

Western Washington University Associated Students
Green Energy Fee Committee Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2015 VU 462B

Committee Members Present: Zach Dugovich, Chair (AS VP Student Life), Seth Vidana (Sustainability Manager), Neal Dickinson (Student at Large), Nate White (GEF Grant Program Coordinator), Ed Simpson (Rep. Business and Financial Affairs), Patrick Eckroth (Student at Large) Sadie Normoyle (AS ESP Associate Director), Colin Ridgley (GEF Education Coordinator), Brian Rusk (Faculty)

Advisor(s): Greg McBride

Secretary: Lily Jaquith, Board Assistant for Representation Committees

Absent: Jaleesa Smiley (AS VP for Academic Affairs)

MOTIONS

GEF-15-W-1 Approve the minutes of Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

GEF-15-W-2 Move to table the Campus to Compost project.

GEF-15-W-3 Move to remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that threatens to deny project if they have not met the application requirements by the deadline.

GEF-15-W-4 Move to remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that said projects selected to Final Design Estimation Phase are expected to be funded.

GEF-15-W-5 Moves to remove preference for offset energy use in Toolkits to embrace a more holistic view of GED funded projects.

Zach Dugovich, AS Vice President for Student Life, called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION GEF-15-W-1 by Rusk

Approved the minutes from November 18, 2014.

Second: Eckroth Vote: 5 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

III. Consent Agenda

A. Campus to Compost

Brian Rusk asked if they compost already. White said they compost leaves but not the other easily compostable waste. The idea is to stop the shipment of that waste to Skagit county. Ed Simpson said it's good but not he's sure it has to do with green energy. Seth Vidana said that's part of continual conversation here. Money has been spent previous on projects that wasn't directly green energy. Simpson said there was more student involvement in those projects though. Colin Ridgely said they were talking about educational signs for students around campus. Dugovich asked who's in charge of getting it there. White said... they're in charge of getting it down there. Neal Dickinson asked how much waste is it. White said it's everything that's not woody or non-invasive, he's not sure of an exactly number. This is all outdoor. There's been a lot of interest here. There's an idea that would be creating a compost facility where all these methods can be tested to see what's best. He's trying to meet with all composting teams to see what's best. Vidana said instead of shipping all food waste away, they're hoping to process it here. Questions remain if they can use all of it here. There is desire to take care of this yard waste in a better manner. Dugovich said it's relatively inexpensive and seems like it's a big deal. Dickinson asked what the \$200 a year annual maintenance is. White said that amount is for a worse-case scenario, if things break. Otherwise it would be power washing and keeping it tidy. Rusk asked if they make an estimate on how much it would save. White said he has that in the office. Dugovich asked if it is time sensitive. White said

no. Eckroth moves to table. Rusk seconds. Motion passes

MOTION GEF-15-F-2 by Eckroth

Move to table.

Second: Rusk

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0 Action: Passed

IV. Information Items

A. Electric Bike Leasing Project

Simpson asked if you are charged a permit to park a bike. Dugovich said no. McBride said unless they are motorcycles. Eckroth said this would have to be something like that. Ridgely said on page six says there's a conversation with the outdoor center's bike shop. White said they encouraged the group to find an owner for it and they're working on it. McBride said there needs to be some way to exit out of the grant, whether that's surplus or adopting it. Normoyle said one issue was bikes being returned in bad condition. Is there a plan to mitigate that? That was one of her big concerns. Ridgely said they might want to refer to project mug because they had some sort of system. Normoyle said they signed a contract. McBride said the ability to collect a fee depends on who the project manager is. Eckroth said there could be a deposit. Ridgely said that can be tricky for students. Dugovich said it seems like they're on the same page. Eckroth asked in terms of people getting hurt, would that pose any risks to the university or the fee? McBride said there might be some ground work already laid. It's a reasonable concern, but it is plausible that there's something in place. Dugovich asked if they are easy to ride. Normoyle said she assumes they're fairly self-explanatory. Rusk said he wonders if they need to define their project a little better. He thinks focus might give them the attention they need. White said there was back and forth within the team. They initially wanted more bikes to expand. Simpson asked if they have odometers so you can measure usage. White said he's not sure. Ridgely said it depends on the model. Eckroth said he wants to see more on budget. White said the team is very eager for the committee's feedback. Members should write down all concerns and questions so they can improve, they want a spring date. Dugovich said they can email any questions and concerns to White so he can get them to the team.

V. Info/Action Items

A. Remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that threatens to deny project if they have not met the application requirements by the deadline.

White said they want to make sure what they're telling applicants is accurate.

MOTION GEF-15-W-3 by Rusk

Move to remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that threatens to deny project if they have not met the application requirements by the deadline.

Second: Sadie

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

B. Remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that said projects selected to Final Design and Estimation Phase are expected to be funded.

MOTION GEF-15-W-4 by Eckroth

Move to remove section in Large Grant Toolkit that said projects selected to Final Design Estimation Phase are expected to be funded.

Second: Dickinson

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

C. Remove preference for offset energy use in Toolkits to embrace a more holistic view of GEF-funded projects.

McBride said it's worth discussing what the exact ballot language was. Dugovich asked if this would this have to be changed by the entire university. White said it is not in the mission statement. Dugovich said they do have the power to change it. Normoyle said she thinks the change reflects the direction the committee is going.

MOTION GEF-14-F-5 by Sadie

Moves to remove preference for offset energy use in Toolkits to embrace a more holistic view of GEF funded projects.

Second: Rusk

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Action: Passed

VI. Discussion

A. GEF funds to pay for office/work related materials

Dugovich said there was discussion about White purchasing a tablet for work related things. Thought there should be a discussion on whether that should be okay. Eckroth asked if there is general university funding for this Vidana said GEF pays for White's positions. He's is wanting a couple things to be a little more portable. He's looking at why office of sustainability paying for a position funded by GEF. He thinks it's fair that the fund pays for that. Dugovich asked if the committee could see a formal request. Vidana said yes.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:00 P.M.