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Senate Minutes 01.27.14

Student Government Association BBC, Florida International University

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Florida International University

Student Government Council – Biscayne Bay Campus & Pines Center

MINUTES
SGC-BBC Senate Meeting
January 27, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE

Maria Pulido- Arts and Sciences Senator **3:25**
Ana Coronel- Arts and Sciences Senator
Xinguo Tian - Hospitality Management Senator
Jazmin Felix- Nursing and Health Sciences Senator **3:18**
Emerald Nesbitt- Housing Senator
Allhan Mejia- Lower Division Senator
Briana Boone- Lower Division Senator
Michema Lafontant- Lower Division Senator **3:37**
Tobi Adekoya- At Large
Olivia Dehaarte- Senator At-Large
Kerline Honore- Senator at Large/ Speaker of the Senate
Elianis Nieves- Chief of Staff
Francheska Periche- Chief Justice
Richard Azimov- Vice President
Larissa Adames- Office Assistant
Mr. Rafael Zapata- Advisor

GUESTS

Zi Yang- Appointee for At-Large Senator
Alyssa Elso- Beacon Reporter
Han Li- Newly appointed Executive Assistant
Sheni Kathymoon- Appointee for Journalism Senator

ABSENT

Lu Zhang- Graduate Senator
Yanfei Zhang- Hospitality Management Senator

CALL TO ORDER

The Student Government Association (BBC) held a meeting on Monday, January 27, 2014 in WUC 221. The meeting was called to order at **3:14p.m.** by Kerline Honore Speaker of the Senate who presided over the meeting in its entirety.

SPEAKER REPORT

- Speaker Honore reminded the council that the Jose Marti breakfast is tomorrow at 8 a.m.
- Speaker Honore stated that Senator Mejia's resolution for the panther one card reload station was vetoed, however a reload station will be built closer to the bus stop.

SPEAKER-PRO REPORT

- Speaker-Pro Dehaarte said that senators should be completing their hours during 9 a.m. to 5p.m.

VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT

- Vice-President Azimov announced that the council should still be tabling for the 2nd road, at least once per week.
- Vice-President Azimov said that the council will be going as a group to a North Miami city council meeting to speak about the Second Road Access. The city council meeting will be in February on a Tuesday night. Members should be at campus ready to leave around 4:30 p.m. and the meeting could last as long as 9 p.m. Vice-President Azimov stated that he would like to hire a shuttle service to take members to and from the council meeting from BBC.
- Finally, Vice-President Azimov said that committee meetings should have commenced by week two of the semester.

ADVISOR REORT

- Mr. Zapata said that the important upcoming events are the Jose Marti Breakfast (tomorrow,) the W. Kamau Bell lecture on February 5, and the Town Hall meeting on February 10.
- Mr. Zapata said that if members are not thinking of returning to the council next academic year that they should think of exceptional replacements for their positions.

FINANCE REPORT

- Senator Mejia stated that he needs a Senator At-Large for the committee.

RLJ REPORT

- Senator Felix stated that there will be a meeting immediately after the senate meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Minutes Approval

Senator Adekoya motioned to approve the last two senate meeting minutes. Senator Mejia seconded the motion.

Vote to approve minutes:

Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Tobi Adekoya- abstained
Olivia Dehaarte- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes

By a vote of eight yays and one abstained, the minutes from the previous two meetings were approved.

Senator Adekoya motioned to move the comptroller appointment to the next item. Senator Mejia seconded the motion.

B. Comptroller Appointment

— Olivia Dehaarte was previously the Finance committee chair and currently holds the position of the Senator-At Large.

Senator Felix motioned to appoint Olivia Dehaarte as the new Comptroller. Senator Coronel seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Olivia Dehaarte- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes

By a unanimous decision, Olivia Dehaarte became the new Comptroller.

C. Journalism Senator Appointment

- Sheni Kathymoon is familiar with the position of Journalism senator, because she has held the position in the past. Currently, Kathymoon holds the position of the Press Secretary.

Senator Adekoya motioned to appoint Sheni Kathymoon as the new Journalism senator. Senator Nesbitt seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes

By a unanimous decision, Sheni Kathymoon became the new Journalism Senator.

D. Business Administration Appointment

- Allhan Mejia, who currently holds the position of a Lower Division Senator, wants to give someone else the opportunity to hold his current position, as he pursues becoming the new Business Administration Senator.

Senator Coronel motioned to appoint Allhan Mejia as the new Business Administration Senator. Senator Boone seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Olivia Dehaarte- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes
Sheni Kathymoon-yes

By a unanimous decision, Sheni Kathymoon became the new Business Administration senator.

E. Senator At-Large Appointment

— Zi Yang re-ran for the position of Senator At-Large, because there was a misunderstanding when she ran for the position at the last meeting.

Senator Adekoya motioned to skip the question and answer portion and go straight to the voting. Senator Coronel seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes
Sheni Kathymoon-yes

By a unanimous decision, Zi Yang became the new Senator At-Large.

F. Speaker-Pro Appointment

Senator Boone nominated Senator Mejia for the position of Speaker-Pro. Senator Kathymoon seconded the motion, and Senator Mejia accepted the nomination.

Senator Felix nominated Senator Nesbitt for the position of Speaker-Pro. Senator Nesbitt declined the nomination.

Speaker Honore nominated Senator Adekoya for the position of Speaker-Pro. Senator Adekoya declined the nomination.

Senator Adekoya motioned to appoint Senator Mejia for the position of Speaker-Pro. Senator Nesbitt seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Michema Lafontant-abstained
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes

Sheni Kathymoon-yes

By a vote of 10 yays and one abstained, Allhan Mejia became the new Speaker-Pro.

Senator Adekoya motioned to move the appointment for a new finance chair onto the agenda. Speaker Mejia seconded the motion.

G. Finance Chair Appointment

Speaker Mejia nominated Senator Adekoya for the position of Finance Chair. Senator Adekoya accepted the nomination.

- Senator Adekoya has previously held the positions of a budget commissioner and vice-chair for the Finance committee. Adekoya already knows about the finance code and the processes involved with interviewing potential candidates for receiving grants.

Senator Felix motioned to appoint Senator Adekoya as the new chair of the Finance committee. Senator Mejia seconded the motion.

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Michema Lafontant-yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes
Sheni Kathymoon-yes
Zi Yang-yes

By a unanimous decision, Senator Adekoya also became the new chair of the Finance committee.

H. Finance Committee Members Appointment

The current members of the Finance committee are: Senators Nesbitt, Lu Zhang, Adekoya and Mejia. The committee still needs three more positions to be filled.

Speaker Mejia nominated Senator Boone to be one of the new finance members. Senator Felix seconded the nomination and Senator Boone became one of the new members.

Senator Felix motioned to appoint Senators Maria Pulido, Ana Coronel and Sheni Kathymoon as new finance members. Senator Nesbitt seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido- Ana, Maria
Ana Coronel- Ana, Maria
Jazmin Felix- Ana, Maria
Emerald Nesbitt- Ana, Maria
Allhan Mejia- Ana, Maria
Briana Boone- Ana, Maria
Michema Lafontant- Ana, Maria
Tobi Adekoya- abstained
Kerline Honore-Ana, Sheni
Xinguo Tian- Ana, Maria
Sheni Kathymoon- Ana, Maria
Zi Yang- Ana, Maria

Senators Coronel and Pulido became new finance committee members.

Mr. Zapata made an announcement that Larissa Adames has finally been promoted from the Clerk of Council to the Office Assistant.

I. Finance Code First Reading

Senator Felix wanted to re-review section 905.04. She added minor word changes.

Senator Felix motioned to skip the second reading, and go straight to the voting. Speaker Mejia seconded the motion.

Vote:

Maria Pulido-yes
Ana Coronel- yes
Jazmin Felix- yes
Emerald Nesbitt- yes
Allhan Mejia- yes
Briana Boone- yes
Michema Lafontant-yes
Tobi Adekoya- yes
Kerline Honore-yes
Xinguo Tian- yes
Sheni Kathymoon-yes
Zi Yang-yes

With a unanimous decision of 12 votes, the finance code passed.

J. Shuttle Funding for North Miami Meeting

Vice-President Azimov suggested that the Senate uses some of their discretionary funds to pay for a shuttle to and from the upcoming North Miami city council meeting.

Discussion:

Senator Lafontant suggested that the senate postpones a decision until there is a price quote for the cost of the shuttle.

Senator Felix suggested that the Senate could fund half of the cost, while the Vice-President and President pay for the other half of the cost with their discretionary funds. Vice-President Azimov stated that he does not have enough money in his funds to pay for any of the cost.

Senator Adekoya motioned to postpone the decision and Senator Boone seconded the motion.

K. Announcements

1. Senator Lafontant announced that there will be a meeting for Student Advocacy tomorrow at 3:30p.m.
2. Senator Adekoya asked members of the Finance committee if they can meet briefly after today's meeting.
3. Senator Felix encouraged members to sign up for the Student Leadership summit upcoming this weekend.
4. Chief Justice Francheska Periche informed the council that there will be MAST high school student government students present at the upcoming general assembly meeting. She stated that it is unprofessional to use cell phones during the meeting, as it sets a bad example for the high school students.
5. Vice-President Azimov asked members to "tone down the giggling" during the meetings, as it also seems unprofessional.
6. Vice-President Azimov encouraged council members to attend the upcoming Career Bash on next Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Speaker Honore at **4:32p.m.**