

Constitutional Convention of FIU

**Meeting Agenda
December 5, 2023**

1. Call to Order at 1:56PM
2. Roll Call

Brian Levine – present

Alex Sutton – present

Mia Rodriguez – present

Natalie Martinez – present

Peter Hernandez – present (arrived 2:17PM)

Kaily LaChapelle – absent

Alexander Stone – absent (excused)

Tracy Mussotte – present

Student Body Vice President Santana Way was present as well.

Talayah Dennis, a member of the student body, was present as well, representing Mia Rodriguez.

3. Correction and Approval of Last Meetings Minutes
 - a. Minutes from December 1, 2023
 - b. Approved without objection
4. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Adopted without objection
5. Public Comments Period
 - a. No public comment
6. Reports
 - a. Convention Chair Brian Levine
 - i. Thursday meeting might be canceled
 - ii. Talk of drafting the actual revisions of the constitution during the winter, to include Brian, Alex, Natalie, Mia
 - iii. Brian will establish a Committee on Detail, to include the aforementioned 4 members
 - iv. Likely no regular meetings during the break
 - b. Convention Vice Chair Alexander Sutton
 - i. No report
 - c. Convention Secretary Mia Rodriguez
 - i. No report
7. Old Business

a. Deliberations

i. Topic – BBC Governor’s Budget Allocation

1. Brian explained that the BBC Governor discretionary is the only constitutionally required line. The history is that it has been decreased steadily over the past few years. Brian’s thoughts are that the line mentioning the budget in the constitution should also mention that it shall be no less one third of the amount allocated to the Student Body President
2. VP Way mentions that he is in support of it being at least half of the presidential line. Open to taking it down to a third.
3. Sutton said he is open to 25% but open to a third.
4. Peter Hernandez is open to it being the percentage of student enrollment at BBC, with allowing it to go up to a maximum of five percent more than that.
5. Natalie is open to between 25% and one third.
6. Taliyah Dennis mentioned that a quarter (25%) is a middle-ground.
7. Natalie moved to set the minimum allocation for the BBC Governor Discretionary line to one fourth of the Presidential Discretionary line. Motion was seconded by Tracy.
 - a. Debate on the motion: Natalie argued that this is worth it to save BBC, to keep numbers clean and cut, and to give BBC more agency.
 - b. VP Way stated that we should not go down to 12.5% for example because that will not be enough.
 - c. Peter said he doesn’t agree with it being set at a minimum, it should be the discretion of the Budget Committee.
8. Sutton moved the previous question, motion passed unanimously.
9. The motion to set the minimum allocation for the BBC Governor Discretionary line to one fourth of the Presidential Discretionary line, passed unanimously.

ii. Article X – Elections

1. Change it so that vacancies may be filled by the Senate as a whole or by a special election.
 - a. Make sure that it makes it so that the Senate hears all applicants and the senate as a whole elects the person to fill the vacancy.
2. Make it so that living on campus at BBC counts as another thing that makes someone eligible to represent BBC.
3. Consensus to allow write-in candidates.
4. Consensus on lowering the requirements to create a political party.
5. Some consensus (contested) on: Senators can designate students to serve as their proxy whom may serve in their capacity up to three times a semester.

- iii. Article XI – Remuneration
 - 1. Consensus on moving the remuneration to the Statutes. Changes made to remunerations shall not take effect until the next fiscal year. Requires 2/3 vote in order to make the change.
- iv. Article XII/XIII – Constitutional Amendment Process
 - 1. Consensus achieved that the Senate shall have the power to call a Constitutional Convention at any time with a 2/3 vote and the Senate shall also decide every four years whether to convene a convention by a simple majority.

- a. Other New Business

8. Convention Forum

9. Public Comments Period

10. Announcements

- a. Next meeting Friday December 7th at 5PM at go.fiu.edu/WeTheStudents

11. Adjournment at 5:04PM