AMS Finance Committee Minutes
Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver
Feb 4, 2022 at 1:00 PM PST
@ https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91667532872

Attendance
Members Present:
Francesca Kohn (SaL), Rita Jin (Staff), Cole Evans, Mary Gan, Keith Hester

Members Absent:
Juliane Jou (SaL), Emily Covell (Staff), Archives Assistants, Kamil Kanji, Aryan Mishra, Mitchell Prost

I. Adoption of the Agenda
   BIRT the agenda is adopted as presented
   N/A

II. Approval of Minutes
   BIRT the January 28th, 2022 Finance Committee meeting minutes are approved as presented
   👇 January 28th, 2022 AMS Finance Committee Minutes.pdf
   N/A

III. AMS Budget Discussions: Student Council, Ancillary Services, Elections
   👇 AMS Budget 2021-22 Revised.xlsx

Mary: Could you go over the four changes on the election budget since they are very significant jumps.

Varsha: To increase turnout, we want to make sure engagement-wise we are solid. For the promotion budget, we plan to host two major events this time. This has not been done by previous committees. Hosting one event is ~$4k so we need at least $8k to create 2 good events. Promotions usually falls under giveaways or small social media posts. Since we’ve added this and we plan to do giveaways, we have asked for this change. So increased $7k in promotions. For photocopying, we have moved into offline again so we want to make sure advertising is shifted to offline as well (so $1k increase for posters for events, candidate bios, voting periods, etc.). For candidate refunds, usually they get $300 if they are running for 1 position or $600 if they are running for 2, so we simply made it $450 to be more fair. For miscellaneous, we added some for buffer in case expenses fall out of expectations.
Mary: Can I get more information on the 2 events you mentioned?

Varsha: First one is hosted on the 11th in the Gallery (Semi-Formal Event for current AMS Executives, student body, and nominees). This is $4k in itself. For the second event, we plan to host a more major Gala on the 11th which will be cost more. You would only be able to attend if you have voted.

Mary: The most important part is to get people to come and vote instead of a post-voting celebration. So maybe focus on promoting the elections so people can respond and vote.

Keith: You can do a sponsored post on Facebook to promote the events!

Varsha: Yes, we are already doing that.

Mary: More focus on running/voting in elections rather than a celebration might be better. Also, for miscellaneous, we typically budget into a more specific line instead of miscellaneous. Miscellaneous is usually put as zero and the budget is put into a more specific budget code instead.

Varsha: Most fees come from advertising and promotions line so we could put it there.

Mary: Whatever expenses you project to spend from miscellaneous, we can allocate the $2k into another line.

Varsha: Yes, we can put it into office supplies. That is fine.

Mary: Okay, for Council, so the changes are food and refreshments, social engagement survey, and legal fees.

Cole: The legal fees include the expenses in the last year so it would be $40k.

Mary: Do you want to change legal expenses to $40k?

Cole: Well, they occurred in fiscal year 2021 but were billed later so it will be more reflective of the actual expenses.