LSU Student Bar Association

Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2023 at 7:15 pm

Room 303



1. Call to Order at 7:25 pm
2. Roll Call
   1. Neyah Johnson – Executive President
   2. Lance Harvey – Executive Vice President
   3. Autumn White – Executive Secretary
   4. Andrew Hughes – Executive Treasurer
   5. Summer Whittington – Executive Director of Programming
   6. Ryan York – 3L Class President
   7. 3L Class Vice President
   8. Mckenna Dorais – 3L Class Secretary
   9. Catherine Rutherford – 3L Class Representative
   10. Lindsey Tizzard – 3L Class Representative
   11. Alaysia Johnson – 2L Class President
   12. Mekkah Husamadeen – 2L Class Vice President
   13. Mary Burchill – 2L Class Secretary
   14. Ansley Sumner – 2L Class Representative
   15. Diamond McCray – 2L Class Representative
   16. Matthew Smith – 1L Class President
   17. Drake Brignac – 1L Class Vice President
   18. Hunter Reinhardt – § 1-1L Class Representative
   19. Eric Roshak – § 2-1L Class Representative
   20. Emmanuel Pressley – § 3-1L Class Representative (out of town)
   21. Sigrid Soetaert – LLM Representative
3. Public Input
   1. HLSA – Yennifer present to advocate for shirt funding request.
      1. B-Unlimited told them that the flat fee to get around minimums is $150.
      2. Discussion of Officers on the issue:
         1. Lindsey brought up that WLSA was in the same position. If SBA opens that door for HLSA, then other organizations will also ask for that as well. Lack of people wanting to buy merch due to so many sales seems to be the issue.
         2. Alaysia suggested doing a joint merch sale next fall with the newly elected 2L Officers who do the next sale. We weren’t comfortable with an organization owing us any money because they wanted to pay back the flat fee. She also suggested finding a different vendor who has much lower minimums. Keys is a vendor with a much lower minimum.
         3. Lance thanked Yennifer for being here. He also reminded us that this is going to be an issue in the future years.
         4. Autumn suggested choosing another vendor or splitting that minimum fee among those who wanted shirts.
         5. Neyah said that student organizations have historically only been allowed to pull from the inside account, but merch sales would not be permitted uses for that account.
         6. Summer asked why they can’t use the inside account for that.
         7. Some people said that it is worth a shot for HLSA to submit a funding request to the fourth floor.
            1. GOOD NEWS! As of Friday, HLSA ended up meeting their minimums!
4. Funding Requests (3L President)
   1. Outlaw End of the Year Meeting:
      1. Planned for April 14, 2023. Requesting Jambalaya Shoppe in the total of $157.58. 25 members expected. This is an end of year meeting to transfer power to the new members.
      2. A few issues with this request that Ryan thinks are worth mentioning: the event will not be on campus; rather, it will be at a member's home. Secondly, watching the finale of RuPaul's Drag Race is included as a purpose of having the meeting as well. Just to consider in lieu of Monday's meeting.
         1. Discussion of Ryan’s concerns:
            1. Ryan is mostly concerned about the meeting being at someone’s home with a large purpose of watching tv. Ryan thinks that there is nothing stopping them from having the end of year meeting on campus and then going back to the home to watch the show. Ryan also mentioned that the event is on a Friday evening, and the school closes before that.
            2. Lance found out that there has to be a legal connection to social and cultural events. This funding request does not really accomplish this. He can’t see state funds going to a private residence. The cultural and social language as it stands now does require a legal nexus.
            3. Neyah asked if they could record the show and then watch it on campus the next week. Neyah also asked if she is willing to make some changes to compromise so that the event would be able to be approved.
            4. Lindsey said that we would be in extended hours that week and so maybe they could book a room.
            5. Drake asked if there’s like another reason that they don’t want to have the meeting on campus.
            6. Ryan mentioned that sometimes when there is a meeting first and then an event after that is relocated, attendance is poor. Ryan also says that we’ve never had a meeting that was funded that was at someone’s house.
         2. Ryan and Lance are going to go back to Chrissie with these ideas/concerns and see what can be done!
5. Reading, Correction, and Adoption of the March 27, 2023 Minutes:
   1. **Motion** to adopt by Autumn.
   2. Seconded by Lindsey.
   3. Motion passes unanimously, minutes are adopted.
6. Committee Reports
   1. Academics Committee – Chair & Vice-Chair: Amberlee Nix; Ann Marie Rome
      1. Mentor of the Year:
         1. Amberlee is requesting $125 for the Visa Gift Cards for the winner of Mentor of the Year, Stefan Jovanovic, and his three mentees (he still speaks to his remaining mentee from last year regularly). That would be a $50 gift card for Stef and $25 for each mentee. I was thinking that giving both the mentor and the mentees a gift card would encourage more students to reach out to their mentors for help next year and to reward the mentees for using Stef as a resource this year and last!
         2. Motion by Matthew to expend up to $125 from the outside account to reimburse Amberlee for the Mentor and Mentees of the Year gift cards.
            1. Seconded by Drake.
            2. Motion passes unanimously.
   2. Athletics Committee – Chair: Coleton Guidry
   3. Community and Media Committee – Co-Chairs: Emily Fields; Kerry Steen; Ellie Dore
   4. Diversity and Professionalism Committee – Chair: Renae Pierre
      1. April Focus Groups:
         1. The Diversity and Professionalism Committee is hosting round table focus groups in April. The first group will be for women and LGBTQ+ identifying students on Tuesday April 4th at 12:40 to 1:40 in room 301. The second group will be for Black students and students of color and students with disabilities on Wednesday April 5th from 3-4pm in room 303.
   5. Elections Committee – Commissioner: Evan Gaudet
   6. Safety, Sensitivity & Sustainability Committee – Chair: Rubenie Stimphill
   7. Student Technology Fee Committee – Chair: Bryton Clark
7. Executive Officer Reports
   1. President
      1. Graduation Cords:
         1. Motion by Matthew to expend up to $120 from the outside account for graduation cords for current SBA Committee Chairpersons, current and past SBA officers.
            1. Seconded by Drake
            2. Motion passes unanimously.
      2. Transition Packets:
         1. Please have your transition packets completed and sent to the new officers by the morning of April 10. That evening all newly elected officers will be present so that we can officially transfer power. It is important that new officers receive their transition packets in advance of our last meeting. If you have documents that you'd like to add to the SBA google drive, please let me know so I can give you access. Neyah said you can put transition packets in the drive if you want, and we can give the new members viewing access.
   2. Vice President
   3. Secretary
      1. Last Meeting is April 10th!
   4. Treasurer
      1. Account Updates:
         1. Inside Account
         2. Outside Account
   5. Programming Director
8. Class Officer Reports
   1. 3L Class
      1. 50 Day Party
         1. Went ok, don't think there was a huge turnout like the 100-day party.
      2. Class Gift
         1. Hayley said that she is prepping our promotional materials for our fundraising. We will be tabling April 11 and 12th from 8-5 to fundraise for class gift. Fourth floor thinks our quote is reasonable but want us to shoot for $2,500. Our actual quote is for $2,100. We have different gifts based on the amount one chooses to donate.
         2. Ryan plans to ask them if we can change the gift if we do not raise enough money to cover the gift.
      3. Farewell Party
         1. Hayley told us that not all of the contracts have been made for the event, but here is what is at least planned for May 6th: crawfish boil at the Ag Center 4H Mini Barn. It will be from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. Free for graduating students. Anyone else must pay a $25 fee. Fee waived for guests under 3 years old and under. Crawfish, pasta, water, sodas, and beer provided.
         2. Hayley wants Ryan to wait until contracts are finalized before sending out any info on it to the class. DO NOT SHARE THIS INFO YET.
   2. 2L Class
      1. Merchandise Sale:
         1. Barristers’ Ball Shirt did not meet minimum, so we have two options: buy out the minimums out of our profits or refund people.
            1. 17 sales out of 36 were bought.
            2. Mary thinks that they will sell next year.
         2. Strike through design only had three left before minimums.
         3. Motion by Mary to buy the rest of the minimums.
            1. Seconded by Alaysia.
            2. Motion passes unanimously.
      2. Barristers’ Ball:
         1. Went very well. Some people stole the feathers.
         2. L’Auberge is going to be sending us the final total this week.
   3. 1L Class
   4. LLM
      1. Crawfish trip was a success!
9. Old Business
   1. Red Carpet Tape for Barristers’ Ball:
      1. Motion by Diamond to expend up to $15 from the outside account for red carpet tape.
      2. Seconded by Catherine.
      3. Motion passed unanimously.
   2. Reimbursement for Uber Vouchers:
      1. Motion by Alaysia to expend up to $1,500 from the outside account to reimburse Autumn for the used Uber code vouchers.
      2. Seconded by Mekkah.
      3. Motion passed unanimously.
10. New Business
11. Adjournment
    1. **Motion** to adjourn by Mary.
    2. Seconded by Lance.
    3. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm!