Constitutional Convention of FIU
Minutes
October 27, 2023
10:30 AM

1. Call to Order
   a. This meeting was called to order at 11:01am

2. Roll Call
   a. Brian Levine
      i. Present
   b. Alexander Stone
      i. Present
   c. Alexander Sutton
      i. Present
   d. Mia Rodriguez
      i. Present
   e. Tracy Mussotte
      i. Present
   f. Peter Hernandez
      i. Present
   g. Kaily LaChapelle
      i. Absent
   h. Alisha Loiseau
      i. Absent
      i. Natalie Martinez
      i. Absent (excused)
   j. Quorum has been reached

3. Correction and Approval of Last Meetings Minutes
   a. Minutes from October 10, 2023
      i. Correction: Bx 4-6pm from October 25th but there is also a BBC Nov 2nd 1-2pm Constitutional Convention Forum
      ii. Approved

4. Adoption of the Agenda
   a. Adopted

5. Public Comments Period
   a. N/A

6. Reports
   a. Convention Chair Brian Levine
      i. Short period of time to figure out scheduling meetings
ii. More brainstorming of aspects we want to cover
iii. Can establish more of a timeline today
iv. Open list of topics to cover

b. Convention Vice Chair Alexander Sutton
   i. Forum next week on Nov 2nd bbc
   ii. Timeline is more of a month, a month and a half
   iii. Might have to bleed into January
   iv. Hope we can have a final product of revised lines and edits to present to
       senate no later than a month before the election
   v. Voted on in general election in early March
   vi. Be done mid January, first week of February
   vii. Needs to pass two senate committees
   viii. Rules and any other committee the SP deems fit
   ix. Finalize by mid January
   x. Brian can come as emeritus member

c. Convention Secretary Mia Rodriguez
   i. Thinks we should go through every article of the Constitution.
   ii. When it comes to the Judicial Branch, Mia would approach it the same way
       as towards any other article of the Constitution.

7. Old Business
   a. Scheduling of Meetings
      i. Check the times in the email to see if those work for you
      ii. That includes Tracy so that we may possibly onboard you as a member of the
          Convention!
      iii. Times
          1. Tuesday, November 7, 2023: 1:00PM to 5:00PM*
             a. Works for everyone present except Peter and Alex
                Sutton has a commitment at 3pm
             b. Peter free at 5
             c. Natalie is also available at this time
          2. Wednesday, November 8, 2023: 11:00AM to 3:00PM
             a. Tracy can come late bc class ends at 11:50
             b. Peter cannot make it bc work from 5am-7pm
             c. On Sundays, can make it to a zoom at 3pm
                i. Tentative next meeting
          3. Friday, Nov 10, 2023: 4-8pm
             a. Stone could do 5:30
             b. Mia cannot bc of 305MUN
             c. Alex cannot either bc of 305MUN
                i. No go
          4. Monday, November 13, 2023: 11:00AM to 3:00PM
             a. Stone has a class at 2pm
             b. Peter cannot
                i. Good with that
5. Thursday Nov 16th 2-5pm*
   a. If only Mia and Stone can’t make it, then schedule it
   b. If there are more unable to go, then it’s a no go
   c. Can also discuss if not everyone can meet
      i. Good (so likely don’t discuss judicial and legislative)
6. Monday, November 27, 2023: 11:00AM to 2:00 PM (this would likely be on Zoom as falls right after Thanksgiving Break)
   a. Peter no go
   b. Possible day though
      i. Zoom yes (but no Peter)
7. Friday Dec 1st, no time frame * 11am-3pm
   a. 5-7pm zoom is a yes
8. Tuesday, December 5, 2023: 1:00PM to 8:00PM
   a. Everyone present is free for this time period!
   b. 1-5pm to be more exact
      i. yes
9. Thursday, December 7, 2023: 2:00PM to 8:00PM
   a. Stone cannot
   b. Tracy has a class at 5
   c. 11-3pm is best
      i. Yes
10. Friday, December 8, 2023: 11:00AM to 8:00PM
    a. 11-1 or 5-8
    b. 5-7 zoom
       i. Final wrap up
11. Recharge schedule coming soo so does not conflict
   iv. Finalized Schedule
    1. Wed Nov 8 11-3
    2. Mon Nov 13 11-3
    3. Thurs Nov 16 2-5pm
    4. Mon Nov 27 11-2 (zoom)
    5. Fri Dec 1st 5-7pm (zoom)
    6. Tue Dec 5th 1-5pm
    7. Thu Dec 7 11-3pm
    8. Fri Dec 8th 5-7pm (zoom)
       a. Backup
b. Recess until 1:15pm
c. Reconvene at 1:52pm
d. Convention Student Forums
   i. De-Brief on Forum at MMC on October 25, 2023
      1. 52 scans
      2. 9 responses
a. Some responses reflect that the president has too much power, supreme court should be more involved, etc as an example
b. Discussing the possible GPA requirement changes as it was mentioned in this forum

ii. Forum at BBC Panther Square on Thursday, November 2, 2023, 12PM-2PM
   1. Alex Sutton will order food
   2. Will also make copies of the qr codes about the constitution
e. Discussion of Topics/Provisions/Proposals to include in Convention Deliberations
   i. Going through articles one by one
   ii. Theme of SGA living on beyond us
       1. Topics to go through
          a. Article I
             i. How to go about amendments
                1. Other unis such as UF do not need admin to approve
             ii. Student sovereignty
                1. When it comes to admin and their power
             iii. Change language of admin positions
                1. Not the senior VP of student affairs
          b. Article II
             i. General Expansion akin to BOR (maybe even universal declaration of human rights)
             ii. Organizational affiliation is the only thing to be protected by the FIU SGAC
                 1. More diversity aspects should be protected
             iii. Explanation of const amendments by petition to be changed
             iv. More like the streamlining act we want to pass
          c. Article III
             i. Vvv short
          d. Article IV
             i. Senate should make more of the decisions assigned to the Senate President
             ii. Pro temp?
             iii. Floor Leader is a redundant position
                 1. Maybe a secretary or a senate clerk
                 2. Should not only be 2 people
                 3. Committees instead of people are seen in other universities
             iv. Committee Chairs
                 1. Finance chair
                 2. Senate leadership meet with chairs
             v. Senate should be allowed to make changes to budgets
vi. Composition of the Senate
vii. Process of law and medical school senator election
    (grad student representation/apportionment)
    1. Grad seats would be added per college
viii. Flexibility on standing committees
ix. Vacancies is dictated by a special election or a whole committee is more preferable
x. Audits are encouraged
    1. Tests for certain officials must be careful in avoiding discriminatory principles
xi. Restructure senate leadership and committee chairs should be included
xii. Half the seats start in fall and half start in spring
xiii. 40 percent of students to sign a petition to override an administrative decision
e. Topics from Alex
    i. More continuity for judicial
    1. Longer terms
    ii. Rethinking exec admin
    iii. Senate more say in budget
f. Article V
    i. Change term bc timing should be better defined
f. Other New Business
    i. Going over Executive Branch
8. Convention Forum
    a. N/A
9. Public Comments Period
    a. N/A
10. Announcements
    a. Chair Levine
        i. N/A
    b. Vice Chair Sutton
        i. N/A
    c. Secretary Rodriguez
        i. N/A
11. Adjournment
    a. This meeting was adjourned at 2:55pm.