

Agenda for December 6, 2021

- I. Attendance**
- II. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

- III. Budgetary**
 - A. BC Recs**

Jae Yun presented the budgetary committee's recommendations.

Basma requested \$5000 for Pita Pockets for a class dinner for Professor Zeno.

Shreya requested \$1500 for her Senate project for coffee in Frost and the Science Center.

Lucas suggested that this be put in the Senate Fund.

Jae Yun said that they did not have enough left in Senate Fund. He asked Paul if they could spend over what they had.

Paul said that they could.

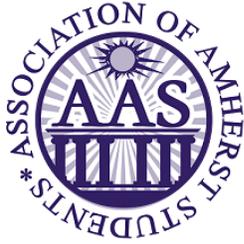
Angelina asked if they could advertise the coffee project.

Shreya said that Val had a social media person who could advertise it on Instagram.

Sirus requested \$8125 for his Senate project for free detergent and toothpaste.

Lori said she had a final quote of \$2228.10 for Sweatshirts for members of AAS Senate.

Sirus suggested that his project's funding be taken out of the Rainy Day Fund.



Association of Amherst Students

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Lucas said that if they were gonna overspend anyway they should put everything Senate-project-related in the Senate fund to make the budget more organized.

Jae Yun noted that all spending ultimately came from the same bank account.

Sirus explained that he had written a proposal to facilities to have seven refill stations installed but the administration was not very responsive. Thus, he wanted to use senate funding to ensure that at least one station was up and running by the Spring semester.

Angelina asked if there would just be one refill station.

Sirus said that this funding request would provide for one station for now with 300 students' worth of toothpaste tablets. He ultimately wanted to get one in every first-year laundry room, and said that he was just trying to get one up and running immediately with senate funds.

Sirus motioned to fund the coffee project and laundry and toothpaste project.

The motion passed.

Cole asked how much the sweaters cost per unit.

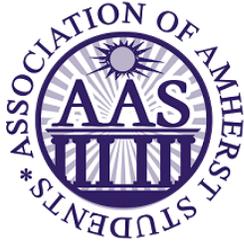
Lori said it was \$63 per unit, but these were very durable and would last a long time.

Cole asked if they were printed or embroidered.

Lori said that they were embroidered. She said that she thought it would really unite AAS and help to advertise the Senate to get people to run.

Anna '24 asked if they would get more next semester.

Basma said that they would give it to people who came in next semester to



encourage running.

Sirus said that he didn't think it would unify them but rather separate them from the rest of the Amherst community. He said that he would rather be compensated for being in the Senate.

Mia said that she disagreed and that it was a unifying thing. She said that when she saw teams with gear she wished she were on those team.

Sirus said that that was an issue with teams and that that was the student/athlete divide.

Jaden said that he thought the Senate deserved nice things as they did not get paid. He said that they worked very hard and were a community in which anybody who ran and got elected was welcome. He said that there was no problem if they did it every semester for new people who came.

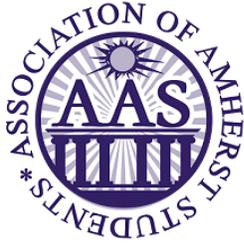
Angelina said that she understood how it was a communal thing but at other schools they had extra shirts they gave to the community that anybody could get making it more of a community aspect. She said she thought that this was too exclusive.

Sirus said that they should listen to the president's recommendation. He said it was very unfair as they didn't fund clubs that wanted stuff for themselves. He said that they couldn't bend the rules they set for other clubs.

Cole asked if there was any way, if this did pass, to donate the corresponding value of whatever sweatshirt he got back to the Senate.

Jae Yun said he would have to ask Paul. He said that he could write a check to AAS which Monica or him could cash. He also suggested that he donate money to a charity or something instead.

Cole said it was just that he didn't want AAS to pay for him to have a sweatshirt.



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Yvette asked if there was any way to make it so that AAS gave out some sweatshirts or allowed the student body to win them, possibly through the new Superfans app.

Shreya said that she agrees with giving out Senate sweatshirts. She said that having something for themselves was a good idea to show solidarity and that they should get something since they were not monetarily compensated.

Jaden said that it was worth pointing out that it was not an equivalent comparison to compare the AAS to another organization as they were in the AAS to serve their community rather than for their own enjoyment. He said that they were serving the entirety of the College and not just their members. He noted that they had the money and they weren't taking it away from anything else.

Jae Yun said that they did have the money.

Anna '23 asked if they were also considering just doing a long-sleeved shirt as the vibe with that was very different and that was something they could pass out more.

Lori said she liked jackets more as they were more practical for colder weather and something you could wear more often.

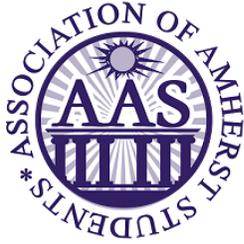
Gent asked when and where they would be giving them out.

Lori said it would be in the Spring.

Kya said that they could give out sweatshirts to people who came to AAS meetings.

Jae Yun suggested that students who came to the meetings could enter a raffle to win the sweatshirts.

Gent said that AAS serves a different role on campus than most clubs and that if people really wanted to be involved they could be.



Kya said it sounded weird differentiating AAS from other clubs as other clubs also did work for the whole community.

Jae Yun suggested that if they do it, they should order 50. The new cost with sweatshirts to give out was \$3083.50.

A straw poll showed the majority of Senators were in favor.

A motion to approve the purchase of the Sweatshirts passed.

Cole motioned to approve BC recs for discretionary funding.

The motion passed.

B. Club Budgets

Jae Yun presented the club budgets for the Spring.

Basma asked why the Muslim Students Association wasn't put under the religious category.

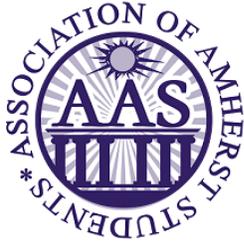
Jae Yun said that that was how it was classified in budgets before him but he could move it.

Lucas said that he thought the total for Mock Trial was wrong.

Jae Yun fixed it.

Cole asked if they were worried if their change in funding Hillel could appear as being related to the JC complaint.

Jae Yun explained that the BC had given them \$5200 dollars with the clear expectation that it would be used throughout the semester, and they came back later expecting \$3000 more with no explanations. They were told to come back



and they went to RSL instead. He said he was hesitant because he didn't want something like that to happen again, and in the future they could do the lump sum policy again. He said he was not concerned because he went with responsible budgetary policy and they could come to him.

Cole asked what clubs he knew of that asked their members to pay dues, using Equestrian as an example.

Jae Yun said it was mainly club sports teams that did it, and that it wasn't really dues but instead lesson fees.

Sirus said that about the optics of Hillel, when talking to the club rep, he said it was more standard to come each time and the representative seemed ok with it.

Cole said it would be contradictory to their mission of allowing everybody to participate if they charged dues and didn't give financial aid.

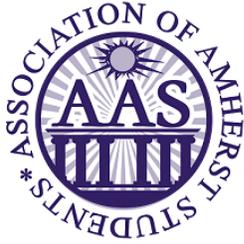
Jae Yun said that he didn't want that happening but that most of the clubs that did this had financial aid for anybody that couldn't pay.

A motion to approve the club budgets was approved.

IV. Officer Reports

Basma shared that the college would be matching AAS's Indigenous Peoples Fund donation to the Nipmuc Nation. She also said that Angelina and her met with Dean Agosto to talk about the variant and J term housing.

Angelina said she would work on having minutes for their meeting and she would get to them soon. She said that they were waiting to see for more information with the variant but they were watching closely. She also said that they would have the capacity to support anybody who had to be on campus for extenuating circumstances. On J-term housing, she said that there were some issues with logistics, safety concerns and staffing issues which was why housing was as it was. She said that it looked like they were hesitant to revert back to the pre-covid models.



Basma said that Dean Agosto had said that they would continue with town halls every semester.

Cole asked when the next meeting was.

Angelina said that that was the last meeting of the semester, but he could email if he had anything.

Cole said that he was just concerned about how the administration made major policy decisions without consulting the student body.

Basma asked if Dean Agosto had responded to the email they sent.

Lucas said that she had not responded but they had sent out the exceptions form to the campus.

Cole said that they asked a number of questions in the email he still wanted answers to.

Angelina said that on top of their being a housing shortage, there was a concern about their being students on campus not engaging in a campus activity.

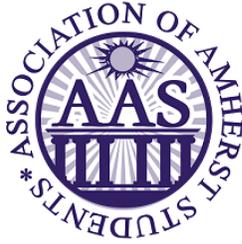
V. Committee Updates

Lucas said that the appointments board would be meeting later that week to fill the remaining at-large seats.

Basma asked if they would present during the Spring.

Lucas said they would be unless the Senate preferred they were shared over GroupMe.

Maira said, from the Dining Committee, that Late Night was coming back and it would be abc in full by next semester. She said that they had organized the study break and were trying to meet with Val to do some social media events.



Jaden shared that the burger bar would be returning in the spring.

Cole asked about the JC decision.

Jasper said that people were busy with finals and he wanted to make sure everybody carefully read the letter and signed off on it before he sent it out but was trying to get it out by Tuesday.

I. On-Campus Check-ins

There were no on-campus check-ins

VI. Senate Project Updates

Sirus asked if he could now spend the money that was funded for his Senate project.

Jae Yun said that he could.

VII. Adjournment

Minute Taker: Caden Stockwell, Staff Recording Secretary
Length of Meeting: 1 hour