

**Constitutional Convention of FIU**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 19, 2023**

1. Student Body President Alexander P. Sutton called the meeting to order at 4:36PM

Name	Present/Absent
Alexander P. Sutton	Present
Mia Rodriguez	Present
Kaily LaChapelle	Present
Alisha Loiseau	Present
Alejandro Arzola	Absent
Brian Levine	Present
Bradley Cordero	Present
Natalie Martinez	Present
Peter Hernandez	Absent

Quorum was established.

2. Introductions
  - a. Everyone went around and introduced themselves to get to know each other
  - b. Some introductions brought up some initial ideas such as working off the Checks and Balances Bill previously introduced
3. Expectations
  - a. Alexander starts with sharing some expectations.
    - i. This is an introductory meeting.
    - ii. Meetings would likely be more productive if they are longer instead of an hour weekly during the work week.
    - iii. He proposes using some Saturdays or Sundays on campus to hold our meetings on these days in a longer format where lunch could be included.

- iv. Brian expressed that they have class on Saturdays so maybe Sundays.
  - v. Alisha also mentioned that Sunday would be a difficult day for her as well.
  - vi. When it comes to amending, we can take the whole document and redline its specific words or phrases.
  - vii. The goal is not to rewrite the entire thing but to improve certain processes to make them more democratic.
  - viii. Senate can vote on it as a whole once the convention passes the amendment proposal and the student body will vote on the revised Constitution as a whole instead of doing multiple amendments.
  - ix. Natalie asks if we are mass revising the Constitution and they would vote on the whole document.
    - 1. Alex answers that this is his vision.
  - x. A follow up centered around what happens if it fails.
    - 1. Ask Senate as to why they did.
    - 2. Reconvene as a convention and make those changes and send it back.
    - 3. Incorporating the voice of other SGA members
    - 4. Could also make proceedings open to the public or SGA officials.
    - 5. Confidentiality is likely not necessary on revisions, but we can discuss this later on as well.
    - 6. Considering how to amend the fact that any amendments must be added to.
  - b. Mia also shares some expectations.
    - i. Longer meetings will likely serve us best.
    - ii. When discussing leadership roles, please feel free to input or express if you would like to be Chair and any other ideas that involve this topic of discussion.
  - c. Kaily shares their expectations as well.
    - i. Not married to the legislation passed previously so any opinions are more than welcome!
    - ii. Brian remarks on finding ways to make the process more open.
    - iii. Framework such as a broad framework would be best to tackle before getting into scrivener's errors as an example.
4. Leadership Roles
- a. Alexander shares the executive order on screen to go over the logistics.
  - b. For Chair, you can express interest in this meeting or send an email to Alex, Mia, and Kaily (if absent, this is most applicable).
  - c. Discussion on Chair
    - i. Brian Levine expresses interest in being Chair.
      - 1. Mentions that he has been part of conventions prior and also has an extensive legal background.
      - 2. Mentions he also has experience with Robert's Rules
    - ii. Natalie expresses no interest but asks how much Robert's Rules will be used in the process of this convention
    - iii. Kaily expresses support for Brian as Chair

- iv. Kaily, Mia, and Alex express that we can also be nominated but would much prefer leadership to stem from members
5. Questions
- a. Bradley expresses the need for a timeline
  - b. Brian asks about the timeline for positions and Alexander mentions Wednesday
  - c. Alex remarks that it is likely best to get the proposed revised Constitution to Senate a month before Spring elections
  - d. Next meeting can work towards a formal timeline for new business
  - e. Retreats are a great idea!

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36PM.