

## USF Student Green Energy Fund Council



**Friday, February 21, 2020 – SVC 1073**

**Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

### **In attendance:**

#### **Council Members**

Abdulraheem Alzahrani, Ray Gonzalez, Rachael Dominguez, Franklin Dureke, Kianna Freeman, Kebreab Ghebremichael, Sharon Hanna-West, Lance Landrum, Mario McPherson, Raymond Mensah, Alexis Mootoo (Chair), Heather Van Allen, Mazi Ferguson (alternate)

**Absent:** George Philippidis, Chris Marks, Raymond Mensah

**Observer(s):** Saviya Jean-Baptiste (Observer)

### **First Order of Business:**

Introductions of current members were made. Afterwards, the chair shared recent member changes. Sharon Hanna-West replaced Barbara Bushnell as a voting member and Mazi Ferguson was identified as the alternate council member. M. Ferguson, Assistant Program Director at the Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships, introduced himself later in the meeting. M. Ferguson is in charge of the GEAR-Up program and Community Sustainability Partnership Program, as well as a member of the EPIC-N Board.

### **Collaborative Efforts:**

The chair updated the council on the collaborative efforts to unify the sustainability activities and voice across the university. A. Mootoo met with Peter Stiling, Director of Sustainability, regarding this vision and ways to bring greater attention to USF's sustainability efforts and SGEF Council's participation in the reporting of those efforts. Dr. Stiling was unable to make it to the council meeting but was excited about collaborating with various groups, such as Facilities, SGEF Council, Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships, and other groups to have a uniform mission around sustainability. He plans to come to the subsequent meeting to present on how we can collaborate to the council. Afterwards, the council discussed the roles and offices related to sustainability and S. Hanna-West shared that Suchi Daniels was appointed as Sustainability Manager and also provided a history of the sustainability initiatives.

### **Financial Update:**

The financial report was distributed and reviewed by the council. The report listed all current projects, individual budgets, encumbrances, actuals and initial project budgets. The current cash balance is \$3.3

million. The uploaded budget total for FY 19-20 is \$1,194,363 and the current encumbrances and actuals totaled \$93,529.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Referendum Renewal**

The chair updated the council on the current status of the referendum. She informed the council that the referendum was presented to Student Government to deliberate including the referendum on the ballot. The chair also shared that she met with the SG leadership from USF Tampa, St. Pete and Sarasota to discuss how consolidation will impact Student Green Energy Fee. It was suggested to sunset the fee on the Tampa campus, but SG leadership did not approve this notion.

- **SGEF Marketing**

The chair summarized the current marketing efforts. In the past week, RMD started tabling at the BullMarket on Wednesdays to promote SGEF. S. Jean-Baptiste and student assistants engage with students and distribute giveaways such as the solar powered cars, magnets, stress balls, and keychains. Reception has been great, although students are not aware of the fee, they were excited and interested. S. Jean-Baptiste briefly shared the possibility of including SGEF in Orientation, but more details to follow. There is also a need for members to volunteer at the table on Wednesdays, S. Jean-Baptiste to send out registration sheet to the group.

Afterwards, the chair and S. Jean-Baptiste shared the marketing video options from Innovative Education. The first option is a collection of interactive interviews and the second option is a b-roll of the SGEF projects. The estimated total for the first option is \$4,700 and \$3,100 for the second option. The chair also shared that Student Success would fund the video cost and then opened the floor for discussion regarding the video options. Members preferred the interactive option, but expressed concerns regarding sound in open spaces, therefore it was suggested that the video include closed captions. The chair placed a motion on the floor to vote for option 1 and it was unanimously passed by the council.

Finally, the council discussed SGEF signage across campus. These signs identify the projects on campus, but do not draw attention. The council deliberate on ways to improve and fund project signs in order to better promote the fee and projects. The chair asked that council members provide signage options to be discussed in the next meeting. S. Jean-Baptiste will send a copy of the current sign to the council.

- **Announcements**

- The March meeting will be rescheduled before the Spring Break week. Doodle requested will be sent to the council for availability

- R. Gonzalez shared that Transportation Day is week and he would like to use SGEF banner, S. Jean-Baptiste to coordinate with S. Daniels.
- R. Gonzalez also had questions regarding project funding for Food Waste and MDL LED projects. S. Jean-Baptiste shared the budget upload statuses and will coordinate meeting with R. Gonzalez and S. Daniels to discuss outstanding issues.
- The chair will send Campus Recreation a congratulatory email to announce approved project.
- F. Dureke shared upcoming events such as Earth Day and the State Fair that can be sponsored by SGEF.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.**