



New York University School of Law

Student Bar Association

SBA MEETING AGENDA

DATE: 11.14.12

TIME: 5:30pm

ROOM: FH 326

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Lance Polivy, President	X		
Vanish Grover, Vice President	X		
Chase Dalton, Treasurer	X		
Sharon McDonald, Secretary	X		
Ben Steinberg, Social Chair	X		
Joe Tevelowitz, Social Chair	X		
Patrick Totaro, Student Senator	X		
Gabriel Hopkins, 3L Representative	X		
Hannah Rodgers, 3L Representative	X		
Morgan Miller, 3L Representatives		X	
Ali-Puente Douglas, 3L Representative	X		
Charlotte Slaiman, 2L Representative	X		
Stew Gilson, 2L Representative		X	
Adam Saper, 2L Representative	X		
Mat Ahn, 2L Representatives		X	
Reyhan Watson, 1L Representative			X
Monica Ramirez de Arellano, 1L Representative	X		
John Michael Grant, 1L Representative	X		
Julienne ("Jules") Merkel, 1L Representative	X		
Brooks Emanuel, 1L Representative		X	
David Giroux, Transfer Representative	X		
Daniel Echavarria, LLM Representative		X	
Rebeca Mosquera, LLM Representative	X		
Jose Ziebarth, LLM Representative		X	

24 total

AGENDA ITEMS

- Incentive Funding Requests (5 minutes per presentation and Q&A, 5 minutes per request for discussion – 20 minutes total)
 - Law Dems
 - Substantial Performance

- Incentive Funding Criteria Vote, Chase (15 minutes)
 - Based on a committee recommendation
 - Then apply the criteria to Alternative Breaks, Law Dems, and Substantial Performance requests
- Dean's Search Meeting Update
- Recap from the Deans Meeting and Next Steps (5 minutes)
- Professor Evaluations: How are they used? Who reads them? What weight are they given? Adam Saper (10 minutes)
- Stress Relievers in Student Lounge or Library, Vanish Grover (5 minutes)
- Food Dumping at the end of Events: How can we make the best use of left-over food, Adam Saper (5 minutes)

NOTES

I. Outlines

- All of us will help to rename the files to make them easier to upload them. Ali Puente-Douglass will send out an email so people can sign-up to help.
- We are planning on having all outlines uploaded by the end of the week, starting with the 1L outlines. The delay so far had to do with problems related to coding.

II. Incentive Funding Criteria

Factors that the treasurer and the board will consider when voting on incentive funding requests:
(Not all of these factors have to be satisfied)

Factors for Incentive Funding

- (1) Quality of planning and level of preparation
- (2) Amount of the request
- (3) Remaining SBA incentive funding
- (4) Advanced notice of the request (should be available to present at a scheduled SBA meeting at least 7 calendar days prior to the event)
- (5) Necessity of incentive funding given:
 - (a) The nature and purpose of the event
 - (b) Remaining group budget and reasonable attempt to obtain other sources of funding
- (6) Number of students attending proportional to cost
- (7) Inclusiveness, co-sponsorship, and planned outreach
- (8) Whether the event contributes to the intellectual, social, and professional community at NYU Law School

Motion to adopt this list from the committee: Motion passes by unanimous vote

Motion to add them to the bylaws: Motion fails (4 in favor; 12 opposed; 2 abstain)

III. Alternative Breaks

- Request was for \$3500
- Considerations:
 - The amount of people who are allowed to go on the trip vis à vis the amount of the requests. 50 people get to go for the entire year (provided all the trips go). They have a minimum of 40 hours during the week.
 - We like the merits of the program. We don't want it to go away.
 - The amount of people who can go is decided on whether you have enough money to go and that doesn't seem right.
 - Alternative Breaks does not fund food.
 - Helps students get jobs and internships in the public interest field.
 - The SBA has already given them \$1500.
 - Other sources of funding: Alaska trip has started outreach to firms. PILC also funds them as well.
- Proposals/Recommendations:
 - Award some amount of funding, but not the full amount.
- **Motion to approve the full incentive request for \$3500:** Motion passes (11 in favor; 1 abstain)

IV. Substantial Performance Incentive Funding Request

- Substantial Performance is asking for \$798 to pay for two mixers following the two concerts [one per semester] this year. The purpose of these mixers is to encourage people to meet members of the group, to help with recruiting for next year, keep alumni involved, and to get extra performance opportunities.
- Why weren't the mixers in the budget? The Chair wasn't sure of how to make the budget requests when she submitted it. The group also outgrew its budget, i.e., they need larger venues to accommodate a growing audience. Last year, the treasurer paid a lot of money out-of-pocket.
- Expected attendance: 45-60 (based off of how many people came last time); 20 people are in the group
- **Motion to approve the full incentive request for \$798:** Motion passes by unanimous vote

V. Law Dems

- They are asking for money in order to recoup some of the money that was spent in transportation to Ohio when 43 students went poll watching. The Obama campaign originally promised them a bus, but after the hurricane hit, they had to improvise and rent vans which entailed some significant out-of-pocket costs.
- While in Ohio, they ran the hotline, did poll watching and drove voters to the polls.
- Are VA or PA getting reimbursed? VA was never told that they would be funded, so there was no understanding that they would recoup their losses. PA people were able to still get a post-Sandy bus—so they did not have gas costs.
- **Motion to grant funding for gas and tolls unconditionally (658.13):** Motion passes (10 in favor; 4 opposed)

VI. Dean's Search Meeting Update

- Lance is the Student Representative. He has to keep things extremely confidential, but he would like to hear the concerns of students so he can bring them to the table.
- The SBA board should be collecting info from students about what they want to see. We may have separate meetings, surveys or a google doc to compile the comments from students. We might even have a Town Hall with Lance and other members of the committee. However, Lance will be mostly listening, rather than talking (because of the importance of confidentiality in the process).

VII. Dean's Meeting Recap

- This one went very well. Check out the notes.
- We have to stay on the facilities promises because this will really affect the student body.

VIII. Professor Evaluations (2L Rep Adam Saper)

- What is done about professors who say things that are offensive (racist, homophobic, etc.)? Seems like nothing is done. Why? What can we do about this? Randy Hertz said that they read every single one of these comments. If this is true, why do some professors consistently receive disturbing reviews with no punishment or accountability?
- Please see comments on file with the secretary.
- Action on this topic is deferred to next week.

IX. Food Dumping

- Charlotte will help donate the leftover food from the various events that order food but don't eat all of it.

X. Stress Relievers

- Vanish is going to talk to the administration to get stress-relief toys in the library and Kushner.