



SUSTAINABILITY ACTION FUND COMMITTEE

Monday, May 22nd, 2017, 9:00 AM. VU460

- Members:** *Present: Wayne Rocque (ASVP for Student Life), Mary Moeller (ASVP for Business and Operations), Greg McBride (Assistant Director of Viking Union Facilities), Anna Kemper (Environmental & Sustainability Programs Director), Johnathan Riopelle (Sustainable Action Fund Grant Coordinator), Keiko Betcher (AS Sustainable Action Fund Education Coordinator), Jacob Keith (Student at Large), Jose Rios-Sanchez (Student at Large).*
Absent: Seth Vidana (Sustainability Manager for Western), Jasmine Goodnow (Faculty Representative), and Izzy Juell (Student at Large) /
- Advisor:** Greg McBride
- Secretary:** Cora Cole
- Guests:** Emma Bigongiari (Students for Sustainable Food), Whitt Jameson (EY Project Leader), Spiro Pappas (SAF Office), Kamea Black (Outback Coordinator), Paul (Outback Staff), and Annie Gordon (YP for Student Life Elect)

MOTIONS

- SAF-17-S-9 Approval of minutes from May 15th. *Passed*
- SAF-17-S-10 Approval of the Conceptual Outback Experimental Learning Program Specialist *Passed.*

Wayne Rocque called the meeting to order at 9:04.

I. Introductions

- II. **Additions:** Johnathan added a continuation of a discussion from last week about adding the SAF Project Coordinator as a non-voting member of the committee.

III. Approval of Minutes

MOTION SAF-17-S-9 by Kemper

Motion to Approve minutes from May 15th

Second: Moeller

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Action: Passes

- IV. **Guest Items:** Emma added that the York Farm position could be taken over by the Center for Student Learning and would open the way as a pilot program. This would present opportunities for other students to get involved both through events and through educational outreach. Mary Moeller asked why this position was changed now, Emma clarified that having the paid position meant that students would be able

to be involved without having a lot of free time. Johnathan said that he had invited the project advisor to be here and he could not so Johnathan will attempt to clarify the concerns. The York Farm will not be paying the students or handling the money, the CSL will be taking all of that. The York Farm has offered for students to be there, the payment of the students is a decision made by the collaboration of the group to make sure that involvement on the farm is open to more students, particularly those on the lower end of the economic spectrum. The farm is a 501C3, so they do not turn any profit, but instead subsidize off of grants and give food out to the community. Greg asked about the educational component and Emma said that hands on experience in regards to Sustainable Agriculture is invaluable and that the information they bring back to campus would expand that experience. Johnathan said that the committee has approved grants to go to conferences if people teach about them when they come back. Mary asked if there was a way to make sure that the outreach would target students who would not be able to volunteer for the farm, potentially excluding members for Sustainable Food. Emma said that they would be interested in potentially doing that work. Johnathan reminded the committee that the project is non-conceptual, so we can request changes at this time or we can vote to approve or not approve. The committee decided to vote at the final meeting, hopefully with more information about how outreach would happen.

a. EY Stations Final Application: The vote will be online. The members clarified that the policy implementation will be heavily in the hands of parking services and Facilities and Services.

b. Outback Coordinator: Greg and Anna Kemper both asked for the job description and HR assessment. The Outback representatives said they would make sure to get those before the final request.

Wayne asked if we were needed to vote on the York Farm project, Johnathan said that he is looking for precedent. The SAF hasn't funded this kind of internship before and there are a lot of things that are new, if not troubling. The closest kind of comparison we have is event attendance funding, which has a median spending of \$3-5,000, putting this project at a close comparison. Greg said that pass or fail, this isn't a decision future committees are bound to. Wayne said we should wait for the job descriptions for the final project but this meeting would be suitable for a conceptual vote. As far as the York Farm Grant goes, there are some questions about outreach. Mary said she would like to hold it up more closely to the rubric and see if it fills the need of the committee. Wayne said that we will be voting on the York Farm next week, the EV Charging Stations online, and the Conceptual Outback Farm Experimental Learning Program Specialist now.

MO TION SAF-17-S-10 by Rocque

Motion to Approve the conceptual application for a fulltime Outback Experimental Program Learning Specialist.

Second: Moeller

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0 Action: Passes

V. Information Items

a. Final Draft of the Rubric: Mary said we should put something in the Environmental Cell to talk about net negative impact, because big and educational projects can create a lot of waste. Keiko said that might fit better in the offsetting emissions

category, Mary asked what the functional difference would be. Anna said that we were bringing the SAF back to its roots, as an energy based program. Mary agreed that it does put strong weight on environmental sustainability. Jose asked if a project was focused on lower emissions, would it effect both sections of the rubric, Mary said that it was likely to affect both and that is probably alright. Johnathan asked if we wanted to adopt the health category, Mary said this is getting into value questions. Wayne asked if the offsetting emissions cell could be used to address the technicalities and the environmental impact would be more about the value or goal of a project. Greg said that knowing the actual impact of a project that is conceptual is really hard, Wayne added that students might be confused by that sort of question on the rubric. Mary said that some pressure might be helpful but clarification in the top of the rubric would be good too. There was some debate about whether there should be a sub rubric for offsetting emissions. Anna and Mary concluded that a subcommittee over the summer could make that document and Greg said that offsetting emissions could be more about how it gets implemented/ how the success get measured. Part 5a of the final grant application addresses that concern word for word and so Spiro said that it might not be necessary to have that category. Johnathan asked if it could be a yes or no question, Mary said that being able to address the magnitude through a spectrum would be preferable. In order to implement that interest you could have a scorecard but the SAF office does address the question pretty effectively with the groups.

- b. SAF Project Coordinator Committee membership:** the education coordinator is a member and so it would be appropriate to have the Project Coordinator here as well. Both the positions are departmentally funded and it would be informational if they were both to be voting members. It sets an expectation of attendance, and the committee would vote on it and then change the Charge and Charter, potentially having Annie do that next fall. The committee agreed that it would be a good idea.
- c. Meeting Reminder:** For next week there will be a two hour meeting on Wednesday afternoon, Emma and project discussion will be for the first hour and the rubric. Wayne promised to call for an online vote regarding the EV Charging Stations this week.

Wayne Rocque adjourned the meeting at 10:03 AM.