7-1-2013

Appropriations and Audits Committee Meeting Minutes 07-01-13

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Call to Order by Senator Abraha at 12:19pm.
First Roll Call:
Present: Abraha, Kattih, Persaud-Sharma
Absent: Hartmann (excused), Imam (excused), Morejon (excused), Scharon (unexcused), Many (excused), Munroe (excused)
Guests: Pro Tempore Aldridge, Mr. Gary Manka (SGATO)

Senator Abraha: We also have Adam Aldridge here and he is going to be counted towards quorum. We also have Mr. Gary Manka from SGATO.

Chairwoman Kattih: Let the record state that Mr. Gustavo Lopez walked in at 12:20 and he is present.

Additions/Deletions and/or Clarifications to the Orders of the Day:
Senator Abraha: Do we have any additions or deletions to the agenda? Motion to approve the agenda?

Senator Persaud-Sharma: Motion to approve the agenda.

Senator Abraha: Is there any objections?

Additions/Deletions and/or Changes to the Minutes:
➢ June 24, 2013
Senator Abraha: Oh and Chair Kattih sent out the minutes did you all get a chance to look at it? Alright, motion to approve the minutes?

Chairwoman Kattih: Motion to approve the minutes.

Senator Abraha: Any objections?

Open Forum:
Senator Abraha: We have open forum, do we have any announcements?

Pro Tempore Aldridge: I think the only one I have is that PLUNGE is going to be held on August 9th and 10th. I'm not sure if I said this last week or not but PLUNGE is our annual SG leadership retreat. There will be two days full of fun activities, educational activities, activities to sort of bring out everyone from student government, get to know everyone within senate and within student government. Friday it will be here on campus, Saturday it will be at Riverfront Park. There will be free food and hopefully a lot of fun. Friday is from 9-6 and Saturday is from 9-4. So there will be emails coming out about that down the line but I just wanted everyone to know about it beforehand.
Senator Abraha: Is that all? Okay now we can move into new business.

**General Business:**

1. **Interim Budgets**
   a) **Future Physical Therapists Organization**

Senator Abraha: Zein and I met with two organizations and discussed their interim budgets so we're going to look at those. First one is going to be future physical therapists. I'm going to yield to Zein so she can explain how the process works and she will also tell you her recommendations.

Chairwoman Kattih: Okay so I met with this organization and they requested $477. I recommended for them $344.50. They had three events in total. Their first event they requested money for t-shirts and so I funded them based on ASRC’s from last year at $5 per shirt for 35 shirts for a total of $175. They requested money for their first meeting of the year because the student I met with said that this was more of a social so I did fund them the amount they requested because... oh wait that should be $70. So I recommended that they get funded $70 for $2 per head for food. Also same thing for the end of the year event because they requested $75 and for these kinds of banquets kinda things you get $3 per head; I did fund them the total they requested which is $75. Does anyone have any questions about that?

Senator Lopez: Just to clarify is this a new organization then?

Senator Abraha: No it is not.

Chairwoman Kattih: No... they are now a new organization. They are currently active. They were not funded in the annual funded process last year so they will have a 25% deduction from their total.

Pro Tempore Aldridge: So were they funded in the 12-13 fiscal year?

Chairwoman Kattih: Yes $318.

Pro Tempore Aldridge: And they didn’t turn in the request in the annual process?

Chairwoman Kattih: Yes.

Pro Tempore Aldridge: Okay thank you.

Senator Lopez: Annual process...

Chairwoman Kattih: ASRC. Though I will double check that and include it in the final budget bill that we will give to Senate. Just for that are there any motions?

Senator Abraha: Any clarifications or questions? Are there any motions regarding this budget?

Senator Gustavo: Motion to vote.

Senator Abraha: Any objections? We will move into voting.

**Final Count: 3-0-1, budget passes**

**YES – Kattih, Lopez, Persaud-Sharma**
Senator Abraha: I abstain as chair so this passes 3-0-1.

b) ALPFA (Association of Latin Professionals in Finance and Accounting)

Senator Abraha: The next one is going to be ALPFA which stands for Association of Latin Professionals in Finance and Accounting. This organization… I'll yield my time and she can explain.

Chairwoman Kattih: This organization requested $490; I recommended that they get funded $291.50. They requested money for a WOW event for 20 people, $40 or $2 per head. They requested $25 for materials I funded that for them. Next they had a social. They requested $60 because 40 people were projected to be attending. I fully funded the food portion and they requested $35 for materials. Because this was a social I funded the entire materials. Then they had a workshop, they projected about 20 people to attend. I fully funded them the food for $30. They requested $100 for materials. I funded them $25 because they can reuse materials from previous events. What else… finally they requested money for an end of the year dinner we usually fund those $3 per head. They projected about 20 people to attend so I funded them $60 for food. They did not request materials.

Senator Abraha: Do you guys have any questions, suggestions, clarifications?

Senator Lopez: Just a clarification. I know the money we have goes towards events that are all students to be involved so for the first event let’s say the WOW one in the description it said... okay I thought it meant only people who are already there. I was just confused never mind.

Senator Abraha: One recommendation I had was for their workshop she did say it was one of the most important or one of the most prominent event. I would recommend I guess adding $25 for materials for them because I feel like it will be useful and I spoke to the student and she seemed…

Chairwoman Kattih: I would suggest if that were to be the case you could add the money for that materials for that event. However, I would consider decreasing the amount of materials for the first two events I don’t know if that’s something you want or not – it’s up to you guys, just a consideration.

Senator Persaud-Sharma: I agree I think they can reuse some of their materials from their first event.

Senator Abraha: They can but that’s a WOW event. I feel like their projection of people that will show up will be more than they’re showing and the workshop will have more members that will be there.

Pro Tempore Aldridge: Just a point of information/clarification when they receive their budgets they don’t receive the amount for each event so they won’t know if you funded the WOW event $60 or $5, that’s the first point. The second point is when they do receive the funds they receive it in a lump sum so for both food and materials that is one category in which they spend it. So if you think… I guess my suggestion would be to total up the materials for the first three events: $25 in the first, $35 and the $25… that is $85. If you think the $85 is sufficient for the three amounts you don’t need to worry about putting $25 lower, $25 higher, that’s sort of irrelevant.

Chairwoman Kattih: Personally, I think that even though this is a lump sum and even though this is more suggestions and… what’s the word… free spending, it is our job to line itemize the budget where we do suggest the money be spent or not spent so that’s just something to keep in mind; though Mr. Aldridge does
make a good point. My suggestion would be if that amount of money is sufficient for materials for those three events to distribute it according to how you best see fit.

Senator Abraha: Do you guys want to keep it how it is or give them any additional money?

Senator Persaud-Sharma: Keep it how it is.

Senator Lopez: I agree.

Senator Abraha: So we will move into voting err… oh yeah motion to vote? Are there any motions to vote?

Senator Persaud-Sharma: *Motion to vote.*

Senator Abraha: Any objections? Now we will move into voting.

**Final Count: 3-0-1, budget passes**

**YES – Kattih, Lopez, Persaud-Sharma**

**NO – N/A**

Senator Abraha: I abstain as chair and this will pass 3-0-1. I believe that concludes our interim budgets for today. Are there any announcements?

**Announcements:**

Senator Abraha: So there are no announcements and I will… are there any motions?

Chairwoman Kattih: *Motion to adjourn.*

Senator Abraha: Are there any objections? I will adjourn this meeting at 12:34.

**Adjournment called by Senator Abraha at 12:34pm.**

_Transcribed by Senate Secretary Stephen Strengs._