the glow sticks add.

ZSW-The line is really long and in order to help them pass the time they can play with the glow sticks. The glow sticks will also add the environment.

Chisom-What will happen if there are more people.

ZSW-I do not think anything will happen the line will just get longer.

Michelle-What are the miscellaneous things

ZSW-I did not coordinate with her, I am sure it is random bolts and nails.

Mani-Would those things go under supplies.

ZSW- I assume so, I’m not sure she could give me a more detailed break down for “miscellaneous.”

Chisom-What is building material?

I do not know every single detail. I can’t really clarify this for you.

Sara-Do you have a break for the 760.00.

Finance Board Support-Does she not really know what this money is going to?

ZSW-I don’t think she wanted to list all 30 things that she needed.

Discussion-

Mani- Is the bracelet sort of a give away?

Donta-I remember from last week, we did not want to fund for give a ways.

Sara-What do you define as a give away?

Michelle- An item which doesn’t contribute to event and is given to each student who participates in an event.

Sam-I get the feel that people don’t want glow sticks.

Michelle-The only complaint I got from this event was that the line was long.

Sam- I agree because I went last year and the line was so long. The wait for me was about two hours. The popcorn and cotton candy did help. The line is long but I personally don’t think glow sticks will help pass by the time for me.

Macy-Glow sticks add to the advertising and serves as an outdoor decoration more than a giveaway.

Finance Support- How would the food differ from the glow sticks?

Chisom-I think that it comes to give ways it is case by case. How would

Mani-I think that we should strike it. I don’t see it adding to the event. We aren’t going to like play with it or have a battle.

Michelle-I feel more confortable with this because it adds to the atmosphere. You can’t light all the trees and add decorations around the UC. Glow sticks

Chisom-Going back to the break down. I am still trying to define what are miscellaneous objects. It gets tricky for me.

Straw Pool for Glow Sticks

5 for, 1 opposed

Glow sticks are still going to be funded for.

Mani-I would like to know what is.

Macy-I kind of viewed it as part of what goes on the walls as decoration for the interior hallways of the set outside from the actor’s costumes, props and the actual material they use to construct the walls.

Michelle-I feel more comfortable funding for this event. I am glad that miscellaneous Is a set things. So we know where the money is going?

Donta-I am generally for this event.

Chisom-There are so many questions for specific breakdown. I am really concerned with what items are in the miscellaneous.

Donta-I think that is two different things. The glow sticks are coming from the org and the other half is coming from the company.

Macy-I wanted to point out that there is a separate vender for the glowsticks. They also get 200 free bracelets.

Michelle-My hesitation is that I think things are not subjected in an equal space

More defined break down.

3 for, 3 opposed

Mark-Dealing with contractors. I used to work with them and usually when you ask to break this down further this could take more time away.

Michelle-in all fairness to all orgs, 764 dollars is a lot and I don’t know where this is going to.

Sam-I would be for a more detailed breakdown. There are so many things on this breakdown where I don’t know what certain things fall under. I want to know where this money is coming from. I don’t want to write a seven thousand dollar check for something that they might not use.

Macy-I agree, that number could come from taxes. But I don’t know that, but it’s something that adds to where this money is going.

Financial Board Support-They have break down for the

Table for a further Breakdown.

Mani-I would like to fund it.

Michelle-Why?

Mani-because a lot of people are coming to it.

Donta-When orgs come we ask how will it impact the whole campus.

Mani-600 is way more than 100 people.

Sara- Just keep in mind that we will have to work with Jackie.

Sam- I like talking to Jackie.

ZSC-What do I need to bring in next week.

Break Down for $756 and add.

Tabled for further breakdown of the haunted house builder contract.

Vote:

in favor, opposed, abstaining, and absent

$8,399.64 was/not allocated to the ZSC for the Haunted House

**7) Hong Kong Student Association**

Description-

This wonderful group of student want to celebrate their holiday on campus, as well as spread their culture to students on campus. They want to hold an event at the Harbor Courtyard on September 27,2012 from 7p to 11pm. They are requesting $255.25 for Moon Cakes. They are planning to add decorations to this even by putting lanterns around the Court Yard. Their main goal in this event is to educate the student body about their holiday.

Questions

How do you plan on advertising?-Michelle

HKSA-We are hoping to utilize social media.

Macy-Walk us through the event.

HKSA-7 we will wait for people.

7:30 slide show in the MPR.

8 pass out the moon cake and drink some tea.

Karaoke and Socializing and Games to 11.

*Chisom’s request to go to Questioning ,*

Chisom-is this celebration based on the moon cake.

KHSA-In my opinion the moon cake is the center of this event. This holiday is very important to our country, and this moon cake represents a huge part of this celebration. The moon is represented as the cake which we eat. The moon cake is really critical to this event. The cake is a piece of our culture. We want to share this celebration with the rest of the UMBC Campus.

Sam-I see, so the food is not to feed more to get a taste of the culture.

KHSA-Exactly!

Discussion

Chisom- I love the idea behind the event. However, my question is how is it different from the Barbeque.

Macy-The things that they highlighted stick to my past points. It is not for recruitment, it is to celebrate a joyous holiday, and they have an education background for this event. It makes me okay with funding it.

Michelle-The org presented it in a way, which we could look beyond the aspect of just feeding people.

Donta-This is a holiday and they want to share it will everyone. It is a holiday where they want to share their culture.

Mani-How is this different from College Democrats?

Chisom- This is a very good point.

Michelle-When a holiday is literally all about food, how can you really celebrate it? The purpose of the food is completely different from the College Democrats. I feel as if College Democrats used it to keep people and to feed. This moon cake is everything that they are celebrating. How can you take the food away?

Sam-Each allocation request is different; they are all not going to have the same value.

Move to Approve-Michelle

Votes:

4 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining(Chisom and Max), 0 and absent

$372.88 was allocated to Hong Kong Student Association for their “Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration.”

Chisom-The fine line is not drawn. I feel the food is being used in the same manner as College Democrats.

Sam-You can only abstain if you are apart of the org, or if you don’t feel informed enough.

Chisom-I think that is can go both ways. Cant you abstain if you feel you are not informed enough about this event and be at this presentation.

Michelle-You don’t see that we have reached a fine line. Than shouldn’t we all be abstaining. If you are in the middle of this event than you should question the board. We all have to make decisions that we aren’t fully informed of. We never can know to the orgs full request.

Sam-Back to discussion!

*Back to Discussion*

Sam-How do you feel

Chisom-What I am saying. That gives me the idea that you don’t want to just want to feed people. So I feel comfortable to move on.

Move to Approve-Chisom

Votes

5 to approve, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining (Max), 0 present.

$372.88 was allocated to Honk Kong Student Association for their “Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration.”

HLSU

Discussion-

Sam-They broke were able to bring down the cost to $400.

Mani-It’s 371 without tax, are we going to assume that the rest comes from tax.

Sam-I can just call Melissa.

Macy-I just wanted to point out, it was $800 and they have gotten it down to half of that amount for us.

Sam-I’m positive that she added the extra $29 for tax.

Chisom- I really thing we should just vote on this. She has the quote lets just vote on it now.

Michelle-I do not feel comfortable with voting for this now. Everything for this on amazon is not confirmed. Those costs can change.

Mani-Not all of this items are from amazon.

Sara-Yes that is true, I think we should approve this.

Macy-Move to approve.

Mani-Second.

Votes-

6 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, 0 opposed.

4,779.64 allocated to HLSU

**Roll Call**

Members Present at End:

Mani Gupta-Coptic Club

Sam Spehr-Zeta Sigma Qi

Macy Bokhari -SASA

Chisom Ebinama –Mock Trial

Mark Crenshaw-Vietnamese

Michelle Kuan-HLSU

Donta-

Meeting Adjourned at 9:26

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