

Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry
RM 1430 (Student Union Building)
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, B.C V5A 1S6



SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA)
[May 12th, 2023 - 5:30 PM]

ATTENDEES: Laury, Emmanuel, Alison, Amina, Oromiya, Yaye, Ruki, Richard, Claire, Gloria, Daisy, Mary(Temp. Staff Support)

MEETING AGENDA

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SOCA recognizes we are situated on the unceded territories Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam, Kwikwetlem, Squamish and Tsleil-waututh and we recognize the importance of this acknowledging that this land has never been granted, surrendered nor sold to any government but taken by force.

ROUNDS

(Name, Something about yourself that's not known to everyone, Access needs)

- Laury: She/her, Access needs met. I love to sleep
- Richard: He/him, Access needs met,
- Ruki: He/Him, Likes to sleep
- Daisy: She/Her, Access needs met, double jointed
- Gloria: She/her, access needs met, bookworm
- Oromiya: She/her, access needs met,
- Allison: He/Him, access needs met, I love to draw
- Claire: She/Her, Access needs met,
- Evans: He/him, Double Jointed
- Emmanuel: He/him, Access needs met, likes to travel
- Akuol, access needs met, likes trying new restaurants and food

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **April 6th - General Meetings Minutes [APPROVED]**
- **[Agenda] Meeting Minutes, April 6th, 2023**

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND ACTION ITEMS FOLLOW UP

- President
 - - Getting the team ready for the semester
 - Planning for the retreat alongside Amina & Yaye
 - Supporting the team with onboarding.

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- Planning the events for the year
- Wrapping up the previous fiscal year
- Vice President
 - Meeting with staff,
 - Team retreats, onboarding
 - Attended SOCA/Academic Advising meeting
 - Spoke with history professors about the hiring of new black history professor
 - Reading emails
- External Relations Officer
 - Working on Career Night with Marie
 - Planning to have the event during the fall semester
 - Hoping to have a career night series throughout the month of september
 - Doing a law, med, and microsoft night
 - Need to figure out locations for the events
- Internal Relations Officer:
 - Retreat and onboarding for council
- Secretary
 - Learning how to prepare newsletters and minute
- Treasurer (and Finances report)
 - Signed off on the transfer of bank signatories
 - Planning on the Caribbean party with Kwame
 - Accounts balances and in and out flows (trust, levy fund, soca core, staff department line item, scotiabank, outstanding/upcoming grants):
 - Trust: \$36
 - Levy: \$65830.50
 - Soca CG core fund: \$675
 - Staff Dept Levy: \$
 - Scotiabank (external): \$4489.13
 - Grant funding \$-
 - Cheques to be signed (include Motions Date and Number approved and person to reimburse):
 - Cheque requisitions to be done
- Events Coordinator
 - Talked about Catch Ah Vybz
 - Looked for appropriate social events such as hiking, PNE etc
- First Year Rep (No Regrets Sent)
- Grad Rep - Vacant
- FIC Rep - Vacant
- ITO - Daisy
- Execs at large

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Claire:

- Worked with Mary on service fair
- Akuol
- Discussed with Mary about arts and crafts events in the SOCA Space

Amina

- Working on retreat!
- Other Assigned Members and Item

REPORT ON SPECIFIC MATTERS

- [Matter 1]
- [Matter 2]

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Summer Outing
 - PNE

Biking around the seawall **All agreed on biking**

Bowling

Hiking

Emmanuel - There might be enough funds for two events (PNE is also popular so might be under consideration)

- Fast X Movie
 - June 2nd
 - Oromiya suggested the Little Mermaid
 - Ruki suggested Across the Spiderverse producing some discord
 - Allison suggested Oppenheimer
 - The conclusion by unanimous decision is to watch Fast X on June 2nd
- Food list should be updated, please brainstorm
 - Laury suggests bread, bagels, cheese and salami (Halal too) while pointing out we have a toaster
 - Richard suggests turkey slices
 - Laury: Ice cream, ice lollies, icicles
 - Coffee, Tea, Coffee Creamers, Oat milk (Plant-based milk)
 - Granola Bars, Yogurt Cups,
 - Choc chip cookies cashew nuts, groundnuts
- Furniture Space Decoration Layout
- Chair positioning might pose a health hazard so there's discussion of moving one of them
- Yaye suggest we get rid of the piano due to the fact that it needs to be returned and not worth the cost of it and Akuol supports

- Laury suggests a standing mirror
- Richard suggests we get rid of the center rug, is disgusted by its age and dustiness, and raises the point it might trigger allergies, Laury supports
- BHM Managing Books
 - Laury informs Ruki that he is required to sort through some books located underneath the piano to decide which to keep and which to give back to SFU
- Lounge Events
 - Askes a bunch of execs what they would like to do for the pace. Wants to do it regularly. For example, every Thursday. Painting, Drawing, Movies,
 - Weekly events such as Arts and crafts, crotchet,
 - Board Games like monopoly, cards, chess
- Engagement with SOCA BSSC Coordinator Mary Phan
 - Meet with her more often, She is aware that she is not black or African but is willing to help and would like to be emailed.
 - Engaging, guiding and support within the role
 - More interaction with her, as she is new and learning in the role

- Fridge Donation

The fridge has been asked to be donated to another student group that needs it.

Would like to donate it to someone who deserves it instead of doing it on a first come first serve basis.

The fridge could possibly be given away to a student, to SFSS (who mentioned they may be in need of a fridge)

- ASA re-activation
- There has been some prior discussion about restarting the ASA.
- ASA needs to have a nominating committee to run elections. But it's not a big deal to run elections.
- How do we move forward with starting the club?
- To restart the club we need to find willing people who need to be vetted by the previous exec team

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- SFSS guidelines require at least 3 execs, and 10 members to restart the club, the new members would have to recruit themselves. If Soca could help with that, it would be great. Soca is definitely willing to help
- SOCA and ASA seemingly serve the same purpose and group of people. Students raised in the African continent and students raised off it may have a divide, the ASA serves the needs of African students

The ASA wanted its own initiatives because it felt that there was a division between those who came from Africa and those born here. They wanted their voice represented because they felt like that wasn't the case.

There might be a bit of overlap between SOCA and ASA members.

.Soca is a CG so that means we are responsible for all black students on Campus. We are obligated to provide support for them regardless or not if they are a SOCA member.

We wish the new ASA members luck. Allison being a SOCA exec would be ineligible for ASA exec positions due to a conflict of interest although membership is acceptable

COMMITTEE AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- Social Justice and Advocacy Committee: Responsible for campaigns and Activism for “the black community” like anti-racism workshops
- Cultural Events Committee
Daisy
Gloria
- Parties and Pub Night Committee
Daisy
- BSSC Committee
- Dance Team: organize dance workshops
- NSA
- SSA

MOTIONS

1. Access to 5k Budget via BIPOC Committee to Pay Down payment for the Retreat

Whereas, SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA) has organized a retreat at the ParkPlace Entire Villa on Chilliwack, British Columbia;

Whereas, the down payment for the retreat is \$4,093.30;

Whereas, the SFSS Council BIPOC Committee has granted SOCA a budget of 5k to be allocated for the retreat;

Whereas, using the 5k budget to pay for the down payment of the retreat would allow SOCA to secure the venue for the retreat;

Be it resolved that SOCA has access to the 5k budget allocated by the SFSS Council BIPOC Committee to pay for the down payment for the ParkPlace Entire Villa for the SOCA retreat;

Be it further resolved that SOCA will communicate the allocation of the budget to the SFSS Council BIPOC Committee and provide updates on the retreat planning process;

Moved by [Amina] / seconded by [Gloria]

CARRIED unanimously

2. Clean out SFU SOCA's SUB 1432

Whereas, the SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry's (SOCA) Student Union Building (SUB) space 1432 is in need of clearing out and organizing;

Whereas, the Executive at Large(s) and Secretary have expressed their willingness to take the necessary time to either move, replace, or get rid of objects within the space;

Whereas, the SOCA Student Union Building (SUB) space 1432 is an important resource for SOCA members and should be maintained and kept organized;

Be it resolved that the SOCA Student Union Building (SUB) space 1432 be cleared out and organized by the Executive at Large(s) and Secretary;

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Be it further resolved that the Executive at Large(s) and Secretary will take the necessary time to either move, replace, or get rid of objects within the space as needed;

Moved by [Claire] / seconded by [Richard]

There needs to be a time set to clear out and organize the room

CARRIED unanimously

3. Monthly Bulk Purchases for SOCA Snacks, Refreshments, and Other Food/Drink Items

Whereas, the SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry's (SOCA) Student Union Building (SUB) space is an important resource for SOCA members and is frequently used for meetings, events, and social gatherings;

Whereas, it would be beneficial to have a consistent supply of snacks, refreshments, and other food/drink items available in the space for SOCA members to enjoy;

Whereas, the Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan has expressed her willingness to help purchase, in bulk, snacks, refreshments, and other food/drink items from places such as Costco, Walmart Superstore, etc when needed

Be it resolved that SOCA allows for monthly bulk purchases of snacks, refreshments, and other food/drink items for the SOCA Student Union Building (SUB) space as needed;

Be it further resolved that Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator, Mary Phan, is permitted to purchase, in bulk, snacks, refreshments, and other food/drink items from places such as Costco, Walmart, Superstore, etc once requested to;

Be it further resolved that the cost of purchases for the space will be reimbursed by SOCA to whoever makes purchases including Mary Phan whenever she helps do monthly space shopping upon presentation of receipts;

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Be it further resolved that the money reimbursed for monthly space shopping will be from the SOCA Operational and Administrative budget, from the Food and Beverage for SOCA Space Line item # 76, Account #815/45

Be it further resolved that this motion be communicated to all SOCA members and that they are encouraged to make use of the snacks, refreshments, and other food/drink items available in the space.

Moved by [Oromiya] / seconded by [Yaye]

CARRIED unanimously

4. Donation of Fridge to SFSS Clubs, SFSS Constituency Groups, SFSS Departmental Student Unions, SFSS Student Association

Whereas, SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA) has an extra fridge that is not being fully utilized;

Whereas, there are SFU student groups such as SFSS Clubs, SFSS Constituency Groups, SFSS Departmental Student Unions, or SFSS Student Association that may benefit from having a fridge for their events and activities;

Whereas, SOCA believes in supporting and collaborating with other student groups on campus;

Be it resolved that SOCA donates its extra fridge to SFSS Clubs, SFSS Constituency Groups, SFSS Departmental Student Unions, or SFSS Student Association;

Be it further resolved that the donation of the fridge will be based on a first-come, first-served basis and will be available for pickup at a mutually agreed-upon time;

Be it further resolved that SOCA will communicate the availability of the fridge donation to SFSS Clubs, SFSS Constituency Groups, SFSS Departmental Student Unions, or SFSS Student Association through official SFSS channels.

Moved by [] / seconded by []

CARRIED or NOT CARRIED

5. Requesting Maintenance to Repair Any Damaged Furniture

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Whereas Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan has suggested that some furniture in the SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA) spaces need to repair due to safety concerns and to avoid any potential liabilities for all visitors in the space during events

Whereas, the Office Supplies/Room Maintenance Supplies Expense Account #815/45 in the SOCA Operational and Administrative Budget is designated for maintenance and repair of the SOCA Space

Be it resolved that the SOCA organization requests maintenance to repair any damages to the furniture in the SOCA space.

Be it further resolved that the amount of up to \$500 be used for the repair of damages from the Office Supplies/Room Maintenance Supplies Expense Account #815/45 in the SOCA Operational and Administrative Budget.

Moved by [Allison] / seconded by [Daisy]

CARRIED unanimously

6. Requesting a New SOCA Banner

Whereas, a new Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA) banner will enhance the visibility of the organization, attract new members, and promote the values and goals of the organization;

Whereas, SOCA's line item 74, the Physical Branding, Account Breakdown #815/45 in the SOCA Operational and Administrative Budget is designated for physical branding and promotional materials

Be it resolved that an amount of up to a maximum of \$500 be used to purchase a new banner from SOCA's line item 74, the Physical Branding, Account #815/45 in the SOCA Operational and Administrative Budget

Moved by [Daisy] / seconded by [Gloria]

CARRIED unanimously

7. Snacks or Accessories for Tabling

Whereas Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan suggests that we should give student/visitors who drop by our booths some snacks.

Whereas the SOCA Operational and Administrative budget has allocated funds for food and beverage expenses for SOCA space;

Be it resolved that the SOCA executives/membership approves a request for up to \$200 for snacks to be approved during event tabling, to be funded by the Food and Beverage for SOCA Space line item #76, Account #815/45 in the SOCA Operational and Administrative Budget;

Moved by [Allison] / seconded by [Yaye]

CARRIED unanimously

8. Office/Cleaning Supplies

Whereas Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan and Exec at Large would like to purchase the following items

Whereas the SOCA Office - SFSS related expenses budget has allocated funds for office supplies and expenses;

Be it resolved that the following items be purchased and kept in the space for regular use;

- Sanitizer (Lysol Wipes)
- Windex cleaner
- Stapler x 2
- Knives, spoons, folks, plates, bowls - 1 time use only
- Plants in the space - to make it look pretty
- Dry erase markers - preferably multiple colors
- trash bins

Be it further resolved that the SOCA executive/membership approves a request of up to \$200 for office cleaning supplies, to be funded via the Office

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Supplies/Expense line item #67, Account #820/45 in the SOCA Office -
SFSS-related expenses budget;

Moved by [Daisy] / seconded by [Laury]

CARRIED unanimously

9. Kettle Purchase Reimbursement

Whereas SOCA Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan was not able to purchase prior to the new fiscal due to the date of purchasing. Therefore the kettle purchase of \$56.77 will fall in the new fiscal year.

Whereas the SOCA executive/membership previously approved the reimbursement as per the motion minute on April 6th, 2023 from the last fiscal year

Be it resolved that reimbursement of \$56.77 comes from Contingency line item #85, Account # 886/45

Moved by [Alson] / seconded by [Gloria]

CARRIED unanimously

10. Wording for Honorarium

Whereas within the Levy Budget there is an honorarium line item used for paying performers, trainers and such.

Whereas there was confusion as to whether the events line item can be used for paying performers, trainers and such if the honorarium line item has been used up

Be it resolved that the SOCA Temporary Black Student Support Centre Coordinator Mary Phan and Treasurer, Alson Lema update the Levy Budget

spreadsheet to reflect in the description of the events line items in brackets that funds may be used to pay honorariums in respect to the event planned if the honorarium line item is used up.

Moved by [Oromiya] / seconded by [Yaye]

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CARRIED unanimously

11. SOCA's Space Campaign Poster

Whereas Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA) organization is committed to providing a safe and functional space for its members and visitors to the organization

Whereas a SOCA Space Campaign was launched in 2021 to fight for a physical space with the student union building

Whereas this Space Campaign poster is a part of our history and a highlight of the struggles that went into acquiring the SOCA BSSC Space and this campaign poster serves as a reminder of students' hardwork and commitment to the black community at SFU.

Whereas the line item #43 "General SOCA BSSC and Space Promotion" in Account #741/45 is designated for the promotion of the SOCA space.

Be it resolve that line item #43, General SOCA BSSC and Space Promotion Account #741/45 be used for the production of the poster with a maximum of \$250 to spend.

Be it further resolved that if the printing and framing of this poster exceeds \$250 that the remaining balance be covered from the SOCA's Trust Account.

Moved by [Chike] / seconded by [Allison]

CARRIED unanimously

12. Refreshments for General Meetings

Whereas there has been a concern to provide some form of refreshment for membership at meetings.

Whereas the SOCA BSSC Budget has a line for meeting vouchers and snacks

Be it resolved that SOCA approves an amount of \$1000 from the SOCA BSSC levy budget line item #82 "Meeting vouchers and Snacks" in Account #886/45 to be used to purchase snacks and drinks for meetings

Moved by [Gloria] / seconded by [Daisy] ban

CARRIED unanimously

13. Access to remaining Budget via BIPOC Committee to pay for “Per Head Fee”

Whereas SOCA needs to pay for the extra cost of a “per head fee” that comes with the payment of the retreat site, ParkPlace Entire Villa ;

Whereas, the SFSS Council BIPOC Committee has granted SOCA a budget of 5k to be allocated for the retreat;

Whereas, SOCA has already used \$4,093.30 and the remaining balance is \$906.7.

Be it resolved that the BIPOC Committee of the SFSS allocate funds from their remaining budget, to support the SOCA retreat.

Be it further resolved that the SOCA uses the rest of the fees allocated from the BIPOC Committee to pay for the remaining “Per Head Fee”

Moved by [Gloria] / seconded by [Ruki]

CARRIED unanimously

14. Request to use the Summer Retreat Line Item to pay for the remaining “Per Head Fee”

Whereas there is a potential that the “Per Head Fee” for the Park/Place Entire Villa Resort will exceed the amount the SFSS BIPOC Committee allocated towards Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry retreat.

Whereas the SOCA line item #18 “Summer Retreat” in Account #795/45 is designated for the proposed summer retreat.

Be it resolved that SOCA uses up to \$4000 of the SOCA line item #18 “Summer Retreat” in Account #795/45

Moved by [Alson], Seconded by [Laury]

CARRIED unanimously

15. Summer Catch Ah Vybz Finance

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Whereas Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry is having a Summer Catch Ah Vybez

Whereas the SOCA line item #20 "Summer Catch Ah Vybz" in Account #795/45 is designated for the Catch Ah Vybz event.

Be it resolved that SOCA uses up to \$2,000 from the SOCA line item #20 in Account #795/45 to purchase food and drinks for the event.

Moved by [Gloria] / seconded by [Amina]

CARRIED unanimously

16. Reimburse Laury for first meeting Pizza purchase

Whereas Laury purchased food for SOCA's first general meeting

Whereas there is a line item for providing food for general meetings

Be it resolved that Laury is reimbursed \$66.27 from the SOCA BSSC levy budget line item #82 "Meeting vouchers and Snacks" in Account #886/45

Moved by [Yaye] / seconded by [Oromiya]

CARRIED unanimously

ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

- Action Item for Regret- If Exec is missing a meeting, please send in your regret

OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS

1. Meetings should end by 7 pm sharp
2. Motions should be read by embers instead of by the meeting chair to speed up the process
3. Every member should be required to lead at least one meeting

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4. Excessive work hours constitute overtime which calls for overtime pay

Meeting Adjournment moved by [Alson] , Seconded

by [Chike] Meeting Adjourned at [7:41]