# Committee on Budget and Finance

**Senate of the Associated Students, 85th Session**

**Minutes for Friday, April 21, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Joe Crowley Student Union Room 423**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm in room 423, fourth floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary was Secretary Cunneen.

1. ROLL CALL

Qourum was met

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

1. MINUTES

There are no minutes to be heard at this time.

1. OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business to be discussed at this time.

1. NEW BUSINESS
2. Election of a Vice Chair

The Committee on Budget and Finance will nominate and elect a Vice-Chair for the Committee on Budget and Finance.

Kuykendall: The duties of vice chair, assuming duties of chair in their absence, distribute paper, perform all other duties related to assisting the chair, etc.

Becker: Nominates Senator Thummel for the position of vice chair.

Thummel: Accepted the nomination.

Thummel: Gave a speech stating his qualifications for being vice chair. He had served as a treasurer for his fraternity and served on the committee for Budget and Finance while he was an intern. Thummel stated that he would be more than willing to accept taking over the role of duties for the chair, willing to assist the chair in any task such as posting documents and making the agenda, as well as with the budget. Thummel had met with Senator Kuykendall and with Director Rodriguez about the vice chair position and decided that Senator Thummel would be well versed to serve this committee.

After Senator Thummel finished his speech, Senator Kuykendall asked Senator Thummel to leave the room while the committee opened up the floor for a general discussion.

 *Thummel left the room at 1:05 pm*

Becker: Believes that Senator Thummel is very good for the position of vice chair and thinks that Senator Thummel would be a good compliment to the chair, Senator Kuykendall.

Mall: Stated that Senator Thummel’s experience as treasurer in his chapter could be very helpful to the duties he needs to be able to complete as vice chair.

Senator Kuykendall seeks a motion to approve, Senator Smith moves to approve the motion of Senator Thummel for vice chair. The motion was seconded by Senator Mall. The committee moves to vote. Motion carries.

*Thummel reenters at 1:07*

Senator Thummel is now the vice chair for Budget and Finance.

1. Committee Goals

The Committee on Budget and Finance will set future goals to work on throughout the year.

Senator Kuykendall asked the senators to come up with goals for the Budget and Finance committee to serve as a guide for the direction the senators believe the committee should go.

Senator Becker: “Can we think about what goals we want?”

Senator Kuykendall: “Absolutely, keep in mind what you want to see out of this committee and how to achieve the goals.”

Senator Becker: “Do we need any more roles for transparency?”

Senator Kuykendall: “Transparency is already established in meetings.”

Senator Becker: “It doesn’t have to be transparency in meetings, but in regards to the university, do you think our transparency and communication is fair?”

Senator Kuykendall said that the committee can look into assigning designation committee members to go out and speak and provide information to students who may not be aware of the plans that the committee has.

Senator Thummel pointed out that a responsibility of the committee would be to ask the manager of the wolf shop to come and report on operations of the wolf shop. Senator Thummel suggested that the committee could have someone stay in communication with the wolf shop manager to know what is going on.

Senator Becker, said that any service on campus that is related to Budget and Finance contribute funds directly to the committee, except for the wolf shop.

Senator Kuykendall said that the committee will be reviewing all of the organization’s budget reviews, and that the committee will handle the budgets for various organizations. He also said that the committee will meet with the different organizations and clubs and they can present their budgets for the upcoming year. The committee can also try to set goals for improving communication with the organizations.

Senator Thummel said that the senators should review the budget prior to meetings so that they are well versed and have a lot to talk about.

Senator Kuykendall said that everyone will be able to see the break down of the budget and have access to it. He reiterated that the senators should review the budget beforehand so everyone is aware of what is going on. The committee will hold a meeting on Thursday so that the proposed budget can get to the senate table sooner.

Becker: is this a part of meeting that we would discuss timing for meeting? Conflict on Thursday

Senator Kuykendall has been trying to figure out the best times for senators to meet, but not all of the senators have replied yet.

Senator Becker mentioned that the committee has a responsibility to talk to the organizations and bring the proposed budget to the people.

Senator Thummel restated that it would be beneficial for the committee to have someone that talks directly to the wolf shop manger. He also restated that it is important to reviewing the budget beforehand and ask appropriate questions.

Senator Becker stated that the committee is supposed to report the budget to the senate session. Senator Becker asked if there was anyone else that the committee needed to report the budget to?

Senator Kuykendall said that the committee isn’t obligated to report the budget to anyone else besides that senate.

Director Rodriguez said that the directors report to the Budget and Finance committee. She stated that the Budget and Finance committee is the most powerful committee, and that the committee has administration reporting directly to them. Director Rodriguez stated that the budget and Finance committee is responsible for making the budget benefit the students, and responsible for figuring out where the money is supposed to go in the budget. She also stressed that it was important for committee members who haven’t responded to Senator Kuykendall about meeting times should do so soon.

Senator Mall added on to what Director Rodriguez was saying by reminding the senators to keep in mind that if every student received $5 dollars, it could positively affect their educational experience, every dollar counts.

Senator Kuykendall agreed with Senator Mall that every dollar matters, so appropriately funding the budget is so important because the committee doesn’t want to negatively affect the students.

1. S.B. 85 - An Act to Make Revisions to the FY17 Budget

The Committee will read and debate the piece of legislation. The Committee may edit the piece of legislation as it sees fit. The Committee may decide to report favorably, unfavorably, take no action, or refer the legislation to another committee.

Senator Kuykendall stated that tuition requires additional funding, so the reserve line will be lowered by $1000 and the tuition support line be increased by $1000. Senator Kuykendall seeks a motion to favorable approve the bill. Senator Thummel moves to favorably approve the bill to senate. Seconded by Senator Mall.

Senator Kuykendall opens up the floor for a general discussion.

Senator Becker wants to clarify what the additional $1000 will cover?

Senator Kuykendall said that its like a scholarship to students; one student is currently without scholarship money that was supposed to be given to them.

Director Rodriguez said that the additional $1000 is increasing the academic initiatives account and the emergency tuition program. She said that a few years ago, ASUN made a tuition program, so if something happened to students that made students unable to continue paying for tuition, there would be extra money for those students. It was a program that put money together for catastrophic situations to be given to students. All year long they hear cases of students that have bad situations happen to them, the last student to come for help was $1000 short, so the student could not be helped, which is why we want to increase the account by $1000

Senator Becker asked if we want to have the decrease show up?

Senator Kuykendall said that we can’t just create $1000, we have to move it from somewhere. The reserve line is optimal because it doesn’t affect organizations.

Senator Kuykendall moved the committee into a vote and the motion carried

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Rodriguez asked if she can sow the senators how to access information on the NAS? Changes can be automatically be taken from reserve line, so that the budget is always in balance. The NAS box is very important. Hit the continue button. Login in with your NetID, go to ASUN senate, then go to ASUN 85th senate, find Budget and Finance, and everything you will need has been has been broken down for you. All the senators should everything they are working on in there.

Senator Kuykendall said that when he was logging in with his NetID, you could choose affiliated or not affiliated, he has to choose not affiliated

Director Rodriguez said that apparently a lot of people are having that happen to them. She asked if the senators can atleast access you access the NAS.

Senator Kuykendall said he can’t access it.

Senator Mall suggested that he might have to fill out the work form.

Director Rodriguez said when the president reports the budget to you, there is information on everything, and breakdowns, and additional breakdowns of where funds are going. You’re going to find everything you need in here. You need to review this before the meeting next week. Data for pack internship program is also on there. What isn’t updated is Center for Student Engagement data, staff should work with student directors so this is as up to date as possible. Most complicated account is center for student engagement. $15,000 goes to technology advances, all administrative salaries, $9,000 for copy expenses, photocopying of what is printed. Go through everything prior to meetings.

Senator Thummel wants to clarify if the senators should review the justifications for our meeting?

Director Rodriguez said that they do so that they understand why president Teixeira wants you to fund the budget this way. We have simplified budgets going back years, all financial agreements going back to 1997. The agreements that the past committees have entered into have provided some amazing things to the school. Get a feel of the importance of the association. We don’t have an agreement for every expenditure, but you should get familiar with agreements that are made. Find out what you can about agreements, make sure to log out. Initially, when you said moved to approve senate bill 85, it will actually become senate bill 85-01, when you back to finalize the bill, you will put a section number on the bill once it is approved.

1. ADJOURNMENT
Adjournment at 1:37 pm.

NOTES

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend the meeting. Please call the Speaker of the ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.