

# Student Senate Appropriations Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 11/8/2016

**Meeting Time:** 4:00 pm

**Meeting Location:** Kirkhof Center Room 2201

**Chair:** Rachel Travis

**Advisor:** Valerie Guzman

**Board Members Present:** Aminah Muhammad, Quinn Gardner, Mathew Criado-Cano, Carly Aller, Deja Broaden, Tyler Szymkowski

## 1) Opening of Meeting

- a) Meeting Called to Order
- b) Committee Introductions
- c) Organization Role Call

## 2) Hearing of Requests

- a) **Requesting Organization:** Alternate Realities Gaming Club

**Title of Request:** Club Games Equipment

**Date of Activity:** N/A

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Joshua Callison

**Amount Requested:** \$240.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$240.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Every fall semester, the club tries to get members interested in buying new games. The organization then went through and described each game to the board. It was questioned if the members of the organization have to pay membership fees. The answer was no-membership is completely free to GV students. All funds come in with occasional fundraising and due to the appropriations board. The storage of the games was also put into question. They are currently stored in Kirkhof in a cabinet, where only the eboards are able to access them. The board then asked what types of games constituted the collection, and the organization replied that they are mostly board games. The board asked how this funding/ the club in general

would be benefiting GV, and the club responded that the club allows GV students to take a break from academics and busy life. It allows students to stop and have fun with the games. The organization explained that there are currently about 25 active members in the club. They have about 150 plus board game sin their collection, and in order to decide on what games to play each night, they poll their members on Facebook. VP Travis mentioned that with equipment requests, the board looks to make sure that the request reflects the values of the club, and in this case, it does.

**Motion to:** Pass the request in full

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

X FINAL  Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**b) Requesting Organization:** GVSU STAGE

**Title of Request:** Student One Act Plays Equipment

**Date of Activity:** N/A

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Luke Gwizdala

**Amount Requested:** 300.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$0.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** This group is primarily for non-theatre student majors that still wish to be involved with theatre. The funding being requested is meant for SPAM plays. The funds will be used to purchase props that the group does not have currently. The props will be used in shows that take place on 2 nights in December. It was questioned how much the members pay as far as membership fees or dues, and the answer was that membership in the club is free. The show times were then questioned by VP Travis, and the group responded that the shows will most likely be around 7pm. The items that the group is requesting will most likely be purchased from stores around the area or online. Valerie brought up that the board typically looks for an itemized list of items for purchase. She suggested that the board might want to table the request or approve pending the list. It was also brought up that the group needs to figure out where they will be storing the props. The organization explained that most of the props were smaller items or clothes, and they will fit into small plastic bins. The situation with the request is unique because the group is still gauging the full prop list with the directors.

**Motion to:** Table the request until next week in order to have a full list of props needed.

4 OR 0 AGAINST 1 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

FINAL x Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**c) Requesting Organization:** GV Swing Dance Club

**Title of Request:** Holiday Swing Dance

**Date of Activity:** 8/12/2016

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Adam Pierson

**Amount Requested:** \$414.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$414.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Funding is being requested for the "Fancy Pants Holiday Dance." This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest dance event for the Swing Dance club after President Ball. This event is a good time for students to take a break from school and other commitments and have fun. The organization has already decided on providing their own promotions for the event. People will probably come and go from the event, and the dance may see anywhere from 40 to 70 students throughout the night. There is no formal dress code for this event, students can wear whatever they wish. In the club, there are currently 30 active members, but for this dance, there is a huge influx of non-members. The timing of this event is good, because it is right before finals week, and there will be a lot of foot traffic through Kirkhof with Exam Cram. The board mentioned that the price per head for food at 5 dollars was also very reasonable.

**Motion to:** Approve request in full

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

X FINAL  Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**d) Requesting Organization:** Meeting Professionals International

**Title of Request:** The Palace Panel Discussion and VIP Detroit Piston Experience

**Date of Activity:** 1/27/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Bre'onna Raymo

**Amount Requested:** \$1360

**Amount Allocated:** \$172.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** The organization began by explaining that they are a club through the Hospitality program at GVSU. The chapter focuses on sports in hospitality specifically. The funding is being requested for a motor coach in order to attend a Detroit Pistons Panel Discussion. Through this event, members would be getting more insight on business, promotions, and everything that will eventually be presented in the game. The board raised the point that they normally do not cover parking for groups when traveling. The group then were prompted and explained that they did realize vans were a viable option, but they were concerned with safety when driving in January weather, and opted for the motor coach instead. There are 30 students expected to come, and but the group did not have the list of students planning on attending. VP Travis pointed out that this was actually fine, because the amount of people in this case would not affect the travel expenses. The only cost that group members are paying for this event is \$35 for the tickets. The choice of motor coach was questioned again by the board, and it was clarified that there are some members over 21 in the group, but they were all concerned about driving in January conditions. The board expressed that it would be hard to justify funding a 50-seated coach for 30 students. Although it may not be the safest option, and taking into account that the group is only driving two hours to their destination, it is simply not financially justifiable. There was a motion to deny in full, but there were no seconds on the motion.

**Motion to:** Strike line item 2 and adjust line item 1 to \$172.00 (to cover the GV 15 person vans that Student Life offers)

6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

X FINAL  Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**e) Requesting Organization:** Alpha Kappa Psi Co-Ed Business Fraternity

**Title of Request:** Alpha Kappa Psi Cocktail/Banquet

**Date of Activity:** 11/19/2016

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Jake Kendall

**Amount Requested:** \$1530.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$366

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Money is being requested for a cocktail hour event for pledges after a 6-7 week process with the organization. This event would showcase members and expand recruiting and marketing. Their process will be presented in this event. There is a banquet portion that is to follow the cocktail hour that is meant to appreciate pledges and their families. Food will be presented in a business manner,

which is why they are requesting additional funding for it. It was clarified by the group that table cloths (\$32) are being counted in the decorations category and not in catering. The group does have a cage in Seidman to store extra decorations. Valerie made the point that we would like to see an itemized list for the decorations category. Concerns were also raised about the amount of food requested for the event. VP Travis questioned if this event was actually open to all GV students, and not just an induction event. This was contested. The group explained that this event is a big deal for marketing their group and for networking between members and alumni. 60 or more GV students will be attending this event. The point was raised that when food is funded, it is meant to be integral to the event, and the board looks for a low cost per head. At the current funding amounts, the food is at \$16 a head, which is very expensive. In past years, the group did provide its own food, but it was hoping for an easier, more professional looking route this year. Additionally, this event is the Saturday before Thanksgiving break, so that might cause some dips in attendance. Again, the point was raised that this may seem like a more exclusive event. The group argued that this event would be more of a showcase, and that there is a separate event for induction of members. This event would almost be a meet and greet to present the brotherly aspect of the fraternity and to market it to the public who the group is. The board then discussed funding the meet and greet portion, but not the dinner.

**Motion to:** Cut line item 2, and adjust line item 1 to \$316. The adjusted total is \$366.

5 FOR 0 AGAINST 1 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

X FINAL  Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly

**f) Requesting Organization:** Phi Chi Theta

**Title of Request:** Professional Development Trip

**Date of Activity:** 1/2/2017-1/7/2017

**Name(s) of Presenter(s):** Nick Weatherholt

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00

**Amount Allocated:** \$2000.00

**Narrative description of presentation/discussion and details on what was approved or unapproved in the request:** Phi Chi Theta is requesting funding to help fund this professional development trip. One pillar of the organization is for professional development, and the group will be visiting different area, touring multiple grad schools, and really exposing members to what else is out there besides GV. The trip will be 3 nights and 4 days long. The costs were all broken down on a spreadsheet that was dispersed. Costs for the trip included \$7000 for hotels, \$3100 for minivans, \$100 expected from each member, \$3000 from fundraising, \$2000 from Seidman, and

hopefully \$2000 from appropriations. The group explained that they chose mini vans over 15 passenger vans because they cannot guaranteed that there will be enough drivers for each van. However, there are enough drivers for the minivans (18 and older). It was then clarified that there was the same ratio of drivers to vans for both scenarios, but the group just does not trust the 21 year old drivers enough. The board debated whether or not this was a viable excuse, and finally, VP Travis suggested that group think of the request for the hotel prices instead, in order to avoid controversy.

**Motion to:** pass request in full, noting that the funding will be used to pay for hotel costs

5 FOR 1 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

**The allocation recommendation is:**

X FINAL  Pending Referral to Student Senate General Assembly