



Western Washington University Associated Students
Sustainable Action Fund Committee

Wednesday, January 17th, 2018

5:00PM YU567

Members:

Present: Annie Gordon (ASVP for Student Life), Greg McBride (Assistant Director of Viking Union Facilities), Katie Winkelman (Environmental & Sustainability Programs Director), Johnathan Riopelle (AS Sustainable Action Fund Grant Program Coordinator), Kate Rayner Fried (AS Sustainable Action Fund Education Coordinator), Jasmine Goodnow (Faculty Representative), Scott Dorough (Campus Energy Manager), Spiro Pappas (Sustainable Action Fund Projects Coordinator), Crow Chloupek (Student at Large), Jordan Lucia (Student at Large) and Pauline Mogilevsky (Student at Large).

Absent: Alex LaVallee (ASVP for Business and Operations)

Advisor: Greg McBride

Secretary: Chloe Callahan

Guests: Hannah Bridgham, and Gwen Lamed

Motions:

- SAF-18-W-1 Approval of the minutes for meetings November 13th, 20th, 27th and December 4th 2017. **Passed.**
- SAF-18-W-2 Approval of the conceptual application for the Points of Intervention program. **Passed.**
- SAF-18-W-3 Approval of the Dorceta Taylor small grant application be moved from an information item to an action item. **Passed.**
- SAF-18-W-4 Approval of the Dorceta Taylor small grant application. **Passed.**
- SAF-18-W-5 Approval of the small grant budget not be a line item within the operating budget. **Passed.**

Annie Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

- I. Introductions
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. November 13th, 20th, & 27th and December 4th

MOTION: SAF-18-W-1 by Winkelman

Approval of the minutes for meetings November 13th, 20th, 27th and December 4th 2017.

Second: Lucia Vote: 7-0-0 Action: **Passed**

- III. Action Items
 - a. Point of Intervention conceptual application

Lamed said a questions she got last time she presented was about how the campus could best utilize the speakers time while they were in Bellingham. She said the speakers were willing to do class presentation and host workshops. Lush Cosmetics Company had expressed that they wanted to do a workshop on how to make products. She also shared the tour was bringing around a musician that they would be showcasing at the clothing exchange and they would be expanding to include other local musician. She was reaching out to professors and the community to gage interest on speaker presentation. All the additions would add no cost to the grant application.

MOTION: SAF-18-W-2 by Chloupek

Approval of the conceptual application for the Points of Intervention program.

Second: Winkelman Vote: 7-0-0 Action:***Passed***

IV. Information Item

a. Dorceta Taylor small grant application

Gordon reminded the committee that typically small grants did not come to them for a vote, but Seth Vidana and Johnathan Riopelle felt the committee should have a say. Riopelle shared that Vidana was involved directly with the application so he had to abstain from voting on the issue. He explained that the event was to bring Dorceta Taylor to campus, a prominent speaker on race and social equity. Her fee was \$ 10,000 to come and speak on the issue, but that charge would be split between many sources (University Residences, Huxley College and others) and the Sustainable Action Fund would be covering half of that cost, \$5,000. The group was hoping to secure the funds soon since they event date was about 5 weeks out. Dourough asked how the \$10,000 speaker fee was in comparison with other speakers. Riopelle said that was the going rate of speakers at the time. Chloupek was concerned about where the proposal was finding all of its funding. Riopelle said the team was very active and was continuing to work on finding funding. If the committee committed to \$5,000 toward the event, the money would not be transferred until the rest of the funds were secured by the group. So, if the event ended up not happening, the SAF would not lose the \$5,000. Goodnow said there was also other speaker funds where the group could get the rest of the funding, including grants that faculty could apply for to bring off campus speakers. Gordon said if an AS club or office were to work with this application they could also go to the Activities Council to request funds. Winkelman said Jordan van Hoozer was involved in the Environmental and Sustainability Programs office and was working to acquire funds from Activities Council. She felt securing the funds at that time would be cutting it close to when the event would be happening. She felt there might not be enough time for booking venue and advertising for the event. Gordon suggested that the committee funding part of the event could help encourage the other offices to send funds. Riopelle agreed that the grant proposal was short notice, but felt there was a good amount of trust in the group planning the event. Winkelman asked if it was fair to bring the bias of knowing individuals on the team to the table when considering applications. McBride suggested they could pledge money to event with the stipulation that the money will not be finalized until the rest of the funds are secured. He asked the committee whether or not they wanted this event on campus. Winkelman thought it was a good event

because it expanded the idea of sustainability to be more than the environment. Goodnow asked if the committee could make suggestions to the grant team. She was worried about who the group was targeting because they were missing out on the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She suggested the group broaden their reach. Riopelle said yes they could ask the group to make that change. Dorrough asked if the event was dependent on the SAF funding \$5,000 of the \$10,000. Riopelle was not sure, but felt the group was hoping for the funds from the SAF. Lucia was worried that due to the short planning time the event would have a lower attendance. He still trusted the event would be handled correctly.

MOTION: SAF-18-W-3 by Lucia

Approval of the Dorceta Taylor small grant application be moved from an information item to an action item.

Second: Chloupek Vote: 6-0-1 Action: ***Passed***

MOTION: SAF-18-W-4 by Chloupek

Approval of the Dorceta Taylor small grant application.

Second: Mogilevsky Vote: 6-0-1 Action: ***Passed***

b. Sustainability, Period final application

Hannah Bridgham recapped that the event was to educate people about sustainable periods and sustainable menstrual products. She explained the event would include catering and three speakers: Gwen Lamed would talk about environmental impacts of having a periods, a member from the Preventions and Wellness Services to talk about the health aspects and Celeste Mergens from Days for Girls will be coming to speak about their work with other countries in providing menstrual products. Lamed said they did not change much from the initial grant application. They were working with the Womxn's Identity Resource Center (WIRC). The committees funding would allow attendees to get a free sustainable menstrual hygiene product of their choice: Diva Cup, Luna Pad or Thinx underwear. Chloupek asked how they were making the event more inclusive, considering female identified individuals were not the only people to experience menstruation. Lamed said they were not presenting it as an event for women and would be calling the products menstrual products, not feminine products. She was also working to make sure all the vendors were aware of the effort to be inclusive. Lamed said they intended to provide menstrual products that could accommodate all forms of menstrual experiences. The companies that were coming tended to be very aware of the need for inclusive of many identities in the industry of menstruation. Lucia asked about the attendee estimate and if the group still felt that was accurate, because the previous year they had 80 attendees and were estimating 200 that year. Lamed said they were expecting to see the increase in the attendance because they had started to advertise earlier than the previous year and would be providing an expensive menstrual product to 200 attendees free of charge. Bridgham added that the group was working with WIRC that year and felt the partnership would lead to an increase in awareness of the event and attendance. Greg McBride asked where the grant money was going and what group would be responsible for the money. Bridgham said the Environmental and Sustainability Programs office would be in charge of booking and ordering the menstrual

products. Katie Winkelman said she would be abstaining from the future vote because her office would be benefiting from the grant.

Y. Point of Order

a. Memo regarding decision to not restrict small grant budget

Dorough asked what the restriction was in the past. Riopelle said in the past there was a \$40,000 cap listed in the budget for small grant applications. Once that limit was reached the small grants would have to go to the committee. Riopelle felt the limit was unnecessary because he kept in touch with the committee about small grants. If the cap was in place then access to the fund would be limited because the committee wouldn't have time to view all the small and large grants that come through the Office of Sustainability. Gordon felt the budget cap was in place to encourage transparency between the Office of Sustainability and the Sustainable Action Fund. McBride said the cap was in the operating budget to help plan finances. Riopelle suspected there might have been more value when the Sustainable Action Fund was smaller, but in the previous years the committee had not been spending money. He felt restricting the students access to their money was concerning. Gordon said the cap was a check in, once the small grants reached the cap it was used as a point to review the budget. McBride asked the committee how comfortable they were with what the budget was and how it worked. Winkelman felt there was more information to look at before the committee could make a decision. Riopelle pointed out that the committee didn't know what would be coming into the Office of Sustainability, it could be all small grants or all large grants. Spiro Pappas said he was an advocate for enabling students to receive the funding. He said there had been times where he had met with a team multiple times per week to get their idea through efficiently and felt the budget cap was simply a barrier to student access. He felt there were other checks and balances in place to make sure the small grant money was spent properly. McBride said in the past the issue was how to evaluate the fund as a program operations and as a granting program. He informed the committee that the sustainable action fund fee was up for renewal and was something the committee needed to look into, whether or not to adjust the amount they were asking from students.

MOTION: SAF-18-W-5 by Dorough

Approval of the small grant budget not be a line item within the Sustainable Action Fund operating budget for the remainder of the academic year.

Second: Goodnow Vote: 4-2-1 Action: ***Passed***

Annie Gordon adjourned the meeting at 6:00 PM.