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Community & Government Affairs Meeting Minutes 9/21/2011

University of South Florida. Student Government Senate

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Meeting called to order by Chairman Abdool Aziz at 4:01PM

Aziz- First item on the agenda is roll call. I am here. Andrea.


Buxheli- Lee.

Lee- Present.

Aziz- Simone no bueno. Trey no bueno as well. Next item on the agenda is ice breakers. Which I’m going to combine with tent day reflection. Starting with Andrea.

Arrechea- May I ask which ice breaker you’re combining it with?

Aziz- What did you learn?

Arrechea-The tent day was...I liked the idea of talking to people because the majority of them hang out in the MSC and they were happy with saying what they want and they had an opinion in what was going on.

Buxheli - It was fun. It was good talking to people; random people.

Aziz- That’s good.

Aziz- Next thing we have is updates. One thing that governmental affairs is working on and the student veterans is this bill for tuition waivers for veterans so they can pay in not out of state tuitions and... So, this is on what for their 2012 legislation is. So, when the bill gets finalized we’ll read it. We’ll do an ROTC area and see what their opinions are. Right now president Diaz and Lindsay are in Washington, lobbying for the state against maintaining financial aid and Pell grants and stuff and they’ll be doing that and bringing back their findings for that. This is just what it is. That getting waivers is so tuition with be
cheaper. Next thing is on Monday, we’re doing a little tent day thing at the ULS thing for Common. It starts at 8PM. I’m thinking about starting at 7:20 or 7:25. It would be good to hand out stuff like the tuition breakdown. It funds them with ANS fees. We’ll be there for a half an hour thing. You guys can decide who wants to get all of the senators and stuff to join you.

Buxheli - I have class.

Andrea- I have a prior event.

Aziz- Lee will be the leader on this one. He’ll get a few senators to join him. He’ll get bags and close up and attend the event. Throughout the semester before it ends, these are all night but they’re all different ones. We’ll try and target these.

Buxheli - When does it start?

Aziz- 7:30. For the rest of these, we’ll plan for these as well. The next thing is for you to plan your own tent day. Since Lee is doing this one, you choose a day and make sure its spread apart. So, that will be like...You go on the MSC event calendar. You can do it outside or inside. If you do it outside, you can have a form and fill it out. Just like go through the calendar and find a day that’s good. Pass out a signup sheet at senate. That’ll be like your task. You have October and November; October would be easier and faster. You have to have people to sign up and keep track of that stuff. What else do we have? Oh yeah, we have the mayor town halls scheduled with Bob Buckhorn at 10PM in the Oval Theatre. We’ll need as many people to come and bring questions. He’s the new mayor so we want to introduce ourselves and as students what we want and what our concerns are in the North Tampa USF area. If you’re part of student organizations, bring as many people as you can to fill the Oval Theatre because it’s a good look for SG and USF as a whole. And also we’re working to do a city hall workshop to have guest speakers and stuff with them. When we have the dates for that we’ll let you guys know. We’re working on bringing bill nelson for next year. So, you guys know how it goes. Also, for bringing the CNN FL state debates like last year. So, like a whole bunch of stuff to do and also if any other bills come up, we’ll talk about it. Anything else? I think that’s it for today. Announcements? So, basically you guys pick a date and organization and pick a location where you want your tent day to happen.

Buxheli - We can do surveys too?

Aziz- Do comments and concerns also.

Buxheli - Do we make the survey?

Aziz- You can make one up.

Andrea- Is there a minimum of people we need?

Aziz- You can have 5 people that are speak out or 20 people in half an hour. Try and get as many people as you can. Maybe choose different days where we normally wouldn’t hold one. Like places you want to hold it. Like Juniper Poplar, or Andros. And also, Mark Walsh, who’s the government relations guy is
going to be doing lobbying training. So, I think we have early October and early November as dates. And also like outside things we’d learn. So, we have a date for that. I think that’s it for today. Any motions?

Motion to adjourn by Senator Arrechea.

Adjournment called by Chairman Abdool Aziz at 4:13PM.

Transcribed by Senate Secretary, Theresa Rivera.