

USF Student Green Energy Fund Council



Friday, September 18, 2020 – Virtual Teams Meeting

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Council Members

Sharon Hanna-West, Mazi Ferguson, Kianna Freeman, Kebreab Ghebremichael, Ray Gonzalez, Taylor Mandalou, Chris Marks, Makayla Parnell, George Philippidis, Samuel Rechek, Robin Rives, Emalia Tack, Zachary Warhul, Alexis Mootoo (Chair)

Absent: Raymond Mensah

Observer(s): Peter Stiling, Jen Lister, Saviya Jean-Baptiste, Suchi Daniels, Carolina Paez Jimenez, Justin Silnutzer, Nelly Orozco Martinez

First Order of Business:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. New and past members introduced themselves and quorum was established.

Financial Update:

The council reviewed and approved the end of year report for the 2019-2020 projects. The report listed all the projects all current projects, individual budgets, encumbrances, actuals, and initial project budgets. The current cash balance as of 6/30/2020 was \$3.4 million. The uploaded budget total for FY 19-20 was \$1,757,706 and the encumbrances and actuals totaled \$104,802.

Charter Update:

During Summer 2020, the SGEF subcommittee met to review and update the current proposal process. However, due to consolidation, A. Mootoo recommended that the council review and update the SGEF charter before finalizing the proposal process to ensure consistency. R. Gonzalez suggested that the group reference the original green fee proposal that was approved by the Board of Governors to ensure the approved guidelines are being followed. R. Gonzalez also identified outdated information that will need to be updated and will assist with the preliminary review of the charter.

Action item: R. Gonzalez and A. Mootoo will review the charter.

Reassessing Proposal Process:

A. Mootoo and S. Jean-Baptiste provided a brief update on the proposal process. To simplify and attract proposals, the subcommittee recommended using Canvas course as the method for project proposals. S. Jean-Baptiste combined the group's notes and will send out the canvas link to the council for review.

Action Item: S. Jean-Baptiste to send canvas link to council before the next meeting

Public Comment:

- J. Silnutzer, N. Orozco Martinez, and C. Paez Jimenez presented their group project idea with the council. The project will address waste reduction and divergence and will provide a checklist for event managers to improve waste management at USF events ranging from SG meetings to sports games. The group also shared the possibility of including a technology tool to support this issue. S. Hanna-West has an intern working on a similar project and can assist the group.
- M. Ferguson shared the link to the Climate Adaptation Research Symposium with the group.
- Some members expressed scheduling conflicts, therefore a doodle request will be sent out to the council for availability.
- The group discussed appropriate marketing campaigns and whether course-based projects are eligible to apply for SGEF and determined it is possible as long as the project's objective aligns with the charter guidelines.
- R. Rives shared that she met with the project lead from the Zimmerman School of Advertising and Mass Communications and will be working with them on a marketing campaign, which can be extended to SGEF.
- S. Daniels shared that other organizations have created different marketing campaigns based on sustainability and waste reduction and suggested a need to coordinate and unify these efforts.

Meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm.