Florida Atlantic University
Student Government
Boca Raton House of Representatives
5th Legislative Session
13th February 2011
Call to Order: 3:40PM
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call:

*B. Absent: Alincy, Anastasi, Arsolino, Baptiste, Coicou, Diljohn, Estevez, Gorry, Grider, Hasan, Hodges, Lupo, Murphy, Pollock, and Wu.

Boris: After resignations there are 32 members, we have now exactly 17 representatives. So if any of you POP the meeting will end, we will lose quorum. So I think we can hold our bladders for the meeting, but if we cannot I would ask that you amend the agenda and add a recess either before House Business or before chair reports.

APPROVALS:

*Motion to approve the January 28th minutes by Varela; seconded by Dumas
*Motion to approve the February 4th minutes by Tepper; seconded by Montes
*Motion to amend the agenda to insert a 3 minute recess after chair reports before house business; seconded by Massetti. Objection by Berichi “I would like a roll call.”
* Motion to admit all members by Montes; seconded Dumas

Roll Call

Boris: Yes is to add a 3 minute recess and No is to not add a 3 minute recess

Vote: 10 Yes to 8 No

Boris: I would like to call on Phillips as parliamentarian because Scalice will be presiding over the meeting today and Grider is not here.

SPECIAL ORDER SPEECHES: None

OPEN FORUM:

Jeanie Geeble: I am from the University galleries we are here requesting some money for our juried art exhibition. So I provided Boris a detailed budget as well as receipts to follow up that report.

Questions:

Amirato: Are you providing exact quotes or expected quotes for this year?

Geeble: Well most of our vendors aren’t places you really get quotes, like Home Depot and Office Depot, but it is pretty much the same thing as last year, like paint.

SPEAKER’S APPOINTMENTS:

Boris: At this time I will be appointing the campus budget committee members. I tried mixing experienced with no experience and new with old. They have all accepted so of course Dumas is chair and the other members are representatives Wu, Coicou, Grider, Fritz, Tepper, and Massetti. That is a total of 7 members. That leaves 2 open seats, so if any of you are interested you can just contact me and let me know if you want to be on the committee.

*Motion to approve the campus budget committee members by Varela; seconded by Blouin; No Objections

Boris: Just wanted to say that the Budget committee meeting starts on the 20th.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Maher: Thanks Boris. How are you guys doing today? Just to let you know there is a new fraternity sigma qi it. If you want to be a founding member, it would be cool to come back 50 years and see something that you started. There is a basketball game tomorrow 7pm, it is always free with your owl card. As far as legislation goes, the one I haven’t signed is the ad-hock committee bill because I am not sure if it is constitutional and I want to make sure before I sign something that it is constitutional. Also, in terms of the bike rack bill, I think it should be tabled again. I spoke with Shannon Clouts and we came down to the decision that they are going to give us 14 places that need more bike racks and all we have to do is purchase 7 and they will purchase the other 7 bike racks. Maybe we could use 2 joint accounts to make sure they are done. Also, I have been talking to Shannon about purchasing UP bins, if you think you are willing to purchase the UP bins it will be around $20,000, also we would be able to put these bins strategically where the students go. I don’t know if you saw there were four chairs in our student union the other day and we could take a vote for which one we wanted because we are doing renovations and we want student input. We are currently in conversations with heather. The UBAC process was this weekend $ 400,000 was cut out of the Boca request. The committee was very conservative. 40,000 freshmen applied to FAU this year and there is on the 14th a ribbon cutting ceremony for the medical school.

Questions:

Boris: Didn’t you make a decision for your nomination?

Maher: That is my closing statement. I chose Nick Scalce for Chief Justice; I chose him because everyday he goes to work and he is going to be fully prepared like the bike rack meeting. He will be making sure that the statutes are revised; also he will make it more visible for the students. Thanks guys.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Maher: We have a senate meeting this Sunday. Hakeem Haye resigned, we will be looking for his assistant. Also we finished on time both days for the UBAC, the meeting was run really smooth. Other than that come to basket ball game.

Questions:

Maher: Who is our opponent?

President Maher: The University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Maher: Word.

POI: Capata: When was the last time we heard from governor Gentry?

Boris: Last week I believe

GOVERNMENTOR’S REPORT: None

PROGRAM REPORTS:
SAVI Director: Mariana Ortigosa: We have our event. We are bringing volunteer hair stylist, we have 20 appointments booked so far. We also have cards for Valentine’s Day. Our next event is February 26th, it is a food bank to provide food, we need people to give them affordable food to them and we will need people unloading non-profit cars. We are provide transportation for our students if you would like to volunteer just look us up savfau.edu

Questions: None

Boris: I would really like representatives to not talk to the people on the wall

MP Director: Williams: Let me say what a good job speaker is doing. We are looking for a programming position if you are really good with graphic design we are going to have all of the club presidents. Also representative Maher brought up a good idea for the history of Black history month, so far we are planning on how we want it to get started, but we are under a time constraint. We have black history month t-shirts coming, we have been waiting for a while.

Questions: None

Chief of Staff: Owens: All of the governors programs seem to be doing really well, I have offered to help with their process or the budgets committee. I will be working on the MP constitution with Williams and once the club leaders have reviewed the statutes one more time that will be it.

Questions: None

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ADVISOR’S REPORT:

Bishara: Hi everyone I just wanted to make sure you are aware next Tuesday at 6pm in Grand Palm are the debates. The governor candidates will be invited to come to talk about their platforms. We wanted to see if we could bring in people from all campuses. In addition a quick update we have a search for a program coordinator. I know they have met to do phone calls. Be aware of the process and keep an eye out we are just doing the thoughts. Also it will help more students applying for travel funding.

Questions:

Massetti: So there is no official debate for governors?

Bishop: Just there platforms.

Boris: Why?

Boris: I know the Jupiter campus is going to do one. Other campuses are doing them. I am not aware of the debate on the Boca campus; if I am wrong I am wrong.

CHAIR REPORTS:

COC: Scalise: The COC met today shortly after 3pm. There was no absence report or appealing of absence reports. So it was pretty quick. So basically there was no business. The meeting ended shortly.

Boris: I would like to recognize the president

Ayden: Are you aware you did a great job serving this body and you need another round of applause? [applause]

RP: Phillips: Today in my committee we discussed BRHB-11-03. The only reason it was sent was because we didn’t know for sure if we are able to use A&S fees for prizes; we did research, but we didn’t find where we can’t use them. We want to reword so that they can still use the money, just not as a cash prize. And then pass it once it has been amended.

WM: Massetti: We went over the line item list of BRHB-11-03, we decided we would pass it around so you can read it. About the bill we decided that we would just strike out cash. It is very specific and clear and we recommend it be passed.

Questions:

Blouin: If there are no rules, then why don’t we just leave it the way it is?

Massetti: Bishara said we have never done it, so I would assume that we keep it that way.

Boris: I would like to recognize Heather Bishara.

Bishara: The only thing the Controllers office said is that the process could only be done is if the cash reward has been given out through financial aid. One of the things they pointed out as well, is if the opportunity of that prize is available to all students? It is an interesting question.

Massetti: It is customary from the house to not give out cash prizes.

Varela: If I am not mistaken isn’t this event open to every person on campus?

Massetti: I am not quite sure.

Boris: I would like to recognize the chief of staff

Owens: Are you aware that I believe it is?

*Motion to admit all members by Montes; seconded by Blouin.

CA: Dumas: No report

Campus Budget: Dumas: The university wide budget appropriations met. The total request from all requests was 7.2 million, a $461,507 difference from last year. We have final deliberations on the 13th, but I do not think or force that we will be cutting anything more. It starts at 9am and hearings start at 10am. I will be sending the budget to the UP. The Boca Campus total request is $953,298, which is a decrease of $87,302.

Blouin: So you said we are allocated that much?

Dumas: We have not had the deliberation committee yet, so this is not how much we are allocated, but it is how much we requested.

Scalice: As a member on the prevailing side I motion to remove the 3 minute recess; 2nd Dumas

Boris: We will do a roll call. A vote of No is to keep the recess in, and a vote of yes is to not do the recess.

Vote: 15 yes to 4 no; no 3 minute recess.

-POP: Capata at 4:14PM

Boris: If we lose 3 members we will lose quorum.

HOUSE FORUM:

Scalice: To speak about BRHR-11-01 we need more bicycle parking racks, as the president did say Clout has 14 spaces where bicycle racks are needed. The next step is for them to get funding and then we should do it right after. As president Maher has mentioned it will be a joint funding between them, us, and his office in addition to that I would like to show some pictures real quick. These are photos I took about two weeks ago. This is just to give you an idea, to give you an idea and realize the necessity. This was taken between 10am and 1pm. They say
that they don’t want to put racks because it is unsightly, but I think this is pretty unsightly. It is actually prohibited to place a bike anywhere other than a rack, they haven’t taken any action on that, but that tells us how much the students need them. This is the college of education. The athletes at the Oxley Center really need racks. This is the FAU policy 4.1.5. I think this will keep people aware. With that I yield for questions.

Questions: None

Boris: Again what Scalice has told us it makes sense to table the bicycle rack bill. On the student juried art exhibit, I was told by Jeanine Geeble twice she said she doesn’t mind taking out the cash and she understands if there is a policy, she says that’s fine. But I want to make you aware that program board is having a talent show and they have a cash prize. Also step show and the winner of that gets a prize and that is A&S fees, and I understand and if we want to act like this doesn’t happen here makes no sense to me. Lastly the new one will probably go to committees. We are making a statement about the policies on campus. Currently if you are caught with alcohol in your dorm there is a 3 step or 2 step process before you are kicked out of housing, but with marijuana it is not. What I am saying is that maybe the alcohol one should be stricter.

Questions: None

VETOED BUSINESS: None

TABLED BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

BRHR-11-01

*Motion to admit all members by Becker; seconded by Dumas

I move to keep BRHR-11-01 tabled by Scalice; seconded by Dumas; No Objections.

BRHB-11-03

*Motion to approve BRHB-11-03 by Phillips; seconded by Montes; Friendly amendment Dumas, can we change cash rewards to just say miscellaneous. Accepted by Phillips

Boris: We will now go to a roll call vote, a vote of yes is to pass the bill a vote of no is to not pass the bill.

Vote: 17 yes to 2 no, the bill passes.

NEW BUSINESS:

BRHR-11-03: More Sensible Campus Policies

*Motion to send to all committees by Varela; seconded by Berichi

OPEN FORUM: None

SPECIAL ORDER SPEECHES:

Tepper: Hi everyone. I have 2 quick announcements. I am part of the ballroom club and we are in a video club it is based of your votes we are in fourth place, we are really trying to get in first place and just remember even if you vote a few times a week. April first I am trying to recruit more teams for relay for life. If you are already doing some. If you know anyone else let me know.

Phillips: I just wanted to let you know alpha delta pi and AEpi are doing a car wash at the cross road of Yamato and right east of 95.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Boris: I am going to go to the computer for the first part. For some time I felt very annoyed. I was very upset to look on our website compared to other universities. So basically as you know when you see Boca Raton. It is my intention that we are going to have picture there. That is the main page then we have this about the house which now it just explains the house and what it does. We are heading in the right direction even thought we are not finished. This is accurate for everyone, accept for people that resigned, again the goal is to have pictures; it would be nice if we had pictures for everyone. We have a lot of seats open but it will be filled after spring elections. These are all the minutes. We will never no what happened exactly from January 2010 to October 2010. But I am trying to cover my Butt, but again I want to make it very clear that the minutes from this meeting will be up after next weeks meeting because they have to be approved. Just remember if anyone from the UP is looking for minutes we have to approve them. That is why it is important to watch what you say because it is going here. Right now this is the current legislation. I want you to see. It shows the resolution or the bill, the signed sheet and every bill from now, will include another sheet of paper that shows who voted which way. I wanted to say that I couldn’t do this without the graduate and undergrad assistants Summit and Larry. We passed 3 things last week. Paying for obligations, it hasn’t been signed by Dr. Brown. Maher hasn’t signed the ad-hock, he has until Monday to sign it or veto it. So please know I cannot appoint any liaisons. I am open, oh lastly. On Sunday when the senate approves Mr. Scalice as chief justice he will send me and e-mail, once that happens I will send all of you an email. Lastly if you are here and I ask you to go to campus budget I will give you some packets. I know that some of you have said that you have had other commitments late on Sunday. We want the meeting to be done before that.

Boris: What is status of flag bill?

Boris: Well the flag was a part of the ad-hock bill after I know I will it would be nice to have someone who is encouraged to be involved in those events like a health liaison.

REMINDERS:

Boris: The next House meeting is Friday, February 18th, 2011 at 3:30pm here in the Senate Chambers.

One more time if we can give a round of applause to Scalice for what he has done. [applause]

Final Roll Call:

Absent: Anastasi, Arsolino, Baptiste, Diljohn, Estevez, Gorry, Grider, Hasan, Hodges, Lupo, Murphy, Pollock, and Wu.

*Motion to adjourn by Varela; seconded by Berichi

4:39PM