04/08/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes

[Monday, 04/08/2024]
Meeting called to order on [04/08/2024] 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 Juliana Campagna
k. Senator Aidan D’Oria
l. Senator Alex Frisch
m. Senator David George
n. Senator Katelynn Haury
o. Senator Sara Hosbach
p. Senator Eileen Jaquez
q. Senator Mihir Jariwala
r. Senator Brian Joseph
s. Senator Shanel Lopez
t. Senator Franco Miyashiro
u. Senator Daeun Mun
v. Senator Amanda Shortt
w. Senator Matthew Zegla

i. Present: 15
ii. Late:
iii. Absent: Nicole Cohen (excused), Aidan D’Oria (excused), Sara Hosbach
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. [04/01/2024 Senate Meeting Minutes]
   i. Moved: Desiree
   ii. Second: David
   iii. 11-0-2

III. Senate President's Announcements

a. Including today, there are only 3 Senate Meetings left in this term!
   i. “Fun Senate” on Monday 4/29?

b. Liaison Reports are due 4/15, NEXT WEEK!
   i. Since this is the last report, there is not much time for wiggle room, so please be on top of it!

c. Upcoming Events Sign-Up

d. We’re nearing the end, so if you have not written a bill and want to get one in to start working on it’s time to get on it!

e. Co-Sponsorship Form

f. Spring Concert Sign-Up!

IV. New Business

a. Co-Sponsorship: Asian Expo (United Asian Association)
   i. Tuesday, April 23rd from 8:00pm - 11:00pm in Friend’s Hall
   ii. Asking for $$ for supplies
iii. Funds Asked: $319.31

iv. Questions:
   1. Brian - How many people do you expect to come to the event?
      a. We’ve had 100-150 in the past but we’re expecting between 150 and 200 this year.
   2. Victor - If you’re asking for volunteers, how many are you expecting?
      a. In the co-sponsorship email we have a sheet with different slots to sign-up for volunteer shifts. As many as you can provide.
   3. Desiree - What are the top three items on the list?
      a. The powders (3). All of the items are pretty important but the powders and boba pearls are most important.
   4. Stephen - Where is this event taking place?
      a. Friends Hall
   5. David - Are there any other organizations co-sponsoring? If all of this isn’t covered by SGA, are there other ways for these items to be purchased?
      a. We have some other co-sponsorships. We rely on other clubs for help but if this isn’t covered, we’ll likely have to dip into our raised revenue.
   6. Madi - Are volunteers for setup and cleanup?
      a. They can be for either or for serving food during the event.
   7. Madi - Did all of the boba sell out last year?
      a. Yes, within like 20 minutes. A lot of people come out. With our expected attendance it’s likely to go quick.

v. Discussion:
   1. Danielle - Are there any other co-sponsorships pending for next week?
      a. Madi - Not that I know of but I will check - at the moment there are no new submissions.
      b. Katelynn - The sustainability committee/Ramapo Green is looking to co-sponsor an event so we may expect a co-sponsor request for that.
2. Desiree - This is a really popular event and they ran out of boba within the hour so supporting them financially is important. Cutting the amount down to $200 is feasible for us and can cover the majority of the essentials.

3. Victor - I would want to bump the amount to $250-$300 because the amount of people participating has skyrocketed. If a lot of people are going to these events, then we should support them and not limit their potential to do really well.

4. Mihir - I would say bump it up to $250.

5. David - At the end of the day, it’s a pretty big organization and a very popular event so $250-$300 is reasonable.

6. Katelynn - I would go with closer to $300 to ensure there’s sufficient supplies for everyone. We would still have $500 left after this co-sponsorship.

7. Brian - I think $250-$260 is reasonable if we’re excluding tablecloths and the lotus decorations. This would cover the boba products.

8. Madi - If I remember correctly, we gave them less than what they asked for (specifically the powder), so giving more is probably better.

9. Brian - It doesn’t seem like volunteers are a necessity.

vi. Approved: $260 & 2-3 volunteers for during the event (serving food)

vii. Moved: Stephen

viii. Second: Mihir

ix. 13-0-0

b. Co-Sponsorship: Denim Day Fashion Show (Office of Violence Prevention)

i. Wednesday, April 24th from 8:00pm - 11:00pm in Friend’s Hall

ii. Asking for $$ for food, marketing, and volunteers (5 for setup)

iii. Funds Asked: $271.96

iv. Questions:

1. Brian - How many people are you expecting at the event? How many people would this food feed?

   a. Madi - We’re expecting like 125 people (hoping for more). This would be 200 wings in total and a full tray of mac and cheese bites. So it wouldn’t fully feed everyone.
2. Victor - How many volunteers are needed?  
   a. Madi - We need at least five people for setup. We have two hours for setup due to an event taking place in friends hall before this event, so it needs to be a quick turnaround. Volunteers aren’t needed for cleanup.

3. Shanel - Can people who are modeling help volunteer?  
   a. Madi - Yes, you can volunteer until 7.

4. Madi - We have four other co-sponsorships, but the SGA is the only one that would be providing money.

5. Madi - This isn’t the only food. There will also be food from Nicky’s (garlic knots, fried ravioli, penne vodka) and catering will provide cookies and mocktails.

6. Evelyn - If you’d rather have wings or mac and cheese bites, which is preferred?  
   a. Madi - Probably the wings, as this is what the SGA usually provides.

V. Discussion:
1. Desiree - How much money is left now?  
   a. Evelyn - $582.74
2. Desiree - I say full amount.
3. Mihir - I’m not opposed to giving the full amount. We’ll have around $200 left so we’ll still have something to give to other co-sponsorships. It’s for a really good cause and it was a really good turnout last year. We’re the only one’s giving money, so that's important.
4. Evelyn - We’d still have $310 left if we give all the money and it’s a very good event.
5. Brian - I wouldn’t be opposed to only giving the wings.
   vi. Approved: $271.96, five volunteers for setup, and marketing
   vii. Moved: Mihir
   viii. Second: Desiree
   ix. 11-0-2

C. Updates on any passed bills?
D. Any topics you want someone to bring up to their liaison one last time?
i. Victor - For dining services (Aidan), I’ve been asking about the PA announcements in Birch for a while and haven’t heard back. The meeting was supposed to have happened weeks ago.
   1. David - I consulted with Aidan and it seems like it won’t be happening because Jeff was away when the topic was first approached and now Aidan is away.
ii. Matt - For facilities (Mihir), you mentioned that facilities was considering redoing the entire parking lot. Can you follow up on if they’re going through with that?
   1. Mihir - They’re basing a lot of the things off of the main plan, so these renovations are planned but may take time. In terms of the parking lot, they will do it but I don’t know exactly when. The weather and timeline for paving is complicated too.
   2. Madi - If you’re talking about potholes, Dean Van Der Wall told me that the prime time to fill potholes is in the spring and summer, so they’re waiting to do that.
   3. Victor - For the facilities plan, the parking lot as a whole doesn’t seem to be a huge priority, because it would be a huge project.
   4. Mihir - The commuter lot project would most likely turn into a full campus paving project, which would become a much bigger project.
iii. Julianna - Something was brought up during general for the Center for Student Success, but I’m not clear on what it was.
   1. Danielle - It had to do with AI
   2. Madi - Clarifying how AI should be used in the school (professor by professor, school by school, in FYS, etc.)
   3. Desiree - Should this be brought up to Sam and the Provost’s office?
   4. Victor - The provost wants to set up a task force to discuss AI and review academic policies.
iv. Brian - Can Rave Guardian also be implemented into FYS/peer facilitation?
   1. Desiree - Tracey Bender has said that there isn’t a lot of room to fit things into the FYS/peer program.
   2. Brian - Is Rave Guardian mentioned in orientation modules?
a. Desiree - It’s not built into the program but can be brought up during talking points.
b. Matt - The provost brought it up during one of the welcome week talks, but it wasn’t discussed heavily.
v. Victor - For Spring, is there a real Welcome Week like there is in the Fall?
   1. Stephen - They have a transfer orientation and arching ceremony, but no real Welcome Week.
   2. Desiree - They used to hold events and they sometimes hold a few but they’re under attended. There’s the Spring Involvement Fair, but that’s the only main one.
   3. Stephen - There’s also a transfer FYS but only for first-year students. You don’t have this if you transfer in as a non-first-year student.

V. Public Comment
a.

VI. Open Forum
a. Madi - If you signed up to be a model, please review your emails and make your song selection. Song selection is due this Friday.
b. Matthew - If you have any questions for my liaison in the Admissions Office please let me know!
c. Brian - I will be meeting with CHCS for my liaison meeting this week! Some questions that were brought up last time were: What cheap and quick services can be provided at “pop-up shop events?” Should WIN Peers table to advertise the health services? Why do students prefer to drive to urgent care rather than the health services building?
   i. Danielle - I’ve gone to both urgent care and health services, but health services refused to give me a note to get out of class when I was super sick.
   ii. Madi - I think they have issues with providing notes, because they wouldn’t give me a note last year either.
   iii. Desiree - I prefer tablings that don’t involve me having to buy things, so informational tabling on health service’s abundance of services would be helpful (STI testing, free condom Fridays, etc.)
iv. Madi - I agree that the WIN peers are under utilized and should do tabling. In addition to informational tablings, they should also involve games/activities to draw people in.

d. Juliana - I will be meeting with the Center for Student Success for my liaison meeting this Friday so if you have any questions please let me know.

e. Madi - I’m meeting with Dean Lorenz on Friday! Anything you want me to bring up?

f. Madi - Want to be a Violence Intervention Peer (V.I.P.)? Reach out to OVP if you’re interested.

g. Evelyn - I will be meeting with Dean Saiff this week, please let me know if there is anything you would like me to bring up :)

VII. Adjournment

a. Time: 8:08pm
   i. Moved: Desiree
   ii. Second: Brian