

USF Student Green Energy Fund Council



Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual Teams Meeting

Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Council Members

Sharon Hanna-West, Mazi Ferguson, Kebreab Ghebremichael, Chris Marks, George Philippidis, Robin Rives, Naren Bollineni, Makanaka Chawahwa, Nicholas Makarov, Matthew Mullings, Dana Hunter

Absent: Makanaka Chawahwa, Ray Mensah

Observer(s): Saviya Jean-Baptiste, Kianna Freeman, Diego Guillen Perez (presenter)

First Order of Business:

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Attendance roll call was performed, and the council members introduced themselves. Afterwards, the meeting minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Financial Update:

The council reviewed the financial report for end of August 2021. The report lists all the current projects, individual budgets, encumbrances, actuals, and initial project budgets. The current cash balance as of 8/31/2021 is \$4.18 million. The uploaded budget total for FY 21-22 total \$512,812 and the encumbrances and actuals total \$219,015. After the council reviewed the financial report, C. Marks motioned to approve the report, N. Markarov seconded the motion and the council moved to approve the financial report.

Unfinished Business:

Charter Review:

It was reported that the charter has outdated information and will need to be reviewed and updated. There is confusion regarding the interpretation of *Section III. Fund Management* of the charter. This section addresses the usage of the Green Fee towards monitoring equipment. K. Ghebremichael suggested that the council establish a taskforce to review and update the charter.

After a brief deliberation, it was agreed that a taskforce would be created and head by S. Hanna-West.

C. Marks suggested that the council should address *Section III. Fund Management* to guide the council during D. Guillen Perez's presentation. In order to mitigate further delays, it was decided that the council would listen to D. Guillen Perez's presentation and then make a decision regarding funding the project and language pertaining to *Section III. Fund Management*.

Presentation(s)

Projecting Energy Savings and Carbon Emissions Reduction Thru Building Metering:

D. Guillen Perez provided a recap and summary of the project proposal. The project aims to reduce CO2 emissions by addressing energy inefficiency in USF Tampa buildings. The team aims to utilize SGEF funds to purchase meters and identify and monitor energy inefficient buildings. The presentation was followed by an open discussion.

K. Ghebremichael inquired whether the project should be funded under the terms and conditions listed in *Section III. Fund Management*. G. Philippidis inquired about the lack of cost match and if a portion of the savings generated from the installation of meters would be distributed to the SGEF fund. G. Philippidis also wanted to know who would be responsible for maintenance. D. Guillen Perez responded that maintenance of the meters is required every 50 years and would not be the responsibility of SGEF. S. Hanna-West also questioned the appropriateness of using the Green Fee to fund this type of project.

After the presentation and discussion session, R. Rives placed a motion on the floor to change the charter language in *Section III. Fund Management*.

Motion: A Special allocation for 2021 of 10% of the total green fee collected year-to-date will be made for monitoring equipment. Moving forward a maximum of 10% of the annual fees collected will be made for monitoring equipment for SGEF funded projects.

The motion was seconded by S. Hanna-West. Based on the results of 10 "yes" votes to 1 "no" votes, the motion was approved.

Afterwards, R. Rives placed a motion on the floor to vote to approve the proposal - Projecting Energy Savings and Carbon Emissions Reduction Thru Building Metering.

Motion: To approve the Projecting Energy Savings and Carbon Emissions Reduction Thru Building Metering project in the amount of \$318,834.

The motion was seconded by R. Gonzalez, to which K. Ghebremichael asked R. Gonzalez if he was involved with project or assisted the presenter to ensure that there was no conflict of interest. R. Gonzalez clarified that his department is Facilities Planning and D. Guillen Perez's department is Facilities Operations and therefore was not involved with the project. The council then proceeded to voting with the caveat there is no conflict of interest. With the result of 9 "yes" votes to 2 "no" votes, the motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.