

5-25-2011

Community& Government Affairs Meeting Minutes 5/25/2011

University of South Florida. Student Government Senate

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University of South Florida
Student Government Fifty-Second Student Senate

SUMMER SESSION
May 25rd 2011

Call to Order by Chairman Abdool Aziz at 12:00 PM

Aziz- The first item on the agenda is roll call. We have Tyler Carpenter present. We have Sarah Chaudry present.

Chaudry- Present.

Aziz- Argullia present. We have Sara Bijan present.

Bijan- Yes.

Aziz- And as guests we have Khalid Hassouneh, Rachel Brown and Alyssa Thomas. And the first thing is additions/deletions to the agenda. Does anyone have any objections?

No objections.

Aziz- The agenda has been accepted. The next item on the agenda is open forum.

Open Forum:

Aziz-Does anybody have any announcements that you want to make?

No announcements.

Aziz- Okay. Next item, we're moving onto new business.

New Business:

Aziz- The first thing we're doing is ice breakers. We'll go around the room, everybody says their name, their major, and any special hobby or something special about their self.

Carpenter- Okay, I'm Tyler Carpenter. I am biomedical science. I like to fish and I am part of the Sigma Chi fraternity here. I am excited to serve this summer on Senate.

Chaundry- Hey I'm Sarah and my major is business management and I'm first time in Senate, first semester in Senate and I'm looking forward to it.

Arguilla- I'm Bianca Arguilla, I'm an accounting and finance major and this is my first time in Senate as well, so I'm looking forward to the experience.

Bijan- Okay, I'm Sara, I'm a biomedical science major. I play the violin and I have a twin sister.

Aziz- My name's Abdool, I'm a bio major and I'm left handed.

(Laughter)

Aziz- Okay, next thing is introduction to what the committee does. So, here we are the committee for Community and Government Affairs. We facilitate the relations between the student body and student government with state and local governments for awareness on student issues. We'll review state, local and federal registration in relation to the student body, review reports from university affairs. We'll be in contact with FSA and use student programs, better solutions and collaboration with executive department of community government and affairs. Next thing on the agenda is vice chair elections. Vice chair will be helping me doing tent days and events and petitions that I need help with. Someone can nominate you or you can self nominate yourself.

Carpenter- I'd like to nominate myself.

Aziz- So, we have Tyler Carpenter as a nomination for vice chair. Anyone else?

No other nominations.

Aziz- Okay, so we have Tyler Carpenter for vice chair unanimously. Okay, so as stated before, we are part of FSA, which is the Florida Student Association, which will be dealing with student issues and we're going to Tallahassee. So, this is the website, my FSA, myfsa.org to find out about the history of FSA and these are some issues that stay on FSA. Trust funds, fire arms on campus... But basically FSA; we'll set up and we'll meet with law makers and we'll have questions for them and we'll meet with them and we'll also meet with the chancellor and other people and we'll stay in contact. So, for next year coming up, we'll be able to whatever issues are deemed important by us, we'll formulate it and we'll pass it on to FSA and we'll get whatever we want accomplished. So, these are resources for the board of governors and bright futures and all of the links for Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives. You need to familiarize yourself with local, state, federal websites and I'll assign each one of you to find your local representative in state senate, federal senate and your local representative in the house and also browse through websites like on the political site for the political legislation in the events that are relative to USF and laws that have just passed. So, if your assignment for next week is to get at least three things on either local, state or federal that you can find.

Carpenter- Is there a way that you can form a link with all these websites? Is there any way you can make a link with all of those?

Aziz- If you want, then yeah. I'll send an email with all the links. But don't be limited to these websites; basically it is to help familiarize yourself with the state, local and federal government. So you can do your own research, so you'll know what to do. And also we have the Florida House of Representatives. And you need to familiarize yourself with the committees that are important to us. The higher education committee. You know, like all these people because when it comes time for FSA, we'll be meeting with them and we'll know what they're doing and we'll stay on top of them. So, we'll know and stay ahead on the agenda and be informed and also for senate, we have committee on high education and also we have committee on transportation tourism. And also for local government with the Tampa bay committee we need to stay on top of that for the agenda. And some things we have planned is to bring the mayor and when further planning on that, I'll need some assistance and volunteers for the program. So we'll have people to help guide and sign in and bring students in. And also one thing that we're in charge of is tent days. Tent days is our ability as student government to go to the students and talk to them and address whatever issues they have and to let them know initiatives that have passed in student government and initiatives that have passed locally in state and federal. And we'll gauge your opinion, we'll do petitions on some and we'll do surveys on some others and some will just do general information as a beginner, tent day, since it will be most of your first time. So, you have a first time experience of what's going on and we'll move on from there. This is the checklist I will be sending out of things that are a checklist of things to attend. I'll send these out, so you guys can look over them. And also the tent day that we're planning is during student orientation, in collaboration with university affairs and the student orientation is on Mondays and Thursdays, starting June 2nd. And student government has a table in the atrium. It's an all day table so we need to finalize what our goal is when it is our tent day. Because marketing already has a pre-planned agenda, so we can't be repeating what they're doing. So, when we have that, it's 13 sessions during the summer and it's all day and we'll need volunteers to be there during a time slot. And we'll be meeting the students and experiencing a tent day. And also we'll be doing all of our tent days independent of that during the further down glide. So, here's for June. You'll see Thursday orientation, orientation and Monday orientation, orientation. And also, we'll also draft resolutions, based on the results of our initiatives. Like for example, opposition to student abroad fee and we'll send them to the senate. Also, we'll need to be able to familiarize yourself with bills and it may be boring at first, but you'll be able to read bills and understand what they're saying. So, check on those websites, know what they're saying and learn the language. So, when a student comes and asks you something, about this XYZ bill, you'll be able to explain and translate to them, because a student is usually your daily work. So, be able to translate to students and tell them exactly what is going on and how it is relevant to them and inform them. That's another key thing, because students always complain that they are not informed, they don't know. We'll make our best effort to inform them. We'll also be doing tent days on different parts of campus like business and other parts. So, also for your assignments for next week, check out all the websites, know your representatives and bring them. Also, check out all of the local, political that is relevant to USF and the community. Any questions?

No questions.

Aziz- Alright, moving onto announcements.

Announcements:

Aziz- Any announcements?

No announcements.

Adjournment called by Chairman Abdool Aziz at 12:11PM.