Minutes for BC Meeting 12/5/15

In Attendance:

Paul Gramieri (treasurer)

Pierre-Alexander Lowe

Manny Morales

Tess Frenzel

George Ward

Aditi Krishnamurthy

Keshav Pant

Mohamed Ramy

Jacob Silverman

Silvia Sotolongo

Vivian Yee (minutetaker)

1. GAIA (under GAP)

* Last time, entire bill was a little under 1.5k
* Decreasing amount slightly, but publication will probably be longer since it’s getting more well known
* Paul – halved all publications, but can come back through discretionary to request for more later on
* Also use sustainable paper and ink, so higher costs
* Manny – how many copies?
  + Last time was 400, 300 this time, may decrease it again if it is too much

2. Riding Club

* Financial aid – not allowed to ask about financial info, but ask students how much they can/will pay for lessons
  + Pay 350 usually, but if need financial aid, can pay less
  + Usually have about 20 students on financial aid, which ends up being a little more than 6k
* Expect more students in the spring, so want to get 8k
* Manny – how many students? How often?
  + Have about 40 and they go every week
  + Have emphasized that if they get finaid that they must go every week
* Many students pay the full amount
* 8k is about how much has been needed in the past for finaid
* Paul – havent spent full 8k in the past, and interested in the algorithm used in the past
  + Cant anticipate how much they will need, but usually varies around 6k-8k
  + Would be happy with 7k and being able to come back to request for more
* Aditi – doesn’t mean that you wont get money, just a matter of when
* Problem w discretionary is that you cant spend until its approved, but need to promise this at the beginning
* Manny – is this per week?
  + Is 350 up front
* Can increase to 6k and come back through discretionary later
* Motion to fund – 7,0,0
* Paul – have been very vocal about clubs getting access to vans first especially when they have this type of weekly obligation/meetings
  + Paul – this is more meant to push for the secretary to give the vans to the club
* Have 7-10 lessons and each lesson needs 4 hr per lesson
* Jacob – if can get the van, then would improve the investment value in the vans
* If don’t get vans, can go through discretionary
* Manny – when will first practice be?
  + First meeting after add drop, and first lessons should be first week after add drop

3. Men’s Ultimate Frisbee

* A misunderstanding about budget
* Asked for everything last semester, but there was an item that wasn’t included in the requested
* Need to pay dues for each member to be able to play
  + 55.50 per person for 49 people
* Motion to fund – 8,0,0

4. Tango Club

* Club is attended on average by 6 Amherst students regularly, and other members mostly from the community and 5college students
* How many Amherst students are needed to deserve the funding?
* Can take out the milanga budget – will result in 4k
  + Largest expense is coach – 120/hr
* Manny – not so much as a quantifiable amount for number of students to justify, but that need to be able to allocate money that belongs to the student to as many groups/students as possible
* Aditi – primary concern is that the majority of the people benefiting from the money are not students
* Manny – need to figure out how to build attendance from students
* Aditi – not so much as not getting the money, zeroing was more about starting a conversation about this situation
* Tess – if spending more than 3k from the coach, should have a concrete plan to increase attendance by Amherst students
  + Tried AC after dark and did this on family weekend, have tried to reach out, but the amount hasn’t increase that much
  + Aditi – then its not exactly a problem of effort, then may just be an issue of interest on campus right now, in which case it’s hard to justify funding this
* Weekly meeting have up to 20-25 people
* Aditi – can this be broken up into a UMASS/Amherst fund
  + Is run by Amherst college students
* Are complacent, and haven’t been proactive enough to get more members
* Once the coach is cut, there’s no one running the club basically, so cant have the club realistically
* Paul – talked w the coach about increasing the Amherst college student base?
  + Is a concern
* Manny – is this a flat sum that’s given to the coach?
  + Is paid on a monthly basis
  + Manny – could meet fewer times a week, which could better justify the funding on this
  + Aditi – could fund a couple months and then reevaluate this later after they put in more effort to see if they should continue
  + Paul – can’t really control the contract and cut or expand payment
* Jacob – could this be a more event based instead of a weekly meeting?
  + Aditi – not necessarily the best since they wont be learning the dance
* Way the club works is that you gradually increase skills week by week that culminates in the large event of the milanga
* Silvia – how often do they meet?
  + Friday 5:30-8
* Tess & Paul – could be a problem w meeting time
* Silvia & Tess – could turn this into once every 2 weeks and see how attendance works with that
  + Paul – would be paid same rate, but just for fewer days
  + Pierre – couldn’t there be a negotiation where theres a trial basis or other conversations w the coach
* Paul – can fund the intro meeting, have a conversation w the coach over interterm and come back for coach salary through discretionary
* Manny – cant promise any money to anybody today through discretionary, but can ask for it. If doesn’t work out, money allocated through club budgets would go to waste
  + Spoke w coach yesterday, but would be willing to come back
* Manny – can have intro meeting but can’t have a practice
  + Intro meeting is a meeting/practice with the coach
  + Aditi & Ramy – should either wait or try to do the intro meeting a little differently
* Paul – first meeting will be dependent on the rest of AAS
* Aditi & Manny – not talking about the value of the club, just budgetary stance. Can come back to request through discretionary. Not the end of the talk
* Aditi – will end up being about the same time line even if get money later
* Motion to zero – 8,0,0

4. Amherst College Mountain Biking Club

* Aditi – first semester where they’ve been awarded a club budget. Have to exist 3 or more semesters. Have not been requesting money for the past 2 years through discretionary
  + Paul – having a club budget is a privilege, need to show that they will follow funding policies (through discretionary)
  + Bought a bike 2 years ago
  + Have intro meetings but don’t get food
  + Publicize through word of mouth and tabling and emails
  + Leaders who lead a trip and send emails
  + Don’t have organized schedules, but planning on leading more trips regularly
* Requesting this money because the materials that they’ve been using aren’t safe to use any more, so this is a safety concern
  + Aditi – didn’t come up this sem?
    - Wanted to wait until they got the budget to start
  + Manny – not that don’t want to fund this, is just a matter on when theyd be funding
  + Manny – also need to show that they understand funding policies, etc
* George – you should make events open to all students, and this should be done through following BC publicity rules (not email list since this would be exclusive) – use table tents
* Have specific need can be funded?
  + Need tune ups and check ups for bikes so that they can have bikes
* Paul – when is the season?
  + Can essentially ride at any time
  + Paul – discuss w the school about liability issues?
  + As long as there’s no
* Tess – should fund tune ups and budgets to keep the members safe
  + Aditi & Manny – a matter of whether they would get a budget, and this would have to go through funding
  + Silvia – seems excessive since this is mostly a misunderstanding
* Takes 1-2 weeks to repair these bikes, and may have to be rebuilt, so they would have to get sent out
  + Keshav – want to get money now to get them checked over break?
* Paul & Manny – can come through discretionary tomorrow, and try to get the tune ups this semester
* Can get a quote for the prices for the bikes

5. Amherst Element

* Have always asked for 2,500 before, was cut by ½ this sem
* Cost of 500 copies is 2,600 or so
* May be a little excessive to get 500 copies, reasonable to cut it down to 300, but would like to keep it color since it’s a science magazine and would need the colors for diagrams
* Cost of copies is not linear, so 300 would probably be in the $200 realm
* Don’t need all pages in color though, mostly just the diagram pages
* ½ color, ½ black and white – 500 would be 1740, so 1800 would be a pretty solid number
* Want to build a quality magazine and increase readership – put magazines online this sem, working on a fb page
* Paul – magazines use tiger press and collective copies. Might be best to shop around to find cheaper prices with different publishers. May make more sense to do this and come back to request through discretionary at the beginning of the semester
* Published at the end of the semester
  + Aditi & Manny & Keshav – may make more sense not to publish at the end of the semester?
* Trying to build up membership and viewership
* Aditi – could publish as an online magazine

6. ISA

* Wondering about rational of zeroing ISA formal
* Aditi – problem w it being a formal if it’s exclusive
  + Concept of this is similar to the pangea events. Will not be exclusive to certain members
  + Manny – any event shouldn’t be a celebration of the group. Should be for the entire student body
* Keshav – change the language to make it more clear that it’s not an exclusive formal
* A student DJ
* Paul – already funded all of food budget
* Party will probably be in one of the triangle dorms
* Zeroed all honorarium for speakers that are still not yet decided
* Paul – what happened to the water guns and other equipment from last year?
  + Was too cold last year to do this, but could do an indoor one last year
  + Still have some equipment and all decorations in the MRC
* Can come through discretionary to request or reallocate later on
* Manny – idea of getting additional money for food – would be for events that have existed for a long time that have shown that they have a large existence
  + Manny – have to explain that money outside the caps would be worth the allocation. Not saying that everyone will be getting additional food
* ISA conversations – more in depth conversations that they try to have 1/month
  + Want to get discussion food for these
* Motion to fund – 9,0,0

8. Military Support Corps

* Travis Mills – quadruple amputee
* Already looking at outside sources – student affairs and LEADS willing to support, but no money secured yet
* Want to try to get more money on top of 6k received from before
* Time restraint since times are taken
* Trying to get him for last march
* Manny – want to make sure the event happens, but also want to make sure that they seek cosponsorship

9. Republicans

* If only bring in 1 speaker, can reallocate to that speaker from the other?
* Manny – yes, have to look for cosponsorship, then can ask later
* George – Cupp event is not def yet, so can try to ask through discretionary

10. Men’s Club Soccer

* Manny - Spent 900 on balls last sem, so want to know what happened with other balls and previous ones?
  + Indoor balls are softer, safer, and required by the tournament
  + Have 3 teams, so need separate ones
* Manny – haevnt had ones before?
  + Had one supplied by a captain before, but he graduated, so need new ones now
* Would like to get at least 3 balls at least (1 per team)
* Goals are because it would be easier to have larger goals to play with
  + Currently using hurdles, and not the best method
  + George – have lacrosse nets there right now
  + Don’t have storage secured yet
  + Paul – need to find out storage first before we can discuss this
* Manny – equipment belongs to AAS, not the students, so technically has to be back to the school during breaks and stay within school possession
* Have been making due up until this point, but trying to become more organized and have structure for future members
* Motion to fund indoor balls – 9,0,0

11. Gospel Choir

* Spring concert zeroed
  + Paul – no information about the honorarium, who it is, when it is
  + Manny – need info so that they can be able to see if it’s a wise allocation
* Concert musicians are for the concert, which they would def have
  + Aditi – would they have the concert w just the musician and not the artist?
    - Could still happen, had this happen this past semester
  + Musicians accompany the choir
  + Need to halve cost of musician
* Motion to fund publicity and ½ of musician cost – 9,0,0

12. KSA

* Hoddeok night
  + Paul – not funded because of food rule
  + Would have to ask through discretionary
* Why not funding multiple groups for an event (Asian Night Market)
  + Paul – could have many groups working together and still end up getting all the money from AAS, which wouldn’t make sense
  + Aditi – cosponsorship should be where part of money comes from AAS and rest from another source
* Silvia – should go look for other depts. or funding sources for food

13. Fencing

* Want to make sure that if they can’t find hex tool, can come through discretionary
* Company does not do free shipping – already contacted them
* Motion to fund shipping – 9,0,0

14. Bisemester Worship

* First guest speaker is pastor tim – so need transportation for him
* Ms gardner is staying for 3 nights since she’s elderly and needs the extra night
  + May also have something else on Amherst that day
    - Paul – should have the dept bringing her pay for the extra night then
* Motion to fund transportation – 9,0,0

15. AMMO

* Need new gear since they don’t have remaining gear for new members even after reusing old old gear, so need to purchase more now
* Motion to fund – 9,0,0