



MEETING MINUTES

Date: 4/21/23

Topic: Public Meeting

Present:

- **Voting members:** Lawrence Miller, Xiaoru (Tony) Shi, Yidi Wang, Brian Johnson, Conor Kelly, Ava Philips, Najee Rodriguez, Sydney Gibbard, Dallas Zebrowski, Cierra Chandler, Zander Golden, Jada Quinland
- **Nonvoting members:** Alexa Clayton, Jolinda Wilson, Barry Bram

Absent:

- **Voting members:**
- **Nonvoting members:**

Agenda:

I. Call to Order and Opening Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 8:01 a.m.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Motioned, seconded.

III. Adoption of the Minutes (April 14th, 2023)

Motioned, seconded.

IV. Public Comment

V. Old Business

A. Voting

1. Student Leadership and Involvement 23-24 Fee

Lawrence: Voting last time on maximum amount SL&I could be getting. Did not vote on what we would allocate them. Talked with Sydney and Jeff. Final recommendation: \$35,000 each to social and weekend programming. \$5,000 for films (want to see what summer demand is). Decrease in poster printing services. Cut ticket services in half. Final is \$2,055,078.50. Voting on this year's funding. Funding for SPA is \$821,428. Total funding for student groups is \$587,217.48. If we vote to split SL&I, that takes effect next year.

Barry: I would recommend getting rid of cents.

Lawrence: Total funding is \$2,055,079. For the board next year, Jeff needs to speak with us and show us what they were able to spend in the beginning of the fall and summer. If they're getting close to final recommendation amount, board can decide to give them extra ~\$180,000 for the rest of the year. They've always had large amounts of carry-forward.

Yay: 11

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Lawrence: Conor, please make the slide with the separation of groups as well.

VI. New Business

A. 23-24 + 24-25 Final Fee Recommendation Voting

Lawrence: Voting on the final recommendations, it's important for new fee board to hear what we do. University is running on a 2-year budget cycle. This board will be voting on this year and 24-25 year. New fee board will vote on 25-26.

2023-2024 SFB recommendation is what we're voting on, which will be presented to Andrea and Sara Thorndike.

First is BJC. We're recommending partial funding in the amount of \$200,000. Money is allocated toward student discounted tickets. Issue is with progress on student advisory board, suggested 2 years ago.

Next, Campus Recreation. That is all the gyms and other miscellaneous items. We're approving an increase to \$5,145,309, delivered to be separated. New contact has been easy to work with. We're supporting an increase to ensure Campus Recreation maintains its role in sustaining the student economy.

CCSG. That is the overall student government body for the commonwealth campuses. It is in our handbook that we give them \$5,000. They only request on a 3-year cycle.

CPA. We are recommending an increase to \$185,000 toward their ticket subsidy. And \$50,000 for the opportunity fund (student engagement opportunities).

CCSG. Flat funding of \$156,048.

Childcare subsidy. We already agreed to pay in the past 2-3 years. In partnership with central funding and federal government. This year, we'll be approving 50% of their request last year to \$103,115. Next year is the last year we will pay.

Gender Equity Center. They are very responsive.

GPSA. Supporting full flat funding.

Hub Reserve. Recommending \$200,000. They also have a student advisory panel.

Lion's Pantry. We're recommending increase to \$196,700. Recommending they work with Faculty Senate members.

OGEEP. Supporting full flat funding. Last year was first year we funded them. SFB's mission is to support out-of-class experience. Educational programs are tricky. Supporting funding to hire administrative support and student advocacy positions.

Student Farm. Increase to \$230,166. Wanted to have cost-sharing measured they're already doing.

Student Disability Services. They weren't able to hire due to hiring freeze. Request is \$0.

Student Leadership and Involvement. Partial increase to \$2,055,079. They're coming to fee board in the fall before being given more money. Another goal of SFB is to use money in the same year.

PRCC. They requested flat funding.

PRCC Staffing and Program Enhancement. Want to support them. But hiring someone ties your hands to continue to pay salary. Recommend \$403,500.

Student Legal Services. Wanted to increase of \$60,000, recommended full increase to \$545,000. Their director has left.

Student Orientation and Transition Programs. Results Will Vary. Approving decrease to \$100,000. Around \$7,000 left over at the end of every year. Impact of Results Will Vary is not clear.

Sustainability Institute. They wanted decrease of funding to \$75,600 - they want to move programming to online.

UPUA. Supporting flat funding.

UTI Testing. \$370,000.

UPAC. \$4.6M flat. Full increase. Allocating body except for UPUA, GPSA, and SPA.

Last of the standing fees. Next, new fee requests.

UHS. Basic health fee. Supporting full funding of \$3,014,580. UHS in-house lab work, EMS training, etc.

Next, OMPEC. Composting initiative. Full two years, approving two years today. They are taking half this year, half next. Many students sent support. This is a one-time fee.

Basic Needs Support Center. Assisting students with basic needs. \$290,500.

Environmental Sustainability Fund Requests. If any money is not spent, it comes back to reserve.

Bird Strike initiative. Not funding.

Zero Emissions Fleet. \$125,000. Emphasize work should be done by students.

Equity Fund Requests. \$400,000 each year. Around \$700,000 since \$300,000 in carry forward from last year.

Community & Belonging Educators. \$200,000. Free Menstrual Product Access. \$309,500.

Graduate Student Community Space. \$184,750. Pollock Halls Pilot Subsidized Laundry Program. \$27,000.

Facilities Debts. We have debts we contribute to each year. We finished one mortgage for the HUB expansion. We have one we'll continue to pay for next 15 years. Stay \$268,959.

Also Facilities Reserve. \$4,302,818. Goes toward paying the buildings. Many new fees are coming from this.

Motion to vote on final recommendation. Second.

Yay: 11

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1

Lawrence: Here's, the final recommendation. ESF gets flat \$250,000. Equity Fund gets flat \$400,000. Total allocation is \$27,356,107.36. Voted on last week. For 24-25, want to see a 2-4% increase in fee. Use of carry forward of \$1.5M, but don't want to decrease fee. People better with mild increase than decrease and large increase.

Sydney: Is all of fee recommendation accounting for health fee and composting fee?

Lawrence: We can pull this amount. We can figure out what we want to do - use of facilities fee. I recommend mild increase to 275.

Conor: As we are using UHS new fee from facilities reserve, how many years will we be using that for?

Lawrence: Look into ways we can get into central funding or other cost-sharing methods. Easier to use facilities reserve to do mild increase, rather than large jumps.

Sydney: We had decided it would move out of facilities reserve and incrementally increase. But we didn't talk about that increase. Can't blindly say fee will increase 2%.

Lawrence: Start putting more money into facilities reserve moving forwards. If we go up to a 3% increase, we'll bring it back down with carry forward. If everyone counting on flat funding. With carry forward, add to facilities reserve. More money going into UHS reserve.

Sydney: Ok to say we are charging students a flat fee. Whatever extra amount is going into facilities reserve because we already cut in half this year. If we say we want to increase for 24-25, 3% increase on the student fee and say whatever's extra goes into facilities reserve. Want to make sure 3% will cover increase from UHS coming out of facilities reserve.

Conor: What is wiggle room between what we're currently expecting students to pay vs. what next board will have?

Lawrence: % increase we're deciding on. \$290 per student is what we have. We can cut down to carry forward. Using less or more of carry forward. Less or more of facilities reserve. % increase is for next year's allocating decisions. We spent \$27M. I think 2.5% or 3% is enough for next year's fee board. Over \$500,000.

Cierra: This is plan we will use carry forward moving forward consistently each year?

Lawrence: We should not be hitting carry forward consistently each year after. Carry forward is just for emergencies. All in favor of 3%?

Majority.

Lawrence: 3% increase for next year. What do we want fee for this year to be? Flat or slightly raised? Flat is \$15 below what we're allocating to students this year.

Tony: Mild increase.

Lawrence: We'll do another meeting Sunday, 3-5 pm.

B. Transition

Barry: Will send email about what's going on. Looking forward to working with you. We'll spend time going through everything. How this impacts your work. What your goals are for next year.

Put all this in the email, but wanted to talk through a few things. Student fee handbook is on the website. Please take a quick look through it. Chair role, steering committee role. Next week, we will have a meeting. Lawrence and the board will be meeting with the Board, get to hear this year's philosophy. They care about big picture and reserves. That will take an hour. Starting next week, we need to meet to elect a chair. You do not have to have experience on the fee board to run for chair. I would ask that if you have an inclination, you let me know. If you are interested in running for chair, you will talk for 5 minutes. Majority rule.

Second, we'll elect a steering committee member. A separate group called Commonwealth Fee Board. Steering committee consisting of 4 members from University Park. One other member for University Park Fee Board. Student committee is responsible for overall management for handbook. Times during year for upcoming fee book. Has to go to Commonwealth, and that will go to steering committee.

Chair runs meetings, scheduling hearings, thinking through how fee will work. Want to be as prepared as possible. If you could let me know if you want to run for chair, that'd be helpful.

C. Bike Master Plan

Lawrence: We'll watch bike master plan. They reached out last summer. Jada and Brian corresponded with the plan.

Barry: SFB funded this \$200,000.

Lawrence: Depending on feasibility study, which was supposed to have started.

Cierra: They're getting consulting firm to start with feasibility study.

Lawrence: Ultimately, this is already funded. If you have concerns, please speak on it.

Chance to review proposal video.

Neil Sullivan: University Planner

Jason Thomas: Special Projects Manager

Cecily Zhu: Sustainable Transportation Program Manager

Brian: Concerned about initial stages of bike plan. When is it going to come to fruition?

Neil. With Physical Plant, Master plans for different colleges. Like all master plans, never a guarantee projects will happen. More of a record of dialogue for when money is available. Never state a certain date.

Cecily: There are sections halfway through where they talk about keystone projects and document itself has section about alignment about upcoming projects.

Neil: On West campus, building 2 new engineering buildings. In the middle is a quad that supports a bike trail and it crosses the quad and connects to the Westgate building. Wanted to

build at the time. Also a multi-path connector that is parallel to Curtin road. Redevelopment opportunity - things we'll be looking at for the next 5-10 years. Probably develop on in piecemeal fashion.

Jason: Every time project is happening, master plan is resource. Different assessments. Trying to identify low-cost projects.

Neil: Bike Plan identifies some plans like educating people on bike trails that can happen immediately.

Brian: Based on survey results you presented, it seemed it was faculty-heavy. Response rate or intentional?

Jason: Response rate. Multiple outreach events. Had many students attend those events. Wiki map. Online map activity. Outreach opportunities. Survey results. More student feedback from in-person events. Nature of schedules and business.

Brian: Entities unaffiliated with University. Piecemeal projects. How would you go about doing that? Already granted funding, but how will this progress, especially with unaffiliated entities?

Neil: Working on a few projects where they want to build sidewalk or multi-use path. Along College Avenue, looking at grant opportunities to build sidewalk. Long-term parking lots. Going to grant college townships. Particular case. Hollow Road - also want a sidewalk. That's University property, so we'll coordinate with them. Advocating where we think it needs our input.

Cecily: Plans line up very well. So we're able to inform very well. Already have relationships with entities. Now, have a clear purpose forward with bikes. College Avenue - want to do a master plan. Solicit community input. That requires community approval.

Jason: Already had collaborative meetings over the last 4 months. Talked about what are we looking at for recommendations, where do things align. Work with these entities already, already a good collaborative effort. Coming out of COVID, cycling has had a boom in interest.

Cecily: Helps us keep organized with our timeline, not overlapping with others' plans.

Lawrence: In original request, said \$100,000-175,000. How much did it end up costing?

Cecily: We had to match what was left. We were allocated \$175,000, and we covered the rest.

Jason: Project's not concluded, I don't know final tally right now.

Neil: When you work with project consultant, they describe services that they can do, given dollars. They charge by the hour for every staff member.

Lawrence: How are we going to make sure this stays updated?

Neil: Because we've had conversations with stakeholders, this has been on our mind. It will take 5-10 years before this is implemented. Pull out bike plan if overlapping interplanning - that's how the plan will live on.

Lawrence: Any changes to plan, please feel free to reach out, so student fee can be kept up to date.

VII. Committee Chair Reports

A. Communications

B. Environment Sustainability Fund

C. Equity Fund

D. Facilities

E. Internal Development

F. New Fee Request

G. UPAC Appeals

VIII. UPAC Chair Report

IX. Chair Report

Lawrence: Everyone has an Outlook invite for Sunday 3-5 pm. Need to have quorum. All we need to do is find a fee amount. A specific dollar amount. This year and next year. If anyone's interested in running for chair, it's not that hard. Talked with Claire, which helped last year.

Barry: If you have a platform or ideas about being chair, also please send by Wednesday.

Lawrence: Board will be meeting on Sunday via Zoom 3-5 pm. We shouldn't need anything longer than an hour. Najee, I need OGEEP's justification letter done.

I'm meeting with Sara Thorndike today to discuss our decisions.

X. Comments for Good of the Order

XI. Closing Roll Call

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.