**Minutes**

**UIS Student Green Fee Committee**

**AY 2017-2017**

**Monday, December 4, 2017**

**4:00PM-5:30PM**

**PAC 3E**

**Present: Francesca Butler, Zane Nyhus, Haley Simpson, Jake Seidel, Ellyn Baker, Levi Reed,**

**Megan Styles, Dathan Powell, Brian Beckerman, Chuck Coderko, Caleb Froidcoeur**

**Absent: Katie Simpson and Christina Ryan.**

Minutes from November 6th and November 27th were approved.

Agenda for this meeting was approved with the addition of discussion of t-shirt costs and dispersal.

* Haley has been looking at the Ace website but does not have an estimate. We will need an estimate of signage ASAP. We believe the remaining $1600 should be enough to cover 10 signs.
  + Typically, one sign per project
  + Sticker additions for green parking space signage
* Fran collected results from the student surveys
  + Students are most interested in: recycling and waste reduction, sustainability education, and energy efficiency
  + students wanted to see more of: composting, water-bottle refilling stations, and solar powered charging station at UIS
* **Light Bulb Reduction** 
  + Not a Green Fee project that needs funding
  + We would be supportive of moving forward if it doesn’t violate any safety/legal guidelines.
* **Green Spaces** 
  + Located in J, Student Union, B, and C lots
    - Brian said all these lots are able to be used for this project because there is no underground wiring and signs can be easily installed
  + Fran likes stickers for vehicles
  + Ellyn suggested a QR code that links to the list of “green” eco-friendly cars
    - Chuck was supportive of this since the list is so long
  + Not voting on enforcement today
    - Megan suggested surveying the spaces to get info on strategies for enforcement
    - Fran noted that Campus Police did not mind enforcing/monitoring the spaces
  + Dathan said fine could be used to re-fund more signage for more spaces
* **Recycling Dumpsters** 
  + Levi voiced he doesn’t feel this is a good Green Project because it would require additional funding each year
    - Said he could reach out to John Ringle about other funding possibilities
  + Dathan noted it could be a good experiment
    - Monitor usage and see how much it is used
    - Jake voiced this year is all about visibility and getting projects out there
    - Ellyn added that recycling is top on the list of student interests
    - This might give Res. Life more time to get on board with additional recycling promotion projects
    - Chuck suggested adding it to our “operational budget”
      * This will be good to get familiar with this if we have others to add to in the future
  + Committee suggested voting on it through end of Spring 2019 then funding will be discussed again by next year’s committee
    - No on-going funding
    - Additional $200 added for extra 2 months
    - Totaling $900
* **Energy Efficient Doors/ Windows** 
  + Encourage more work with Sustainability Project Coordinators to determine which doors in which buildings and determine costs
  + Fran voiced it is a Res. Life responsibility
  + Jake would like to see more details and specifics on locations
    - This is still a good project and is worthy of being developed further
* **Newspaper Opt Out** 
  + Ellyn wanted to clarify proposed delivery options
    - Author didn’t want papers delivered to residents or dorms but places in central locations for pick-up if desired
  + MUST get newspaper staff on board and aware of this
  + No money requested so not a green project that can be approved, but committee supported moving forward by discussing this with the newspaper staff and faculty
* **Cox Children’s Center Garden plus Rain Catchment System** 
  + $1788
  + Need to update garden budget with the additional costs of beds since Community Garden doesn’t have beds to donate
  + Dathan said we can use leftovers pieces from the scene shop
  + Marlena approved the placement of the rain catchment system on the Children Centers building
    - Can always tap on to the water at the building if needed
* **Turf Grass Rework** 
  + Use buffalo grass near student union
    - Brian approved the starting amount but needs to define a specific area
    - Won’t be able to implement until May- due to being a warm season grass
      * Need 50-60 lbs of seed/ acre
    - Megan encouraged additional funding for signage with educational info
      * Added an additional $75 to budget
* **Spiral Herb Garden** 
  + Author requested up to 9 herb gardens
    - Megan suggested the first one going into the UIS Community Garden
      * Protected from hungry deer by fence
      * Boost educational value
      * Insures that someone has the formal responsibility to water and care for it
    - Megan recommended upping funding to ensure we can afford bricks/blocks for a full herb garden
      * $250 🡪 $350
    - Use this an an experiment to determine how well/ how often its utilized then expand to Res. Life and housing areas
* **Bike Repair Station** 
  + If Scheels ends up providing us with a donated one in Spring, Committee can discuss how to use the money set aside for this project
* **Solar Array - UHB**
  + Intentions of having Renewable Energy Credit going back to the Green Fee Committee
  + Chuck asked why UHB?
    - Ellyn voiced that authors originally wanted benches with solar charging station near new Student Union, but this cost $2000+ more
    - Chuck is worried that it will have low visibility since the size of the array is very small
    - Chuck is requesting more details from the company on attachment, wiring, installation, and maintenance
    - Chuck suggested waiting until next year to get double the funding and possibly get two or three panels to increase visibility and impact
    - Megan suggested Chuck and John Ringle having a meeting with Michelle Cox to discuss this further
      * Suggest to allocate for this now and then determine more details on specific location in the Spring
      * Ellyn expressed gratitude and appreciation for how much Michelle had already done to help the proposal authors understand what could be possible
    - Fran suggested keeping this money until we have a more concrete plan for solar implementation next semester
      * Can vote to approve for $12,000 solar project and discuss what we can get/ implement for this price
      * Dathan asked if this is earmarked for this year’s budget or something we will have to address it in next year’s budget
      * Depending on the total cost of the project, we may need to get more than one bid from more than one company, especially if we decide to do something larger
    - Ellyn asked if we wanted to vote on this now or wait until Spring
      * Committee agreed to vote on allocating this today
* Ellyn asked if we wanted to replace the solar project with more water botte refilling stations
  + Marissa voiced that this project could play off of new Student Union educational water bottles given out to students
* Could put 15 fountains at $800 a piece=$12,000 towards water refilling station then put the remaining money towards the Student Union rechargeable picnic table to be able to put our signage on it.
  + Chuck said he will use our $12,000 and if there are any issues, he will pay for the remaining costs out of his budget
    - Committee agreed to fund this in place of the earmarked solar array project
* Haley will follow up with Ann on a timeline for their solar picnic table implementation; if we have funds remaining, we can partner and invest in this project so that we still meet the student desire for a solar energy project
* Committee agreed that a solar (or wind) project is a priority based on student interests and significant impact that this could have on energy efficiency, education, and career training for students; a bigger project would be better so we need to look for external grants to supplement what we can afford with the green fee; this needs further discussion, planning, and consideration
* Committee agreed to send out doodle poll in the first week of Spring semester to determine next semester meeting times

Vote Results:

* + **12 Green Parking Spaces**: Approved for $658.80
  + **Recycling Improvements**: Approved for $900.00 one-time only funding (Will be reviewed in Spring of 2019)
  + **UHB Solar Installation**: Approved and then revokedgiven concerns about project details and desire to spend more time designing a solar project that will be larger, more visible, and more impactful. Funding transferred to water bottle refilling stations project.
  + **Spiral Herb garden**: Approved for $350.00
  + **Bike Repair Station**: Approved for $1,500.00
  + **Cox Children’s Center Garden plus Water Catchment System:** Approved for $1,788.00
  + **LRH Light Bulb Reduction:** *Denied*. No funding requested. (Idea supported if no safety issues)
  + **Turf Grass Rework:** Approved for $100.00
  + **Newspaper Opt-Out:** *Denied.* No funding requested. (Idea supported, more research needed)
  + **Energy Efficient Windows:** *Denied.* (Idea supported, more research needed)
  + **15 Water Bottle Refilling Fountains for PAC:** Approved for $12,000.00