

USF Student Green Energy Fund Council



Friday, October 19, 2018 – SVC 1073

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Council Members

Nainan Desai, Barbara Bushnell, George Philippidis, Sujit Chemburkar, Chris Marks (Alternate), Marco Terron-Barretto, Robin Rives, Roberto Velasco, and Harold Bower (Chair)

Absent: Raymond Mensah, Kebreab Ghebremichael, Drew Templeton, Gviana Goldberg, Brian Mwaliko (Alternate) and (temporarily appointed council member)

Observer(s): Melody Rainey and Gidi Hendrix (Observers)

First Order of Business:

The previous meeting minutes for the meeting held September 21, 2018 were voted and approved. All meeting minutes are posted for the public at <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/green-energy-fund/meetings/minutes.aspx>.

Financial Update:

Cash balance as of 10/16/2018 is \$2,406,100. Active Projects RSA - prior year awards (\$1,665,229), Active Projects RSA - FY 18/19 awards (\$27,136), projected operational expenses (29,264) and the total projected expenses of (\$1,721,628) brings the projected available cash to \$684,472. The FY 2019 remaining estimated fee collection is \$589,033. The 10% contingency (\$106,032) and a 5% reserve of (\$53,016) brings the projected available cash to award in FY 2019 to \$1,114,456.

*Period 998 has not closed and actual cash has not rolled to FY2019. This is an estimate of actual cash available.

Foundation Funds balance:

590077 (Student Green Energy Operating fund) - \$61

590082 (Carbon Offset Fund) - \$917

Public Comment

None.

*Due to a lack of student quorum (a student could not vote because of their involvement in the project), those in attendance decided to proceed with business with the understanding that the request would be sent via email for email vote.

Unfinished Business:

- **Tree Planting Phase 2 & 3 Remaining Budget**

Tree Planting Phase 2 and Phase 3 have remaining budgets. The council discussed the use of the remaining funds to buy more trees. Tree Planting Phase 2 remaining spending authority is \$1,348 and Tree Planting Phase 3 remaining spending authority is \$16,995.

Council voted and approved the proposal via email on 10/29/2018.

New Business:

- **Herd Funder – Neutralize Bull Gas Carbon Offset Foundation Fund**

Representatives Kristy Herrington and Amanda Phillips from the Office of Annual Giving part of the Foundation provided a presentation to discuss the HerdFunder, how it works, and the application process. HerdFunder can be used by the SGEF as a campaign to specifically raise money for the Neutralize Bull Gas Carbon Offset fund. There are no additional fees for the HerdFunder since it is through USF Foundation. More information can be found on <https://usffdn.usf.edu/how/herdfunder/>.

- **Earth Day/Arbor Day Discussion**

SGEF Council Chair, Admin and Budget Director met with Communications and Marketing to discuss ideas to promote awareness of the upcoming 2019 Earth Day (April 22, 2019) and Arbor Day (April 26, 2019). A few ideas/suggestions were:

- Set aside a period of time to shut off lights across campus in commemoration of Earth Day.
- Email blast to all USF Faculty/Staff and Students to remind them of Earth Day/Arbor Day.
- Set up a HerdFunder campaign for Neutralize Bull Gas Carbon Offset fund during the month of April 2019.
- A display booth in MSC manned by SGEF Council volunteers. Ideas for the display are being requested from the SGEF Council.
- SGEF project locations scavenger hunt.

The council mentioned that exam finals are during the week of April 22nd. Any events for Earth Day would need to be held about two weeks before finals begin. The student council expressed interest and support of a “campus black out” as suggested to shut off lights across campus. The SGEF students discussed ways to partner with other USF departments to raise funds. Inclusively, another Arbor Day event would be meaningful for participants.

Activities Updates

- **Renew-A-Bull Biodiesel Project Update (see attached)**

Due to unforeseen circumstances with the primary engineer, there is a delay in the Renew-A-Bull Biodiesel project. The team members requested and were granted a project date extension of September 1, 2019. No additional funds were requested.

Announcements

- **SGEF Council Member Vacancy**

Sujit Chembukar has accepted a position at the University of North Carolina Charlotte as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Sujit has served as the Director of MSC and has been on the SGEF Council for 6 years. Sujit and his contributions will be greatly missed.

Due to his departure, there will be vacancy on the SGEF Faculty/Staff council. Please send replacement suggestions to the chair (hbower@health.usf.edu).

- **SGEF Council November and December Meetings**

The council discussed quorum during the November and December SGEF Council meetings. A poll for quorum will be sent before each meeting and the meetings will be determined upon the council's response.

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 pm.