LSU Student Bar Association

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2023 at 7:15 pm

Room 303



1. Call to Order at 7:21 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. Mckenna Dorais – 3L Class Secretary
   8. Catherine Rutherford – 3L Class Representative
   9. Lindsey Tizzard – 3L Class Representative
   10. Alaysia Johnson – 2L Class President
   11. Mekkah Husamadeen – 2L Class Vice President (excused)
   12. Mary Burchill – 2L Class Secretary
   13. Ansley Sumner – 2L Class Representative
   14. Diamond McCray – 2L Class Representative (called in on phone)
   15. Matthew Smith – 1L Class President (had to leave early for 1L Oral Arguments)
   16. Drake Brignac – 1L Class Vice President
   17. Hunter Reinhardt – § 1-1L Class Representative
   18. Eric Roshak – § 2-1L Class Representative (late)
   19. Emmanuel Pressley – § 3-1L Class Representative
   20. Sigrid Soetaert – LLM Representative (late)
3. Public Input
4. Funding Requests (3L President)
   1. LACDL General Meeting on March 28th
      1. Meeting to recruit members to the organization. Meeting will also include a guest speaker, Jim Boren. More info will come when speaker is confirmed. Requesting to have Chick-Fil-A at meeting in the total of $300.73, in set meals. Expecting 30 people to be in attendance.
      2. Motion by Ryan to expend up to $300.73 from the inside account to purchase Chick-Fil-A for LACDL's general body meeting.
         1. Seconded by Catherine.
         2. Motion passes unanimously.
   2. Veteran’s Advocacy Club Amended Funding Request
      1. Need to approve $56.50 in additional funds to cover printing flyers from Baton Rouge Printing.
      2. Motion by Lance to expend up to $56.50 from the inside account to pay for the printed flyers.
         1. Seconded by Mary.
         2. Motion passes unanimously.
   3. Council of Student Organization Meeting:
      1. Requesting $94.61 for Matherne’s for the Council Meeting.
      2. Motion by Lance
         1. Seconded by Mary.
         2. Motion passes unanimously.
   4. 1L Family Weekend Food Expenditures
      1. Friday Breakfast order $584.11 and Friday Light Refreshments order $618.29 from Matherne’s.
      2. There is also the Fish Fry on Saturday with Chef KD $9,450. There are 84 students signed up.
         1. Discussion: Cat says that they should be willing to separate the student amount for the fish fry and pay for some of the costs. Cat suggests that they say that they are expecting a few more students attending. Cat suggests that they cut down to 300 people from the expecting 400 total.
         2. 1L Officers are meeting with them on Wednesday to discuss.
         3. 100 chicken tenders =1,395 + 115 plates = 1,395 + their portion of gratuity ($1,575). Outside account would be 250 guests ($3,500) and the rest of gratuity. And then we need to go to Chef KD and ask for him to either come down on costs or work with less staff.
      3. All of this totals to $10,652.40.
      4. Inside account has only said they will accommodate the breakfast and light refreshments at this point (total $1,202.40), so we could definitely vote on that today.
         1. Motion by Emmanuel up to $1,202.40 from the inside account to cover the breakfast and light refreshments on Friday of the 1L Family Weekend.
            1. Seconded by Mary.
            2. Motion passes unanimously.
5. Reading, Correction, and Adoption of the March 6, 2023 Minutes:
   1. **Motion** to adopt by Autumn.
   2. Seconded by Cat.
   3. Motion passes unanimously, minutes are adopted.
6. Committee Reports
   1. Academics Committee – Chair & Vice-Chair: Amberlee Nix; Ann Marie Rome
   2. Athletics Committee – Chair: Coleton Guidry
   3. Community and Media Committee – Co-Chairs: Emily Fields; Kerry Steen
   4. Diversity and Professionalism Committee – Chair: Renae Pierre
   5. Elections Committee – Commissioner: Evan Gaudet
      1. Spring Election Dates:
         1. March 13: Make announcement regarding spring elections.
         2. March 22 at 5pm: Candidates must submit their statements of candidacy.
         3. March 25 at 11:59 pm: Candidates must submit their videos.
         4. March 30 – 31: Elections will take place.
         5. April 3: Announce winner of the election.
         6. April 4 – 5: Run-off election, if needed.
         7. April 10: Announce winner of the run-off election.
   6. Safety, Sensitivity & Sustainability Committee – Chair: Rubenie Stimphill
      1. JLAP Event:
         1. JLAP Speaker will be giving a presentation on JLAP on Tuesday, March 21st in Room 301 from 12:40-1:30pm.
   7. Student Technology Fee Committee – Chair: Bryton Clark
7. Executive Officer Reports
   1. President
      1. Graduation Cords:
         1. Lindsey did some research and found the two following vendors for cords. I think we should go with the cheapest option since the price is the only major difference between the two companies.
            1. Jones Awards: <https://www.jonesawards.com/Shop/Details/GRADC1SL>

only sells single cords (would need to order 2 for each person)

10-49: $1.99/per single cord & shipping: $10

taxes: $0 if you put in a Tax Exemption Certificate Number

totals:

if ordering for 17 people, need 34 cords total = $67.66. $67.66 + $10 shipping = $77.66 $4.57/person

if ordering for 19 people, need 38 cords total = $75.62. $75.62 + $10 shipping = $85.62 $4.50/person

\*Note: The silver cords from this company are backordered until 5/5, but the website says that they have 2-day shipping which is included. So, we’d most likely have them in on time for graduation on 5/20 if we do want to order from here!

* + - 1. The Honor Cord Company
         1. <https://thehonorcordcompany.com/products/double-cords>

sells double cords (would only need to order 1 for each person)

10+: $5.65/per double cord & shipping: free

taxes: $0 because tax is automatically deducted at checkout for school orders.

totals

if ordering for 17 people = $96.05 $5.65/person

if ordering for 19 people = $107.35 $5.65/person

* + 1. Ethics Committee Complaint
       1. Our formal complaint against Summer will be submitted to the Ethics Committee Monday morning. Due to confidentiality concerns within association, the class Presidents and Executive Officers have agreed that it will be best to share the document with the class officers after it has been officially submitted. Autumn will share a copy with you all during our meeting on Monday – correction: everyone received a copy of the complaint and response through correspondence from the Ethics Committee Chair.
  1. Vice President
     1. Updates to Student Org Constitution Negotiations with Campus Life
        1. We let Campus Life know that the membership requirement is just not workable for law organizations.
        2. We have a draft of negotiations/requests that we want them to compromise on. Dean Henry has been helping with it.
     2. Student Organizations Meeting, Banquet and Elections
        1. In the past student orgs would have banquets, but the deans got rid of that. There was supposed to be an allotment of money, but in reality, nothing has been planned at this point.
        2. Lance has also been working with student orgs to get them started with their transition packets and to check on their general statuses.
  2. Secretary
     1. NO Meeting March 27th!
     2. Last Meeting of the Semester:
        1. Tentatively April 10th depending on how the upcoming elections go. If there is a run-off election, we may push this to Wednesday, April 12th. Please go ahead and check your schedules for that date and email me with your availability ASAP, so that we can have that information squared away. (I’ve only gotten emails from two people so far.)
           1. If April 12th doesn’t work for everyone, last meeting would be April 17th.
     3. Attendance:
        1. I will be going through our minutes (hopefully this coming weekend) to get a better idea of what everyone’s attendance looks like for the semester. If you are curious about your attendance, send me an email or dm, and I’ll get back to you when I have that info!
  3. Treasurer
     1. Inside Account
     2. Outside Account
  4. Programming Director

1. Class Officer Reports
   1. 3L Class
      1. St. Patrick’s Day Parade:
         1. Barristers Bowl had extra waters and snacks that they were kind enough to give us, so we were able to cut down breakfast costs to only $273.81.
         2. Motion by Lindsey to expend up to $273.81 from the outside account which will reimburse for breakfast for the parade.
            1. Seconded by Mary.
            2. Motion passes unanimously.
      2. Class Gift:
         1. Class of 2023 Bench. Going with the Bessemer Bench design by Keystone Ridge Designs. 4ft bench is $1,445. 6ft bench is $1,495. Both prices do not include additional cost of plaque.
      3. AssFlat on April 1st:
         1. Considering to have SBA disassociate itself from the AssFlat Committee. This would mean that the AssFlat committee must do any fundraising by itself, and that SBA would not be liable for any skits that may be offensive to others.
         2. Discussion:
            1. Neyah says that because the association is not technically within our constitution, we can vote to separate this year and then reinstate it as a part of us in the future again. AssFlat is just an ad hoc committee that was a part of us through voting on the bylaws. At the end of the SBA has a responsibility to the entire student body rather than policing the committee or being disrespected when 3L Officers have raised concerns.
            2. Autumn’s concerns are that SBA has kind of served as a last approval of AssFlat and to make sure skits that are unreasonable or offensive/objectionable do not make the cut. If we disband AssFlat from SBA, then won’t AssFlat have nothing to reign them in? Just worried that it could result in things getting out of hand, not sure if that’s the issue though.
            3. Mary is confused whether the issue is with skits being inappropriate or if the issue is with the committee itself, meaning tensions between people.
            4. Ryan says AssFlat just doesn’t want us to be policing them or peeking over their shoulder.
            5. Ansley says that she didn’t realize just how much SBA did regarding AssFlat and she doesn’t feel comfortable with SBA or herself being associated with it if it did go poorly. She thinks that SBA should be a part of the editing process, but that if we are going to have issues enforcing that, then we should disband.
            6. Neyah says the AssFlat committee is in our bylaws and past chairpersons pick the future chairpersons. The expectation is that SBA would be involved at least somewhat or at least updated on the skits. But some people think the committee and SBA are more separate that they really are and it seems to be causing an issue when people raise concerns. She says that if there is no SBA oversight, an offended person would have to pursue remedy through personal action. SBA is supposed to have oversight over what is featured in the film, and if we can’t make that happen, we should cut ties at least for this year.
            7. Ryan said that last year Austin recommended that the 3L President not have AssFlat as a 3L President’s responsibility. Ryan suggests that this year is not necessarily indicative of what future years will be like, so future administrations should not take this motion as saying they can’t affiliate SBA and AssFlat again in future years.
            8. Hunter says the risks outweigh the reward at this point and if they are treating the 3L Officers that way (see Cat’s point), then we need to have each other’s backs and disaffiliate.
            9. Eric asked whether SBA as an organization has told them how the governing body – committee works. Lindsey said maybe if SBA came to talk at one of their meetings, it could help, but there’s no guarantees that they want to or will listen to SBA.
            10. Cat said that the 3L Officers are at their limit of being able to reign in the committee. The committee has become hostile in the last weeks and even kicked one of the 3L Officers out of the GroupMe. The 3L Officers do not want it to be their event anymore. Likewise, she wants to disaffiliate.
         3. Motion by Ryan to disband the AssFlat Committee from affiliation with SBA.
            1. Seconded by Mary.
            2. Motion passes by unanimous vote of all officers.
      4. 50 Day Party:
         1. Will be March 30 at Radio Bar. Will have $6 cocktail drink special. List of cocktails will be sent at a later date. 7:30 - 9:30.
      5. Farewell Party:
         1. May 6th and will be a crawfish boil. Location?
   2. 2L Class
      1. Barrister’s Ball – March 31st, 2023
         1. Ticket sales end Friday at noon.
            1. We have sold 464 tickets so far. We donated 2 tickets to Barristers' Bowl - Cory Koch was the winner!
         2. We are finalizing all details for the Ball:
            1. **Want all expenses finalized by the next meeting.**
            2. AV questionnaire
            3. Shot glasses – Ansley posted pics of these in the GroupMe!
            4. Decor
         3. Will be filming our promo video after the meeting.
            1. Finalizing details for the Spirit week
         4. Decoration breakdown
            1. Set up

Centerpieces

"Cheers" letters (we have two trucks to get these in and out)

Set up table

Red carpet + photo backdrop

* + - * 1. Break down

Centerpieces

"Cheers" letters

Red carpet + photo backdrop

* + - 1. Overall needs
         1. We will need 4 people to help with check-in

This will last from 7:45 - 9:30 pm

* + - * 1. The "Cheers" letters

Alaysia has two trucks to help with transportation.

* + - * 1. Fancy Faces is setting up all the big photo stuff
      1. Any questions/comments/concerns?
         1. How are we looking on wine bottles? Diamond only has 6 bottles but may have more by then.

Autumn says she should have more after this weekend.

Diamond asks that people just soak the labels off before putting them in the office!

* + - * 1. Should we buy a red carpet or rent one?

Diamond says we can rent one for $180 (or buy for similar price) and the cost of tape. The rented one is better quality.

* + 1. Merchandise Sale
       1. All designs were approved! Sale begins this Friday and continues until April 2nd!
  1. 1L Class
     1. Revisiting the Fish Fry Vendor:
        1. The 1L Officers have decided that they want to use Matherne’s instead of Chef KD. They need to talk to Matherne’s to get the details hammered out. They need to get a price per person so that the 4th floor can get some of that covered by the inside account.
        2. Motion by Emmanuel up to $3,000 from the inside account to cover the Fish Fry for 1L Family Weekend.
           1. Seconded by Cat.
           2. Motion passes unanimously.
     2. Volunteers for Food Service on March 25, 2023
        1. 1Ls asked if anyone could help with the food pass out on that Saturday.
     3. Classrooms Pending Approval; Courtroom 201 and Auditorium
     4. Revelry Social Friday Night, March 24, 2023
  2. LLM

1. Old Business
2. New Business
3. Adjournment
   1. **Motion** to adjourn by Autumn.
   2. Seconded by McKenna.
   3. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm!