

**BCC Auxiliary Enterprises Corporation (AEC)  
Thursday, September 10, 2020 Minutes  
Language Hall, President's Conference Room**

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. and was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

**MEMBER ATTENDEES VIA ZOOM:** President Thomas Isekenegebe, Chair; Grisselle Nadal, Secretary; Assistant Vice President David Taylor, Treasurer; Ryan McCarthy, Athletics Director; Faculty member Neil Hwang, Michael Williams, external member; Priscilla Tokor, SGA President; Gabriel Morillo, SGA Legislator and Lennin Charalla-Quintanilla, SGA Senator.

**GUESTS:** Gregory Rosenberg, Finance Specialist; Manny Lopez, Associate Dean for Student Development; Dr. Debra Gonsler, CAS Faculty Member; Lisa Amowitz, Director of BCC Digital Design, Janet Robertson, Director of Writing Center; Donna Kessler Eng, Faculty Member and Kenisha Thomas, Writing Center.

**ABSENT:** Katherine McGuire, External Board Member; Faculty member Sharmila Mukherjee and Mikayla Sumter-Malone, SGA Treasurer.

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President Thomas Isekenegebe, AEC Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm via ZOOM virtual conference call. AEC Chair, President Isekenegebe extended greetings to the AEC Board. The new student members were welcomed, and all attendees introduced themselves. The President noted that elections for the Vice Chair and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair would be postponed until the October 15<sup>th</sup> because the Vice President of Student Government had not been named yet. Chair Isekenegebe explained that the Vice Chair holds meetings in his absence and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair would do so in the absence the Vice Chair. The President also explained the functions and responsibilities of AEC and asked students to review the Bylaws sent via email, if they have not already done so. He also advised that AEC Audit Members would also be appointed at our October meeting. He asked student members if they had any questions and promised they would have another opportunity to ask questions at the October meeting.

The AEC meeting of March 12, 2020 was canceled prior to the start of the meeting due to the COVID 19 outbreak. The BCC community transitioned to distance learning and working from home. President Isekenegebe asked AEC members if they reviewed the minutes from February 13, 2020 that were emailed prior to this meeting and asked if there were any questions. Dr. Gonsler noted that the minutes, once approved, should be signed by the Secretary of AEC and it was so noted. Dr. Gonsler also asked whether any follow up documentation was provided regarding the Kwanzaa event that took place in December 2019. AEC Secretary Grisselle Nadal confirmed that follow up with the event coordinator Clifford Marshall took place and that he did provide a flyer of the event. AEC Secretary will forward the flyer to all AEC members. Chair Isekenegebe requested a motion to vote on approval of the minutes. The motion was so moved by Treasurer David Taylor, seconded by Ryan McCarthy and approved unanimously.

David Taylor, AEC Treasurer, explained the current state of the AEC budget. He noted under Operating Costs (Expenses) The Campus Service Center – Inventory Stock and Selling Cart would be \$10,000 as the campus moves to sell masks and PPE. Under Initiatives and Services (Expenses) the shuttle service contract was cut in half to \$34,500 but since we are now going to get shuttles we removed that expense

altogether. and responded to most of Dr. Gonsher's questions posed below. Due to time constraints Dr. Gonsher agreed to pursue the responses to her questions that were not answered outside the constructs of the AEC meeting.

1. *The FY 19-20 Fund Balance Initiatives indicates that there was 0 expenditure. So why would the Reserve Fund Balance indicate that the Fund's Balance on July 1, 2020 was \$2,630,437 and after the initiatives which were 0, the Net Year-end Reserve Fund Balance is listed as \$1,354,437?*

*Stark changes from last year. A cut of 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s in the budget.*

2. *Why are the three shuttles listed as pending as of 7/13/20 when the school is 90% distance learning for Fall 2020?*

*The shuttle service is a new item. We received a SAM Grant from Senator Rivera over the summer which will provide us with \$175,00 to purchase 3 shuttle buses. However, we will have to purchase the shuttles at \$175,000 and then be reimbursed. When we are reimbursed, the \$175,000 will go back into AEC account. Tax Levy did not have the money to purchase the buses, so we are borrowing the money from AEC.*

3. *Why is there a pickup truck listed for \$120k? According to Carfax "The costliest pickup you can buy for 2019 is the Ford F-450 Super Duty Crew Cab Platinum. Starting at nearly \$88,000, and approaching \$100,000 with all available options, that's about what you'd pay for a 2019 BMW 7 Series." <https://www.carfax.com/blog/most-expensive-2019-pickup-trucks> For 2020, you can find a similar list at <https://cars.usnews.com/cars-trucks/most-expensive-truck-on-the-market>.*

*Funding to purchase two pick up trucks were already approved last fiscal year. We have now reduced the number of electric vehicles we will purchase (which were approved last fiscal year) due to budgetary constraints caused by COVID 19. We will purchase two (2) F150 pick up trucks with accessories which will be used for snow removal this winter at a cost of \$236,000. The trucks we currently have are not in good condition and will be out of service soon. The funds that were appropriated last year for electric vehicles was not spent and the vehicles were not purchased last year. The electric vehicles that were planned to be purchased for Public Safety and PPS will not be purchased due to budgetary constraints, but we do need the snow removal dump trucks.*

4. *Why were 8 sets of outdoor furniture bought at this time (\$18,880), again, when students are not on campus? Especially considering that the school has had to recoat another 9 sets. How old are these 9 sets?*

*These nine (9) sets are 6-10 years old and that is why they need new coating. The vendor explained the coating used back then is inferior and the new coating will allow for the sets to last longer. This would be a cost savings because instead of buying new sets we will refurbish the sets by providing new coating for them. The rationale behind this expense is that once we are back on campus, we will need more outdoor seating.*

5. *Could you provide information about the \$1500 spent on men & women's polo shirts?*

## Requests for Funding

Design Studio – Lisa Amowitz requested 40k from AEC to fund the Design Studio. Chair Isekenegbe advised that the BCC Foundation agreed to provide 10k out of the 40k leaving a balance of 30k needed to fund the Design Studio. The Design Studio is the first of its kind CUNY wide. The program will serve local, small business, non-profits and select on campus programs. The pilot program began in 2019 and continued through Spring 2020 where it had to transition to remote work and nevertheless served about 20 clients. It provides vital work experience through student and recent graduates internships. Businesses being served are not charged at this time, but the goal is for eventually to have a mechanism in place where the program can be self-supporting. Chair Isekenegbe asked for a motion to approve the request. David Taylor so moved the request; Michael Williams seconded the request and was passed unanimously with no opposing votes and no abstentions.

Tutorial Intervention Program has been in effect since 2011. The program embeds tutors in courses (English 111). The faculty and tutors work as teaching pairs. Faculty development and tutor development meetings are also conducted to help students succeed, particularly first semester freshman students. Chair Isekenegbe asked how this will work during the current digital and distance learning mode we are currently in. Janet Robertson advised that the tutor join the Zoom or Collaborate class, added to the teacher's section for a total of 8 tutor hours. The tutor may assist using the break-out rooms technological feature. If the 8 hours are not utilized the tutors are then assigned to the Writing Center's online site where students can make appointments. Potential for tutoring sessions to expand to other subjects. The funding request to pay for Tutors for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 as well as a stipend for Donna Kessler Eng since she will be working outside of the scope of her faculty position. President requested an assessment at the end of the semester detailing the number of students who participated in the program and what their grades were. Chair Isekenegbe discussed approving the program for the Fall 2020 semester only in the amount of \$26,500 and revisit and review a request for funding for the Spring 2021 semester. The stipend can be reviewed separately, even if it is not funded by AEC, we can review where it can be funded from. The committee agreed a report at the end of the Fall semester would be appropriate to assess the effectiveness of the program. President Isekenegbe moved the motion to fund the program for the Fall 2020 semester only (funding only ½ of the dollar amount of what was originally requested for the entire academic year) and the motion was seconded by Michael Williams, and passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Isekenegbe moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. The motion was so moved by David Taylor, seconded by Michael Williams and unanimously approved.

Minutes submitted by Grisselle Nadal

