



AS Student Enhancement Fund Committee

Thursday, May 11th, 2017

9:00am

VU 460

Members: *Present:* Tiffany Ng (Student Enhancement Fund Facilitator, Chair); Marya Rybalka (AS Business Director, Vice Chair); Grace Heller (student-at-large); Julia Phillips (student-at-large); Daniel Gallegos (AS Club Representative)
Absent: Emma Caro (ESC Clubs Representative).
Advisor: Raquel Wilson (Finance Manager)
Secretary: Chrissa Browder-Long (Board Assistant for Internal Committees)
Guests:

Motions:

- SEF-17-S-5** Disapproval of Ashly McBride's application for her request of \$682 for plant tickets. *Passed.*
- SEF-17-S-6** Approval of Socialist Alternative Club for \$1,800. *Passed.*

Tiffany Ng called the meeting to order at 9:09pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Ashly McBride's Application

Tiffany Ng stated that Ashly McBride applied to go to the Sumer Metro Art Access in New York City from June 20th to June 30th. McBride asked for funding for the flights there and back. McBride would be visiting museums and gaining knowledge from different artists and their work. McBride would also be meeting professionals and seeing their studios. Ng added that the event seems like a networking opportunity to help get her name out there and open doors to transfer from college to the real world. McBride is an art major and the event is credit baring but she is only asking for transportation. Raquel Wilson stated that all expenses associated with a credit baring event contributes to earning the credits and it would be hard for her to support that funding even though it seems like networking. Grace Heller stated that she had the same feeling that if there are credits involved, it should not be funded by SEF. Heller asked if they discussed study abroad trips in the rubric and the transportation associated with it. Marya Rybalka stated that they did not include it in the rubric but study abroad usually earns credits. Ng stated that she would send a formal email to McBride and draft a template for when applications are not approved.

MOTION SEF-17-S-5 By Ng

To disapprove Ashley McBride 's application for her request of \$682for plane tickets.

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

B. Socialist Alternative Club's Application

Ng stated that after Loren Parish's application was approved, he going to arrange his ticket with the Finance Office but he received an email from Eric Lawrence that he already purchased a ticket for Parish. Parish checked the ticket but it did not work with his exam schedule. Ng stated that a member of the club who is not a full time student purchased the tickets. The person who bought the tickets may be going on the trip but isn't seeking funding from the SEF. Ng added that for some reason, the person who purchased the tickets booked separate flights instead of round trip flights. In addition, Jacob Molloy is on a different flight from Lawrence and Kristen McGonnigle. Ng stated that all the flights were purchased with the belief that SEF would be able to reimburse them but Ng told them multiple times it was not a guarantee that they would get funding. Ng stated that Eric Alexander said it would be possible to reimburse the women that purchased the tickets even though she is not a full time student. They then tried to get the tickets refunded but the airline only gave them credit. Ng stated that two separate flights had to be rescheduled for Parish by using the credit but there is an additional cost of \$65. Parish agreed that the \$450 he was granted from SEF would go towards reimbursing the purchaser of the tickets. The club now wants \$2,364.21 from SEF. Lawrence told NG that he and McGonnigle would not be able to pay back the \$714 in a timely manner if they could not get funding from SEF. Ng clarified that they are applying to go to a summer conference in Minnesota with workshops focusing on political science. Ng stated that Parish's full grant was for \$600. Ng stated that if this were approved, SEF would have about \$11,000 left. Gallegos stated that since it is a reimbursement, he would feel comfortable paying those who need the money but only partially funding Molloy. Rybalka stated that even though the situation is unfortunate, the committee should not feel forced to reimburse them and noted that there is no way of knowing if Molloy is financially capable because he did not have the opportunity to talk to the other club members. Rybalka added that Ng communicated everything to them but they still purchased the tickets. Rybalka stated that even if SEF does fund them fully, the committee should come up with a plan for when people don't follow the correct protocol. Heller stated that if Parish was only funded \$600, she thought that the others should only be funded \$600 as well. Wilson stated that she agrees that the other three members should be funded at the same rate that Parish was. Wilson thought this club was going to Activities Council but Ng added that they would only receive \$200 from Activities Council, which is not close to what they need. Rybalka stated that if they are not funded fully, they could go back to Activities Council. Molloy would only need \$670 but Wilson stated that they could give \$600 to each of the members and the money could be distributed as necessary. Daniel Gallegos likes the idea of giving each person \$600. Rybalka wondered if they should fund the additional \$65 because the club is funding the extra \$200. Ng stated that funding the \$65 is fine with her and she thinks it is fair to give \$450 for flights and then registration. Rybalka stated that if Molloy has an extra \$30, she would expect that he would give it to the club. Wilson advised not to fund any portion of the \$65 because that additional cost was due to bad communication by the club. SEF agreed that McGonnigle and Lawrence would each get funded \$465, Molloy would receive \$420 and the money for registration would be funded which totals \$1,800. Wilson stated that she thought students would be happy with any contribution to attend this conference. Ng stated that the club told her they do not have an official club account but the money they have as a club is going towards other students attending the conference. Ng was curious how they could get money from Activities Council since they do not have a club account. Ng stated that she feels bad for Parish because he was not involved in all the mistakes made and he will have to work to fundraise for a mistake he was not involved with. Going through the rubric, Ng stated that the applicant is a representative of a club on campus and they are representing Western at a conference. She agreed that it would have an academic/education value because it is relevant to what they want to study. There is overall mutual to agreement that the conference would have an

educational impact on the attendees. In regards to positive change to student communities, Ng stated that she is at mutual to agree because the program has specific workshops focused on how to start student movements on campus. Ng stated that the club members want to bring back that information to have student movements on campus. On the fourth point of the rubric, there is overall neutral to agreement. Ng stated she is neutral to agree for “Visible Impact to Western” because if the club brings the information from the conference back to their club, they could increase outreach at Western. There is overall disagreement that there would be a visible impact to Western by attending the conference. The last section on personal and professional development, Ng is between agree and strongly agree due to the relevance to their studies and interests. There is overall agreement for both personal and professional development. Ng stated that they qualify even though it is not the strongest application but there is general agreement that it is an event worth funding.

MOTION SEF-17-S-6 By Ng

To approve Socialist Alternative Club for \$1,800.

Vote: 5-0-0 Action: Passed

C. Dead Parrots Society’s Application

Heller stated that they would be willing to pay travel and lodging but they were not sure about the per diem because it is so high. Rybalka stated that she would want to fund some of the per diem but not the full amount. Wilson stated that historically, the Dead Parrots Society has gone to this event and they usually do a great job with fundraising but Wilson wondered if they sought out funding from Activities Council. Ng stated that they did ask Activities Council but Activities Council asked SEF to fund this instead because they would only be able to provide \$200. Ng stated that the event is in June, so the application would have to be approved by the end of next week. Wilson stated that since this is activity travel, not business travel, SEF could fund less than \$51 per diem per day. Heller suggested \$30 per day.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

IV. ACTION ITEMS

V. ADJOURN

Ng adjourned the meeting at 9:46pm.