



Albany Law School
STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes

Date: January 17th, 2024

Room: 200

Time: 7:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Welcome/Introduction
- b. Roll Call for Quorum: Set at #20
 - i. -/24 Members Present
 1. Meg Tylenda
 2. Max Sevor
 3. Ashlyn Henrichs
 4. Natalie Turney
 5. Jonathan Stein
 6. Michael Wood
 7. Julia Vavrinec
 8. Jack Rainey
 9. Stephen Giorgianni
 10. Alice Hollocher
 11. Chloe Kangarlu
 12. Azad Kurd
 13. Mitch Whittaker
 14. Katie Pedlow *ABSENT*
 15. Colin Baker *ABSENT*
 16. Mitch Spaulding
 17. Dean Kaknis
 18. Taylor Alimari
 19. Noah Jacobs
 20. Ben Jacobs
 21. Olivia Vecchio
 22. Madeleine Jones
 23. Veronica Esteves
 24. TBD

II. OPEN FORUM

- a. **Selection of the 1L President.**
 - i. Hearing was held at 6:30pm, 10 minutes to address the senate before voting (*president to be voted on by the existing senate*) followed by Q&A
 1. Jack wins rock-paper-scissors and is first to present, then Alice.
 2. **Jack Rainey has been elected the new 1L president, Congrats!**

b. Student Activity Fee.

- i. This was presented to the board of Trustees with \$10 increase proposal, the board would like to increase the fee for next year, but not this semester. The board asks SBA to have another discussion to consider creating a resolution of \$15 for the increase due to functioning on a deficit. Encourages discussion of this and for SBA members to have these conversations and to think about fiduciary duties for the good of the organization. This is based on discussion with the Trustees, Victor Rauscher, Dean Taranto, and others.

III. BYLAWS & BILLS

a. Bill #040

- i. The Spring 2024 Suspension of the Common Law Grounds Charter
 1. Per bylaws, this org is up for suspension- but can be restarted another time. The E-Board graduated; no new e-board elected.

b. Bill #041

- i. The Spring 2024 Suspension of the Real Estate Society Charter
 1. Per bylaws, this org is up for suspension- but can be restarted another time.

IV. BUDGET

a. Budget due THIS FRIDAY JAN. 19th!!!

- b. Budget presentations by orgs and meeting to be held on FEBRUARY 4th !!!

V. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution #004, Spring Budget

- i. The purpose of this Resolution is to set aside a set amount of funding for new organizations created after the February 4, 2024, Budget Meeting, and to set aside a sum of money that organizations may request to access for appeals and emergency funding if deemed necessary.

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE- *nothing to report.*
- b. FINANCE COMMITTEE- *met yesterday to go over instructions for how to look at funding requests in prep for committee review on 1/27 -shoutout to Stephen and Justin Aragona for joining the committee for this review as ex officio members to help us and ensure better student body representation for this review -guidelines for how to review proposals*
- c. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE- *working on hosting Multicultural Cabaret, to be held during diversity week in March.*
- d. ETHICS COMMITTEE- *nothing to report.*
- e. EVENTS COMMITTEE- *setting meeting, nothing to report.*
- f. ELECTION COMMITTEE- *congrats Jack, thank you Alice. Next week will start IL senator election. Following, there will be elections for next year.*

- g. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE- *first meeting next week.*
- h. TRANSITION COMMITTEE – *nothing to report.*
- i. ALUMNI COMMITTEE- *setting meeting with alumni office, nothing to report.*

VII. SENATE REPORTS

a. EXECUTIVE BOARD

- i. President Max Sevor – *held a meeting over break with student leaders re: combining events and creating larger events with more attendance. Please take the Cost-of-Living Survey!!!! Think future forward- e-board to make transition binders to transition more smoothly. Meeting with the national alumni association and is happy to bring forward concerns: Natalie Turney asks to speak on job openings and employment, prep or even mentorship from them would be very beneficial. Noah Jacobs asks for more private practice connections. Veronica Esteves asks to bring up diversity and inclusion efforts. Max stresses collaboration and working together within the law school. Lastly, the budget meeting is upcoming so prepare accordingly, excited for the changes and the process for the meeting.*
- ii. Vice President Noah Jacobs – *encourage people to run, but you cannot endorse candidates.*
- iii. Treasurer Meg Tylanda – **SEE FINANCE REPORT INCLUDED IN EMAIL**; *-led student leadership meeting and held individual meetings with leaders that had class/work conflicts, went well -it is estimated that we spent/earmarked just over \$61,000 -we will be starting spring 2024 with about \$16,000 less than we started with in fall 2023 but still financially sound; student activity fee was not raised -I have a short report with all requests, allocations, and expenditures for the fall that I'd like to send out to the student body with minutes in an effort to be transparent — student body saw requests and allocation with the budget bill but I feel that students should also see the spending that resulted from these decisions to know how much is actually spent after our deliberations -we have received 5 requests already, yay!*
- iv. Secretary Ashlyn Henrichs– *end of year and welcome back socials survey; budget meeting food preferences/dietary restrictions.*

b. SENATE REPORTS

- i. Third Year President Natalie Turney- *thank you for voting on Farewell party contracts- May 17th, everything is booked and looking into décor.*
- ii. Second Year President Jonathan Stein – *Barristers is happening; looking into finalizing menu and thankful for the support. Expect to release tickets in the next couple of weeks.*
- iii. First Year President Jack Rainey – *thanks IL senate for patience and teamwork. Ready for a new semester and looking into hosting a BBQ.*

- iv. ABA Senator Mitchell Spaulding – *nothing to report.*
 - v. ACBA Senator Colin Baker – *there is a new executive director of ACBA, so there are plans to reach out and schedule a meeting with them.*
 - vi. Diversity Senator Azad Kurd – *nothing to report.*
 - vii. NYSBA Senator Mitchell Whittaker – *nothing to report.*
Spring Start Senator Olivia Vecchio – *plans on meeting with the spring starts and providing resources.*
- c. FACULTY REPORTS
- i. Dean Taranto – *nothing to report.*

MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 18-1-0, PASSES

VIII. *EXECUTIVE SESSION*

- a. **BYLAWS & BILLS**
 - i. Bill #040- Suspension of Common Law Grounds
 - 1. Motion: to approve
 - 2. Status: SECONDED, 19-0-0, **PASSES**
 - 3. Reasoning: -
 - ii. Bill #041- Suspension of the Real Estate Society
 - 1. Motion: to approve
 - 2. Status: SECONDED, 19-0-0, **PASSES**
 - 3. Reasoning: -
- b. **RESOLUTIONS**
 - i. Resolution #004- Spring Budget
 - 1. Motion: to approve
 - 2. Status: SECONDED, 19-0-1, **PASSES**
 - 3. Reasoning: -
- c. **MEETING TIME**
 - i. Vote to officially have **biweekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30pm**
 - 1. Motion: to approve
 - 2. Status: SECONDED, 19-1-0, **PASSES**
 - 3. Reasoning: -

MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 16-0-0, PASSES

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Please check the SBA website.
- b. **PLEASE** fill out the cost-of-living survey that was sent out- it correlates to scholarship considerations and other important things.
- c. Tuesday Night there will be a hockey game at Albany Academy.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. None.

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. The budget meeting will be held all day February 4, 2024 beginning at 8 am and will go all day.
- b. The next regular SBA meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2024, at 7:30 PM in Room 200.

XII. ADJOURNEMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED, 19-0-0, PASSES