02/19/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 02/19/2024]
Meeting called to order on 02/19/2024 at 7:04 pm in ASB - 230

I. Roll Call
   a. President Victor Oluwagbemi
   b. Senate President/SSHS School Senator Madison Weeks
   c. Senate Vice President/TAS School Senator Evelyn Voitsekhovich
   d. Senate Secretary Danielle Rosengrant
   e. Graduate Senator (N/A)
   f. CA School Senator Desiree S. Bounds
   g. ASB School Senator Nicole Cohen
   h. HGS School Senator Stephen Raymond
   i. Senator Janelle Boamah
   j. Senator Aidan D’Oria
   k. Senator Alex Frisch
   l. Senator David George
   m. Senator Katelynn Haury
   n. Senator Sara Hosbach
   o. Senator Eileen Jaquez
   p. Senator Mihir Jariwala
   q. Senator Shanel Lopez
   r. Senator Daeun Mun
   s. Senator Amanda Shortt

   i. Present: 17
   ii. Late: Daeun Mun (Excused)
   iii. Absent: Nicole Cohen (Excused)
Mission Statement

The Ramapo College Student Government Association serves as the persistent voice of the student body. While representing the student body and the ideals of Ramapo College of New Jersey, the Student Government Association, through unity in diversity, embraces student leadership in all forms.

Land Acknowledgement

SGA respectfully acknowledges that we are hosting our meeting on the ancestral and traditional Indigenous territory of the Ramapough Lunaape Nation.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
   a. 02/12/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes
      i. Moved: Janelle
      ii. Second: David
      iii. 14-0-0

III. Senate President's Announcements
     a. Happy 3rd Week of Black History Month!!
     b. Liaison reports are due next week!!!!
        i. Please put your reports in your folder

IV. New Business
    a. Co-Sponsorship: Hidden Gems Market & Pop-Up Shops (Women’s Center and LGBTQIA+ Services)
       i. Tuesday, March 12th from 12:00 - 4:00pm in the Pavillion
       ii. Asking for Volunteers and Marketing (promote on social media and promote at a meeting
       iii. Moved: Desiree
       iv. Second: Sara
       v. 14-0-0
       vi. Questions:
           1. Janelle - How many volunteers are you looking for?
              a. No specific number of volunteers, as many as possible.
                 Specific number forthcoming from Madison Case.
           2. Sara - Do you need volunteers for setup/cleanup or for the actual event?
a. Will be sent in an email. Most likely for both setup/cleanup and throughout the event.

vii. Discussion

1. Desiree - It’s obviously a great event and they’re only asking for volunteers and promotion, so I don’t see why not.
2. Janelle - It would be good to get a number for how many volunteers they need so we don’t send too few/too many. Other than that, this is a great opportunity.
3. David - It’s a large office on campus and would be a great opportunity for SGA to cosponsor.

b. Senate Bill 2024-2: Voting Day

i. Discussion:

1. Desiree - Is there a backup or contingency plan if this isn’t approved by President Jebb? Could this be an excused absence/observance for students to miss class?
   a. Liz - Making election day as an excused absence is a backup plan, but other avenues of pushing this idea is preferred and will be pursued first.
2. Janelle - Isn’t the calendar for next year already set?
   a. Madi - This may have to be a long term initiative because the 2024 calendar has already been approved. Emphasizing this election may not be the best route, because it may not be possible for this year (but possible for the future).
3. Liz - Trying to make voting day a holiday off isn’t the only part of the bill. There are other portions about working with CCEC.
4. Sara - I’m a proponent for removing the 2024 election clause because every election is crucial, not just 2024.
5. Sara - For the last therefore be it resolved, does this mean that the cost of stamps will be covered?
   a. Liz - This is promoting that CSI has those resources, not covering the cost.
6. Desiree - Every election day or just presidential elections?
   a. Liz - Every election day
7. Sara - Removing the presidential and just emphasizing the importance of all elections.
a. Sophia - Removing that wording and making it about all future elections in general.
8. Sara - “Our right to vote is crucial”
9. Evelyn - To the first therefore be it resolved, add making the holiday apply to every election annually.
10. Sara - An additional therefore be it resolved to talk about the SGA's mission to educate the student body.
   a. Liz - Currently we have it written that we will work with CCEC and emphasize their resources, as they have many that can be provided to the student body. Promoting resources can include working on programming to encourage education and ensuring everyone’s voices are heard.
11. Sophia - Ramapo works with the Andrew Goodman foundation in some capacity, which is a voting rights organization that targets Gen Z. Does this go through CCEC?
   a. Yes, confirmed by Dean Van Der Wall
   ii. Moved: Desiree
   iii. Second: Stephen
   iv. 15-0-0

   c. Interim Senate Elections!
   i. Candidates: Matthew Zegla, Brian Joseph, Franco Miyashiro, Juliana Campagna
      1. For fairness we will be presenting in order of submission
   ii. Moved: Mihir
   iii. Second: Stephen
   iv. Results:
      1. Matthew Zegla
      2. Brian Joseph
      3. Franco Miyashiro
      4. Juliana Campagna

V. Public Comment
a. Black History Month tabling with Phi Alpha Delta and Black Student Union tomorrow (2/20) in the fishbowl from 1-2pm. Discussing influential Black figures and their impacts on the field of law.

VI. Open Forum
a. Sara: this was sent to me by Dr. Labendz, please try to attend/spread the word
   i. "The 2023 ethnic cleansing of Artsakh Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh by Azerbaijan." Dr. Heghnar Watenpaugh (UC-Davis) will offer a talk via Zoom this coming Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Register here.
   b. Sara: If you’re interested on joining or can spread the word, Alpha Phi Omega has interest meetings this week – Thurs A106 12-1, Fri A104 4-5
   c. Sara: Reminder President’s Program
   d. Sara: Reached out with a follow-up to CCEC; Dylan is out, hoping for a response Thursday
   e. Desiree -
      i. ITS disregarded a declination of ticket
      ii. Facilities: is there any update on getting an estimated timeline on tickets?
         1. Mihir - This is more on the maintenance crew, not facilities, as they don’t communicate these kinds of things via email. It’s seemingly difficult to implement this. Maintenance goes directly to facilities and gets instructions for where to go and for what work order. Facilities can be directly called (facilities helpdesk) if your issue has not been addressed and you need them asap. Issues are addressed based on severity.
         2. Sara - If it’s really urgent, you can call public safety too.
         3. Madi - What if they can implement a help desk-type of ticket, so they can give a time estimate? Maybe this can be brought up for the next liaison meeting.
      iii. Didn’t we used to do tablings??
         1. Liz - There was a Rave Guardian tabling. I can technically book the space (and Victor), depending on the event.
         2. Christine - Would tabling count as an event requirement?
            a. Yes
3. Madi - Tabling for Senate/Cabinet openings would be a good option for the future for interim elections.
4. Liz - Planning on tabling, a town hall, etc. for the upcoming SGA election in March. Very promotion heavy.
5. Sara - The delegate tabling was super helpful and was what made me join SGA. What about the school senator roundtables?
   a. Janelle - There were tables based on the different offices that we liaison for, but nobody showed up. Maybe as a tabling event as opposed to a roundtable?
6. Christine - Tabling could be easy to coordinate as long as we have people participating.
   iv. Janelle - When are we promoting the secretary of PR position?
      1. Victor - Oliver is working on stuff for that right now. Promotion will go out soon.
   v. Madi - Meeting with Dean Van Der Wall tomorrow, so please let me know if you have anything you want me to bring up.
      1. Victor - I’m working on a document for clash of the clubs.

VII. Adjournment
   a. Time: 9:03 PM
      i. Moved: Desiree
      ii. Second: Sara