Finance Board Meeting

Minutes

02/12/2013

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm

Roll Call:

Samantha Spehr

Mani Gupta

Michelle Kuah

Chisom Ebinama

Chuka Abaraji

Morgan Mayer

Sara Kim

Craig Berger

Gabriella Kuffour

There was no prep for this meeting

**WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING**

Org: This is a smaller event that is under project against sexual violence against women. This event was held last year and about 100 people attended. All organizers were from UMBC. It was held in Meyerhoff. There men are outside of WILL who take part in the event and help to organize it. The project is held to show both men and women who have been abused sexually and to show that they have a voice, to voice out their opinions. It is also an opportunity for people who are survivors of sexual abuse to share their stories. It is also a way to bring out safe voice of hope for survivors and victims of sex trafficking. We have cosponsors such as SEB, President’s Commission for Women, Zeta Sigma Chi, and many other organizations. We will also encourage people to donate.

**QUESTIONS:**

Michelle: Is there an audition process for the performers?

Org: Last year, we didn’t have anything like that because we were very desperate for performers, but this year, if anyone comes up to me and explains that she really wants to perform a piece, we will just talk through it and see who can perform, we don’t really have strict auditions

Sam: Can you talk a little about the donations?

Org: For donations, we suggest 5-10 donation fee but we will take anything.

**DISCUSSION:**

Chuka: I really like the description she gave us. There is nothing fancy or extraordinary in this request and I am for funding this.

Morgan: I agree, and I am for fully funding this. The org is very passionate about the cause. And this is not something we always see.

Sara: I want to commend the stud org for collaborating with SEB and the Greek society on campus, I am for this event

Mani moved to approve

Members for- 5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Women’s in Leadership and Learning were approved for $979.06 for their event The Vagina Monologue

**ASIAN STUDIES:**

Org: This is our second year in existence. We want to get our name out there. We are one of the most recognizable Asian studies council on the East coast. I want as many people as much to get out there. I have talked to History Student’s council, Visual arts students, etc, to inform people. It is a really good way for us to get our name out there.

**QUESTIONS:**

Chisom: Are these 40 people confirmed to go?

Org: This is about an estimate based off of students who are willing to go

Sara: How many students are in the organization?

Org: About 15

Mani: Are you advertising openly?

Org: We are going to make flyers, and inform as many people as possible who want to go

Sam: Is this paid for?

Org: No, just a quote from the bus company

**DISCUSSION:**

Chuka: I don’t really have any reason not to fund this event, and I think it is informative to go to this event I am for funding

Michelle: They are reaching out to different orgs, and there is an actual purpose behind this trip, so I am more comfortable for funding this event

Chuka moved to approved, Mani seconded

Member For-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not Present-0

Asian Studies Council was approved for $601 for their event Bus

**STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS**

This is an Ecological festival held annually, open to all students. It is a way for all student orgs to come together and express their interest in the environment.

**QUESTIONS:**

Mani: How many people were at the event last year?

Org: We expect as many, and there has probably been about 300 people who experienced it

Michelle: Do you plan to use the banner year after year

Org: Yes, we could reuse

Sara :What activities do people partake in during the event

Org: There are vegan cookies, clean water actions is coming to inform students want they do, tye dye table, henna table, music

**DISCUSSION:**

Mani: I am comfortable funding this event They are asking for the bare minimum concerning the number of people

Chuka: I was uncomfortable but after she talked about the number of people, I became more comfortable so I am for funding this event

Sam: I went to this event last year and I learned a lot about the environment

Chisom moved to approve, Mani seconded

Members For- 5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Students for Environmental Awareness was approved for $571.00 for their event ECOFEST

SEA event tabled from last week

Org: The food cost was brought down to $1885, we found another quote

Michelle: I had a question about the pens. Is it a particular type of pen that you are ordering

Org: These are pens made from recycled material

Mani: What is going to happen to the rest of the pens

Org: We could potentially use for ECOFEST

Sara: Why would you want to have UMBC on it

Org: Just for an aesthetic appeal

**DISCUSSION:**

Sara:I am for funding this event. I think it is very great for the student for to bring the food down

Chuka: I think the pen is not necessary. There are so many other ways that UMBC can be advertised and I wouldn’t be comfortable for funding the pens

Chisom: I really like this event, and I like that they brought the cost of food down but as Chuka said, I don’t really see the pen adding any value to the event, and I see no significance of the pen. I am not for funding pens

Mani: I think last week , she did express a need for pens.

Morgan: I think the org expressed that they could be resued and if there was issues with giveaways, they will not give it away.

Sam: We can add a stipulation that they cannot give the pens away

Michelle: I think we should put a stipulation that the pens have to be repurposed

Chisom: I think that is micro managing

Sara: I think it is really unique that the pens are eco friendily and this ties into the event. My question to michelle is what made you feel comfortable funding males, debate club and other orgs for writing materials

Michelle: If that was now, I would have probably asked the org to repurpose the materials , to make sure that the materials carry on from year to year.

Sam: We actually did ask males to keep the pens and not to give them away

The board came to an agreement to fund plain pens

Sam to the org: How much is the shipping

Org: He didn’t get back to me,

Sam: Do you think it is the same as that from your old packet

Org: We changed companies

Mani: Why did you change companies.

Org: We were looking for companies with lower prices, and we found this one who happened to have ecofriendly pens so we decided to go with them.

Sam to Craig: Can you please look up the companies price for shipping?

Craig: It looks like there is no set shipping price and it depends ON THE ORDER.

Sam: You will have to table this event or pay the shipping cost out of your pocket.

We will table it, and ask the reps for a more estimated cost, or look at other companies that can provide a shipping quote at the same cost

Craig: I don’t recommend this a lot, but I would think, that you can give the org about a little bit more money to cover the shipping, so they don’t have to table this event

Michelle: My concern is, that we fund a certain amount and then it turns out the cost is more than what we allocated them.

Org: Okay, we will like that we be funded the base shipping cost and anything more the org will pay will carry over

The org was given to cover shipping

Students for environmental awareness was approved for for their event ECOFEST

**JEWISH STUDENTS UNION:**

Purim is a Jewish holiday that is basically educational. We have cosponsors from other org. WMBC always helps with DJ and music.

**QUESTIONS:**

Sara: Can you tell us a little more about this event

Org: This is a holocaust based holiday, it talks about how people can do more for themselves

Sara: Can you do a walkthrough

Org: There will be a show explaining what the holiday is about. The DJ will be playing music. There will be food upstairs. People will be able to sit down, eat, and talk.

Michelle: Can you talk about the orgs experience with the event in past years?

Org: It used to be in the UC ballroom but we moved it to the flat Tuesdays as it changes the atmosphere. This year there is no ticketing, as it was kind of a barrier last year

Chisom: How is this going to benefit the average UMBC student

Org: It is tied to the theme of remembering the past and how it can affect the future, and for people to be ware of what is happening in our society today.

Morgan: If food Is not a part of the event can it still occur

Org: Yes

Michelle: How was the quantity of food generated

Org: It was an estimated average

Chuka: How is the masquerade going to tie into the event

Org: You are not supposed to know what is going on but that should not stop you from doing things

**DISCUSSION:**

Morgan: I really like this event but I am really worried about the food.

Chuka: I am not comfortable funding this amount the food, but I will not like to see other food items that tie into the event go away

Sara: I will like to ask the board if they are comfortable funding the masks or consider it as a giveaway because the board did say they could not track the masks

Michelle: Last year we did attend the event and I know me and other members of the finance board was not impressed by the turnout. The ballroom was empty, there was a lot of leftover food, but I am not using this to judge this year’s event, because I know a lot things like executive board members have changed, events planning has changed.

Chisom: I don’t see the food having a full effect on the event, compared to last year

Sara: I don’t think we should compare it to last year, because the cost compared to last year, the cost have really gone down.

Michelle: I will like to see decorations go down a little bit more

Sara: I believe the student org did say that that they event can still go on without food so I don’t think it will be micromanaging to pick out what we feel will tie into the event

Chisom: I think we should table this so the org can go back and see which food will be more specific to the event. And come up with a lower cost of food.

**QUESTIONS WAS OPENED AGAIN:**

Michelle: Can you run through the decoration cost

Org: I definitely think we should table this, because there are things that we need to change

Mani: Is there a specific reason you are going with three vendors

Org: It was because we were trying to find out which was cheaper.

Jewish students Union was tabled

**DINNER WITH GEORGE:**

Org: George is a holocaust survivor, and he was going to come with his wife and talk about his experience, and people can ask him questions. It being advertised with history stud council.

**QUESTIONS:**

Sara: Is the skylight lounge reserved

Org: Yes

Mani: Are you still going to need the marketing since the event is in three days

Org: We already started marketing

Marketing was struck out

**DISCUSSION:**

Michelle: Now that marketing has been crossed off, I am for fully funding this event because looking at the time they have, I don’t think requesting for a marketing package was necessary

Morgan: I think this is a really awesome event and I am for funding

Sam: Can someone talk about why they are for funding food?

Michelle: I think it will give students with different ethnic backgrounds an opportunity to meet and talk. It is a good opportunity and it creates an atmosphere that is appropriate for a guest speaker

Sara: I will be for funding this food, because of the close knittness, and they have confirmed people so the food at the event will not go to waste. Even the title says dinner with George and it will be very uncomfortable for people to come and there will be no food

Morgan: It is almost a different kind of guest speaker, and it is going to create some sort of personal atmosphere. To make people more comfortable

Mani moved to approve, Chisom seconded

Members for -4

Opposed-0

Abstaining-1

Not present-0

Jewish student council was approved for $645 for their event Dinner with George

**LIVING WATER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:**

This is a Christian fellowship on UMBC, it has been on campus since 1999. We just changed our name this semester. This event is to celebrate a Korean holiday where the guys do something for the girls, it occurs the day after Valentines day . We have been having it for about three to four years. It makes us show love to believers and nonbelievers on this campus. It is a way of creating a student org for Koreans on this campus. One of our brothers will be speaking at this event. We will be doing it in skylight because it cost 50/hr for the gameroom where it happened last year, and we are trying to reduce costs this year. We are advertising through the media and the 1000 free copies. And by word of mouth

**QUESTIONS:**

Mani: How many people are in the org

Org: About 60

Sara: Can you give me a walk through

Org: The brothers serving the sisters, the brothers get there early, set up decorations, the food comes in later, there will be praise, a brother will go in a give a sermon. While dinner is being served, mc will be talking and music will be playing. Brothers will read sisters appreciation poem. That is about it

Michelle: Can you talk about how you are approaching it this year compared to last ear

Org: We try to be more effective as possible each year, organizing a lot, cost effective as possible and more efficient

Sara: How will this benefit the rest of campus since you are trying to cap the number of to about 80, and you have about 60 members, how will this benefit the rest of campus

Org: It will benefit the rest of the campus because someone might come to this event this night and it will change his life and become a believer

Michelle: What is the proportion of attendees being org members and non org members

Org: Last year we had about 30 new faces

Mani: if we don’t fund this food how will it affect the food

Org: I haven’t really thought about that but it will affect the event because we will have to think of another way of funding food.

**DISCUSSION:**

Sara: I am Christian and Korean and I know white day guys go all out to serve their women, and it is not something we see all the time in America, and I am for funding this event

Michelle: I really like this event, but I am not comfortable with the overwhelming cost of food, and I am also not comfortable with the cap there is on the number of people to attend.

Mani: I agree with Michelle I will be more comfortable funding this event if there wasn’t a cap on the number of people who can be fed.

Chuka: I was worried that the cap limits the reach of the event

Chisom: This is a christian event, as well as a cultural practice, and I will be very flexible to fund this and will be open for any reasonable change that can male cost go down

Mani: I am for funding food but I will like to see it go down

Chuka: I wouldn’t be opposed for funding food but I will like to see the cost go down

Morgan: The point of the food is because of the holiday and I see how it is tied into the event, but I will like to see the cost go down

Chisom: If they are willing to talk to chartwells to allow more people to eat, I will be more comfortable funding this event

Sam: I think it is wasted effort to go back to chartwells to see price go down, I think if a student org has worked hard enough to keep prices as down as possible.

**QUESTIONS WAS REOPENED:**

Sara: Why did you choose Chartwells as a food vendor

Org: Because only chartwells is allowed to serve food in the skylight lounge

Michelle: Is there anyway you can talk to them to see if they will be allowed to serve more people?

Org: We can talk to the chef to give smaller portions of meat, so it can go a long way. Also, the executive board members will not eat so as more people can get food. You can also cross out the salad so the cost will go down

**DISCUSSION:**

Chisom: I am for fully funding this event

Morgan: Because the org is very willing and eager to see this event happen

Michelle: I will be in favor of fully funding this event

Sara: I don’t think it is a good idea to cross out salads, because it limits the number of people who can be served, for example vegetarians.

Michelle: I agree

Sam: So this event will be tabled.

Chisom to Org: We don’t want the executive board members not to eat because they worked hard to see this event happen and should be able to enjoy the fruits of their labour.

Living water Christian Fellowship was tabled for their event Brother/Sister Association dinner to talk to Chartwells if more plates could be provided to serve more people at the event.

**BETHEL CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP:**

It is an annual event. It is kind of a retreat, where we have worship and have people coming in to speak the word. It is open to believers and non believers.

**QUESTIONS:**

Sara: If someone who is not a believer comes to the event how will they feel comfortable

Org: We don’t treat them any different from believers. We have ushers to greet people and bring them to their seats. We also trained the ushers and make sure they are able to make guests feel welcome

Sam: Can you talk about the role of the band in the event

Org: The event is actually going to be mainly preaching and worship. They are going to be coming up consistently. Worship is is a big part of the event this year.

Chuka: How has feedback been from previous semesters

Org: We have had a growth in numbers, and with each time the numbers have growth. We started in Lecture Hall2 but have now moved to UC since numbers have grown . We have had positive feedback.

**DISCUSSION:**

Sara: I attended a BCF event with Stephanie and I think I was the only Asian and I didn’t feel uncomfortable at all. They were very welcoming, the band was very talented. And all seats was filled.

Main: I am for fully funding this.

Morgan: The prices are pretty low. The only thing I am concerned with is that it targets a more specific group of people.

Chisom: I think this is a great event. I t reaches out to a lot of people, the idea behind this event is very strong. They are trying to unite people. I have been there and I loved the singing

Chuka moved to approve, Mani seconded

Member For-4

Opposed-0

Abstaining-1

Not present-0

Bethel campus Fellowship was approved for $2811.56 for their event the Gethsemane Experience

**FILIPINO STUDENTS ASSOCIATION:**

Org: We had our food tasting and we decided we didn’t need some of the food that was on the request before.

**QUESTIONS:**

Mani: Why did the price go up

Org: This is because we didn’t have the lechon on the request initially

There are no drinks on there, but we are going to pay out of pocket

We were going to go with chartwells but it is a lot more expensive

**DISCUSSION:**

Chisom: The original request was higher, and it went down, and everything is clear, with that being said, I am for fully funding this event, they have worked really hard working with us to get the prices down

Mani moved to approve, Chuka seconded

Members For-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

FASA was approved for $5195.39

**BLACK STUDENTS UNION:**

Sam: Last night Michelle me and Kian met with the three of them, and discussed prices.

They went back and talked to their executive board members and compared the prices that the e board was comfortable with.

BSU cant give dresses away, and must repurpose easelles

Mani moved to approve, Chisom seconded

Members For-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Black Student Union was approved for $6158.56 for their event BSU fashion show

**PERSIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION:**

After the talked to Moby Dick, the final cost came to $7289.06

Mani moved to approve, Chuka seconded

Members For-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Persian student Association was approved for $7289.06 for their event

New members of the election board were introduced

Nathan Rehr.

Nathan told us a little about himself and his involvement in SGA.

**QUESTIONS:**

Chisom: what do you think you can change about the whole election process

Nathan: There is a huge portion of umbc students who don’t know the purpose of voting . we can get the word out early, getting more people to vote. This year elections are going to be Monday through Wednesday following Quadmania. People are going to be more interested hen we have more candidates so having more people to submit applications early to start encouraging people to vote

Sam: why are you interested in the Election board

Nathan: From my first two years of SGA I was pretty exhausted, and I wanted a new way of getting involved. To say in a very removed way.

Sara: How are you going to get someone to get pumped up to run for a position

Corey: We can appeal to different people and let them know what is missing in SGA and why they qualify to fill it.

The board discussed how they think Nathan is good for the position. Mani moved to approve him. Chuka seconded

Members for-4

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-1

Nathan Rehr was approved as a member of the election board

Corey Rudolph:

He is a returning member of the election board. He was on it last year. He will bring a lot of important notes about what went on last year, what we can improve on.

**QUESTIONS:**

Chisom: Can you point out the set backs form last year and what you hope to improve on this year

Cory: I think the board did a great job last year because we had the most turnout of voters in a long time. What I didn’t like was the implementation of the rule we set, and we will have to enforce the rules more strictly this year

**DISCUSSION:**

Mani: He has experience so that is good and he knows what he wants to do as a board member

Sam: When we had confirmations last year I don’t remember having a returning member. But I like that we have one this year.

Chuka moved to approve, Mani seconded

MemberFor-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Corey Rudolph was approved as an Election Board Member

Yanil Escolastico

She is a commuter so we so we hope to reach out more to commuters and how they should be involved on the campus. She is also a Sondheim scholar

**QUESTIONS:**

Morgan: Do you think your experience with Sondheim has helped you with your interest

Yanil :I will definitely say so because it tis a good resources

Michelle: How are you going to reach out to the commuters

Yanil: As a commuter, there are a lot of stuff you dont know and I will emphasis getting information out there. Just by basic communication, social media, face to face communication.

**DISCUSSION:**

Morgan: I like her because it is important to have someone reaching out the to commuter pop because they are easily forgotten and she seems to be able to reach out to that population

Michelle: I definitely agree that we have someone reaching out to the commuter population.

Chuka moved to approve, Chisom seconded

Members For- 5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Yanil Escolastico was approved as an Election Board Member

Kristin Sheilds

She was recommend by NCS Department. She works with marketing and has a professional side that will work with the board she will be working on the UMBC page, social media.

**QUESTIONS:**

Sara: Why did you want to join the Election board

Kristin: I am a political science major so politics is kind of my passion. As a senior and I will be leaving, I wanted to leave something behind and this is a great opportunity

Sam: what other roles will you be involved in other than marketing.

Kristin: I like to be helpful, I will be useful for whatever I am needed for, marketing is something I am good at, but I will be there for whatever I am needed for

**DISCUSSION:**

Sara: I am a freshman and I like that even though she is a senior she wants to still be involved and help the campus.

Chisom: I think she has the skills and I can see the passion. Not that many people when they are about to graduate want to help so I think she is a good candidate.

Chisom moved to approve, Chuka seconded

Members For-5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Kristin Shields was approved for Election board member

Jason Lee

Senior, graphic design major, will be designing for board, really like his work.

Jason: I am a senior and I am graduating in May. This is an opportunity for me to get involved, get my hands dirty and my feet wet on the UMBC campus before I leave.

**QUESTIONS:**

Sara: For people who aren’t artistically skilled but are running, how are you going to help them

Craig: Commonvison is providing a base line marketing package funded by the election board to all candidates

Chuka: what types of design do you think are more effective for having the word out about the election

Jason: Giant poster in cafeteria, that will tell a lot of info. Advertisements on t shirt

Sam: Can you give us examples of of events you’ve designed for

Jason: Club t shirt, with messages on the back that give us information on what the club is about. Eg kindle club

**DISCUSSION**

Mani: I think he is good candidate knows what he is dong , good designer

Michelle: I met Jason about 2 years ago, in kindle club and he gave me a business card and told me he does designs. I definitely think he is very serious about what he does. He has experience, knowledge and a good work ethic

Chuka: I think he takes into consideration how designs are going to be seen, looks like a good candidate.

Chisom moved to approve, Michelle seconded

Members For -5

Opposed-0

Abstaining-0

Not present-0

Jason Lee was approved as a member of the election board.

The approved members took their oaths.

After that, Gabriella Kuffour, Sara Kim and Morgan Mayer were approved and sworn in as the Finance Board Secretary, and Finance board Representatives respectively.

Brianna Hall

CWIT scholar, social media and outreach skill, freshman, Striver

Brianna: I am a freshman in the honors college, I have a lot of work in Politics. I interned for Governor O’Mally. I have met a lot of freshman, sophomores, Juniors and a few seniors so I know a lot of people on campus

**QUESTIONS:**

Chuka: What role specifically will you be performing on the board  
Nathan: We don’t have a specific label for her role. But basically advertising and reaching out

Chisom: How do you plan to people to run

Brianna: I have about 5000 twitter followers so I can get word out really fast. And also by simply telling people and informing people

Chisom: What do you hope to get from the whole experience

Brianna: A lot of experience. Nice stepping stone

Chuka: How does your experience on the election board transfer into being a computer science major

Brianna: Skills in programming as well as artistic skill will definitely translate since I am also very involved in art

**DISCUSSION:**

Sara: I knew Bre from strive. She is very dedicated. I can see her making a great impact.

Sam: I think she is very bubbly, going to be very good in talking to people

Chisom: I think she is smart, knows what she wants, understands what getting herself into, freshman, committed, a zeal and determination to excel.

Morgan: I think she is well spoken, professional, I think she is extremely qualified

Mani moved to approve, Chuka seconded

Members for-5

Opposed-0

Abstainin-0

Not present-0

Brianna Hall was approved as a member of the Election Board

Minutes from December 4th 2012, December 11th 2012, January 29th 2013 and February 4th 2013 were approved.

Email assignments

Michelle: Asian Studies Council

Chuka: W.I.L.L

Sara: Students for environmental awareness, FASA

Mani: Jewish Students Union

Morgan: Bethel Campus Fellowship

Sam: BSU and PSA

Chisom: Living Water Christian Fellowship

Meeting was adjourned at 10:23 pm

Roll call

Samantha Spehr

Mani Gupta

Michelle Kuah

Chisom Ebinama

Chuka Abaraji

Gabriella Kuffour

Sara Kim

Morgan Mayer

Craig Berger