



Appropriation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/08/2023

I. Call to Order

- a. Meeting called to order at 5:10

II. Roll Call

Name	Position	Present/Absent	Required Attendance
Anne Martinez	Chair	Present	Yes
Mikele Mancuso	Vice Chair	Present	Yes
Chanita Jacques	Member	Present	Yes
Samuel Vogel	Member	Present	Yes
Gabriela Mendez-Ruiz	Member	Present	Yes
Alyssa Andreus	Member	Present (late)	Yes (Excused Absence)
Tim Lozano	Deputy Comptroller	Present	No
Karina Hernandez	Senate Floor Leader	Present	No

III. Unfinished Business

- a. Chair Anne announces to the rest of the committee that they should approve the meeting minutes when they are sent in the chat
- b. Senator Vogel asks the Chair and Vice Chair to write more detailed minutes, especially in regards to last meetings questions that were asked
- c. Vice Chair Mikele agrees to take more detailed minutes
- d. Approval of Last Meetings Minutes
- e. Last meetings minutes were approved

IV. New Business

- a. Activity and Service Fee Rules Review
 - i. Chair Anne asks someone to read the definition of the A&S fee
 - ii. Senator Vogel reads the definition
 - iii. Senator Vogel clarifies the definition of the A&S and Chair Anne clarifies and affirms the definition

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- iv. Chair Anne continues reviewing the A&S fee
- b. S.B. 04000: Model USAID Bill
 - i. Chair Anne decides to review the bill itself and its content to see the reason as to why the bill exists and what it wants to do and why it wants to appropriate money
 - ii. Chair Anne reads through some parts of the bill and has various other present senators reads other parts of the bill
 - iii. Senator Vogel asks a question about the bill regarding the cost of water compared to the cost of water, asks if there any reason we are purchasing lemonade and why we cannot purchase a less expensive beverage
 - iv. Vice Chair Mancuso Responds by saying that it is possible to reaplce lemonade with water or not use lemonade at all if cost effectiveness is the ultimate goal and then Senator Vogel asks if other vendors are more cost effective
 - v. Vice Chair Mancuso responds saying that panther catering is the most cost effective option from what was viewed by Hayley Serpa (secretary of health and wellness) who did the cost estimates
 - vi. Senator Mendez-Ruiz offers that as a compromise that if we used powdered lemonade and adding it to water to be more cost effective
 - vii. Vice Chair Mancuso says that that is a more cost effective possibility but it is a debatable if it will be allowed by FIU
 - viii. Senator Vogel then asks about the sustainability of the plastics used for the powdered lemonade
 - ix. Chair Martinez then says that it is not certain if the powdered lemonade will be used
 - x. Senator Vogel again questions the sustainability of the plastic pouches
 - xi. Vice Chair Mancuso says that the information learned by attendees of the event will benefit sustainability more than the negative effect on sustainability of the event itself
 - xii. Deputy Comptroller Lozano says that financials should be a priority and stresses the consideration of every penny and agrees with the point made by Senator Mendez Ruiz in regards to our funding and the amount of money we have
 - xiii. Chair Martinez reiterates this point and says the importance of considering every penny and to make the event pleasant for visitors

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- xiv. Senator Jacques again reiterates the importance of saving every penny while still making the event nice for visitors like USAID representatives
- xv. A motion was made by Senator Vogel to table the WEFTEC appropriations request for the next meeting
- xvi. Chair Martinez asks for the committee to make a decision on the cost
- xvii. Senator Mendez Ruiz offers to send the bill back and see if the bill could more cost effective
- xviii. Senator Vogel asks a question regarding the accessibility of the room specifically in regards to the use of stairs or elevators, light sensitivity, door opening radius, the accessibility to invited guests, how the set up of chairs and tables caters to the needs of people who need special accommodations, etc.
- xix. Vice Chair Mancuso responds stating that the conference room is on the first floor, the lighting will be provided by natural lighting for the most part, the set up of the chairs and tables can be changed and is to be determined, the invited guests have no special accommodations needed, and that a doorstop can be used for the door.
- xx. The vote for the bill will be tabled for next week it will be sent back to the author

- c. WEFTEC Appropriations Request

- V. Reports

- a. Senate Leadership

- i. Senate Floor Leader Hernandez states that if anyone has any questions about her request to ask whenever

- b. Committee

- c. Advisor

- VI. Announcements

- a. Chair Martinez announces that everyone should submit requests with time as the process takes time

- VII. Meeting Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:06

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