Finance Board Meeting #10

 Minutes

 Date: November 6, 2012

Commons 318

Meeting called to order at 1730 hours

**Roll Call**

Mani Gupta

Samantha Spehr

Chisom Ebinama

Mark Crenshaw

Michelle Kuah

**Prep Time**

(Prep time was shortened so the Representatives could volunteer)

1. **African Student Association: Cry for Help**

Cry for Help is an awareness event, that also has the goal to explain the challenges, and the fear that exists in Africa today through entertainment

**Questions**

Mani: Could you walk us through your event

Godwin: There will be music, poetry, drama skit, speaker who will talk about embracing values, dance performance by PCE, Fresh the singer will perform, and then two dance groups will perform from UMBC.

Gabriella: What role does food play in this event?

Godwin: It will be a long show so we don’t want people to get bored and we want to share with them our culture as well.

Mani: How do the performers help with the message of the event?

Godwin: They will help spread awareness of African culture specifically African dance.

Mani: You are expecting 350 people?

Godwin: Correction, there will only be 320.

Mani: What would happen if food was not funded?

Godwin: If the event were not funded, it would reduce the amount of people that would show up to the event. It would take away what HALF of Africa is about.

Mani: For the decorations, will you store them?

Godwin: Tablecloths will be kept, remaining balloons would be kept, backdrop, redcarpet, and flags would all be kept as well as other long term items.

Sam: What does the red carpet and backdrop add to the event?

Godwin: It will add Atmosphere and help people remember the event.

Michelle: It appears the speaker has a potential conflict in his schedule, will he becoming?

Godwin: The conflict is gone, he will be there.

Sara: Is tax included?

Godwin: Yes

Michelle: I see you have a marketing package, but will you explore other options as to market your event?

Godwin: Yes, we will be advertising through social networking.

**Discussion**

Chisom: I think this is a straightforward event, the event has been happening for a long time, it is successful, the event is good, showcases all aspects of Africa, I see food not being an incentive but as an important aspect of the culture.

Sam: How do you feel about funding the food?

Chisom: This is more than one country, and I think the cost of the food makes perfect sense as they are trying to incorporate foods from all different countries from one continent being represented.

Michelle: I’m a little uneasy about the price, but I am going to take into account what we have funded in the past.

Sam: Mani what are your reservations about food?

Mani: It would be only for 320 people and it would be expensive.

Chuka: Has food run out in the past?

Godwin: Yes, we want to make sure that doesn’t happen again.

Gabriella: I believe the Caribbean Student Association also asked for funding, because it was a big part of the culture.

Chisom: What aspect of the food do you find to be expensive.

Sam: Although other events have not covered so many other cultures, the price of food has not been this expensive.

**Questions**

Michelle: Is the catering service being paid for service and food, or just for the food.

Godwin: Just for the food, we are not keeping the portable heaters for the food.

**Discussion**

Michelle: I don’t feel qualified to be able to say what can and can’t be cut, but I do think the event is a bit pricy. This is coming down to a money issue not a precedent issue now.

Chisom: I think it comes down to what the event is all about, we have funded events in the past that were just about food, this event is more than that, it seeks to raise awareness and spread the African culture as a whole.

Mark: I think that one thing that must be taken into consideration is that ASA is not the only organization that represents Africans on campus.

**Questions**

Sam: Could you tell us how each of the foods represents the countries in Africa.

Godwin: In Africa, there are foods that everyone in all the countries eat.

Mani: This food represents Africa as a whole?

Godwin: Yes

Michele: Was there not enough food last year?

Godwin: Yes

Michele: This is an increase from last year?

Godwin: Yes

Michele: As it pertains to food are you shooting more for variety or quantity?

Godwin: Both

**Discussion**

Michele: I feel better that it was because of previous circumstances that there was an increase in price, seeing as how food ran out last year at this event , and I know from personal experience that when Orgs run out of food it is horrible. I am more comfortable.

Voting: For: 4, Abstaining: 1, Missing: 1

1. **WMBC: Equipment**

We are trying to modernize all our equipment, our equipment is very old and we want it replaced. We need computers for both broadcasting and recording of the music.

**Questions**

Mark: Are the systems old or going to break down soon?

WMBC: We want to expand our services, as during the hurricane we weren’t able to broadcast, even at UMBC not everyone is reached. This will also be so that we can effectively record and podcast our show.

Mani: Tell us a little more about your club.

WMBC; We provide entertainment to the entire campus, and also allow artists to record their music. One day we want to be as big an organization as SEB.

Sam: Why are you building the computer?

WMBC: It is cheaper, and we can customize it to our standards.

Chisom: From my understanding, you already have the things you need? Also are there any promotions?

WMBC: We are doing promotions for on and off campus entities, and no we do need things for our current station.

Gabriela: What time is the station broadcasting?

WMBC: 24 hours a day.

Mani: Have you requested equipment from Finance Board before?

WMBC: We haven’t requested for a long time, and are not aware of the specifics or results of the Finance board request

Sam: How often do you take inventory of your supplies?

WMBC: Last semester.

Mani: The Imac is 10 years old you said?

WMBC: Yes

Chisom: What is the longevity of the things you buy?

WMBC: Very long, the equipment we’re using now is decades old.

Gabriela: Where is your equipment held?

WMBC: We have everything in one room behind Walker.

Chisom: How many people are involved in your organization.

WMBC: As for staff; we have 30-40 DJs and 6 official members, 125 listeners due to the limitations of the stream host we use. There are 36 people who sign our attendance and show up to meetings.

Mani: How did you get 125 people?

WMBC: Our software keeps track of this information, but as said before we are limited by software.

Chuka: All podcasts are free?

WMBC: Yes

Michele: There are a limited amount of people who can’t listen because of software.

WMBC: Yes

Michele: This is to build computers?

WMBC: Yes

Michele: What has prevented you from hosting the stream in the past?

WMBC: UMBC’s network limits us as outside computers cannot contact a UMBC server, with a new computer we could broadcast more efficiently and broadly.

WMBC: From what I understand; DJ-tron only allows us to play music from LastFM but it only plays music it what wants to play, with this new tech we could play our own music, with the recording, we could use new tech to record the shows so people can listen even after class.

Chuka: Why not just make the podcast for the entire show?

WMBC: It is only for the DJs to record their music for distribution, it comes out of the DJ’s pocket.

Chisom: I want to know what this new equipment will do.

**Discussion**

Sam: What would going to WMBC do for those who don’t understand?

Chisom: Is everyone comfortable funding this sort of thing? I want everyone comfortable funding this request.

Gabriela: I feel we should wonder about what happened to the last equipment.

Mani: My concern is, if they got it approved for equipment previously, I want to know that the equipment funded will be safe.

Michele: If we do fund this, we must take steps to avoid confusion on this matter in the future.

Sam: We would like this org to take inventory.

**Tabled**

**Relay for Life: Kick Off**

We will try to have this event every fall so that people can hear about Relay and know that it exists, and educate people about Cancer, and how Cancer affects people, and what the American Cancer Society does. It also allows people to learn more about how to join Relay.

Mani: What are the Mission items for?

Relay: They are so that people can be educated about cancer.

Michele: Will the catered food be paid for out of pocket?

Relay: Yes.

**Discussion**

Mani: I am comfortable funding this event

Michele: I as well.

Approved: 4, Opposed 0, Abstaining: 1

**UMBC Anime Society: 24 hour Anime Marathon**

**Questions**

Sam: Is the Space confirmed?

Anime: Yes, we have not been rejected.

Mani: Your asking for Pamphlets?

Anime: Yes, the amount of pamphlets is positively correlated to the amount of people there.

**Discussion**

Chuka: I think the request is basic and they are only asking for the essentials.

Michele: They are only asking for the essentials, I am for this.

Voting: For 4, Opposed 1, Abstaining 1

**Persian Student Association Tabled from last week**

Chisom: Everything they were requesting was very well funded the only problem was that there was no breakdown of decorations.

Sam: Are the prices the same?

$13 increase in the original price

Approved: For 3, Against 0, Abstaining 2

Meeting Adjourned at 2012 hours

**Roll Call**

Chuka Agbaraji

Mani Gupta

Michelle Kuah

Gabriella Kuffour

Chisom Ebinama

Mark Crenshaw

Samantha Spehr