

Western Washington University
Alternative Transportation Fee Committee

April 20th, 2020

MS Teams

Members: *Present:* Trever Mullins (AS VP for Sustainability), Grace Drechsel (AS VP for Governmental Affairs), Kenzi Garner (AS Alternative Transportation Coordinator), Kay McMurren (Student Transportation Program Assistant), Jillian Trinkhaus (Sustainable Transportation Program Manager), Brian Burton (Financial Manager for the ATF), Keith Williams (Director of Public Safety Designee), and Greg McBride (Assistant Director of the Viking Union Facilities).

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Guest(s): None

Motions:

ATF-20-W- None

I. Call to Order

Trever Mullins, VP of Sustainability, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda
None

III. Approval of Minutes
None

IV. Discussion Items

A. Executive Board ATF Proposal Review

1. Mullins recapped the executive board's discussion of the ATF proposal, saying that what fees were used for, what would happen in the summer with the fees, how students get to classes in summer, and communications with WTA for the fall were discussed. The proposal will be an action item next week.
2. Drechsel stated that the lack of a lot of discussion indicates to her that the board is overall okay with the proposal.
3. Burton stated that there will be a Spring 2020 Mandatory Fees consideration taskforce, starting with a meeting today. McMurren stated that if her and Trinkhaus learn anything at this meeting, she will email Mullins and let him know.

4. Trinkhaus stated that WWU is still waiting for WTA to know when a fare will be charged again. If they continue to not charge fares, she guesses that they would not charge WWU a fee.
5. McMurren added that she will retire next week and therefore her salary will be gone from ATF expenses, and with the hiring freeze, no one new will be hired. Trinkhaus clarified that not getting this 3.6% increase would hurt the ATF, but not having a fee this summer would be manageable.
6. Burton mentioned that in his opinion, Fall quarter on-campus availability depends upon if the university is able to react to the possibility of COVID-19 infection on campus, rather than if it becomes open by the federal government. WTA will continue to run buses and won't go out of business. Trinkhaus stated that WTA received a \$8.7 million stimulus package.
7. Williams asked whether there is any idea of when social measures will end. Burton responded that in the case of statewide order lifted, local outbreaks may be handled by county or city, and adding 15-16 thousand students puts stress on the infrastructure of the system. It's up in the air, and depends on resources of the county.

B. Future of ATF during COVID-19 Pandemic

1. Burton stated that Trinkhaus and himself are working on structuring the Office of Sustainability (OS). It seems that the consensus has been to locate sustainable transportation under the BFA, enacting this as soon as the beginning of fiscal year 2021. This may allow for better communication and coordination.
2. Trinkhaus stated that this would give sustainable transportation better customer service, and if WWU is in-person, they are located more closely to the WWU card office and can be more integral in conversations surrounding parking on campus.
3. Mullins stated that currently this committee is made to ensure students are able to be involved with transportation on campus and asked whether this would change with the transition to the BFA.
4. Burton stated that there will likely be very little difference regarding content, only who may be on the committee. Trinkhaus added that she agreed with this and the only thing that may change this would be if student voted down the fee in 2022. McMurren added that sustainable transportation used to be in BFA and only a few years ago moved to academic affairs, this is just moving back to where they were for a long time.
5. Mullins noted that WWU has the highest mandatory fees in the state, especially student elected fees. He just wants to make sure the committee will support students, and be more transparent, more than what is currently happening. Evaluating program effectiveness and making sure this is still going on.
6. Trinkhaus added that with McMurren's retirement, decide what the new job description for her role should be and how to shift into the next year making sure students know what they're paying for, and changing fee language if necessary.
7. McMurren stated that the WTA has numbers showing that there's an increase in overall bus usage and students using the service, need to have discussion on how the late-night shuttle and how it can better serve student needs.
8. Mullins stated that this may be a concern with turnover of students, trying to prepare and give new students in the ATF committee next year the most information with the least possible bias. Elections are proceeding as usual.
9. Vidana noted that as the year comes to an end, looking at an annual report for the end of the year would be valuable, especially with all the overturning in membership. McMurren stated that her annual report for the Board of Trustees

can be used for this but may need to be tweaked based on the pass/rejection of the ATF proposal. She also stated that as this is her last meeting, she has enjoyed working here and meeting students and she wishes everyone a lot of luck.

10. Mullins thanked her for all the work and advocacy she's done on behalf of students. He agreed with Vidana on an end of the year meeting, would be good to include the successors for the positions after the election process has been completed.

VII. Other Items

- A. None

Trever Mullins, AS VP of Sustainability, adjourned this meeting at 11:24 a.m.

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