SSI FEE BOARD MINUTES | JANUARY 21, 2015

DETAILS

Minute Takers: Sarah Bixel & Jesse Pettibone

Present: Jen Christion Myers, Nick Silva, Sarah Bixel, Lexie Mikesell, Danielle Marias, Andrew Futerman, Emily Bowling, Jesse Pettibone, Tim Bates

Absent: Kimberly Helm, Patrick Mahedy, Maia Penchansky, Brandon Trelstad

AGENDA

Spring Grant Cycle, presented by Nick Silva
LaSells Renovation Update, presented by Jen Christion Myers
Emergency SIFC Meeting, presented by Nick Silva
CTS Coordinator Q&A, presented by Tim Bates
Grant Review, presented by Nick Silva

MINUTES

SPRING GRANT CYCLE, 2:00-2:13PM

DISCUSSION

• Should we choose to open up another grant cycle (for projects and research) in light of the very small number of projects that were successfully funded?
  o Important to provide opportunities for student projects and utilize student fees to create opportunities

• Should the possible grant amount be lowered because the timeline will be shortened, reducing the involvement and costs?
  o Emily Bowling brought up the concern that anything spent after the end of June 2015 will show up in FY16 budget

ACTION ITEM(S)

• Future discussion will decide amount to be awarded and timeline.

DECISION(S)

• Andrew Futerman moved to open up another grant cycle this year to fund additional student projects. It was seconded by Danielle Marias.
  o Motion passed unanimously.
LASELLS STEWART CENTER UPDATE, 2:13 – 2:20 & 3:25-3:35

DISCUSSION
- $300,000 earmarked for LaSells Stewart Center energy upgrades may not be used because the project may cost more than we will be able to fund
  - This project would have required SSI to approach SIFC to increase RLF allocation by $170,000
- Money spent would have helped to reduce the working capital
  - Should SSI offer this money now to other projects or wait until more definitive information is available?
  - Will the additional $170,000 still be requested for the RLF?

DECISION(S)
- Andrew Futerman moved to maintain the allocation of the additional $170,000 to the LaSells project until more information is available. It was seconded by Danielle Marias.
  - Motion passed unanimously

EMERGENCY SIFC MEETING, 2:20-2:35 & 2:50-3:10

DISCUSSION
- SIFC called a meeting last night to explain that only 5% in student fee increases will be allowed in budgets, rather than the 8% previously recommended
  - Previous SSI student fees were above $10 because of the Green Fee. Our fee was drastically cut from $11.07 to $4.14 in FY13 because collections of Green fee and RLF were halted
  - SSI plans to ask for about a 20% increase in the student fee, because our current fee level does not cover our operating costs as we were required to fund $1 per student per term of our operation budget from Working Capital in FY15
- New rules don’t allow for spending Operating Costs from working capital, but a 5% increase would not cover current Operating Costs
- Budget before new rule was $5.31 with GTA from Operating, $5.07 with GTA from Working Capital.
- 5% increase from last year would be $4.28
- We plan to move ahead with our budget request as planned

CTS COORDINATOR Q&A, 2:35-2:50

DISCUSSION
- Corvallis Transit System will be requesting $1.07 per student per term to subsidize two bus systems for OSU.
  - Philomath Connection system will continue to be a fare-based system, providing free transportation only to OSU students
  - Night Owl Transit fees provide free nighttime bus service (previously known as the Beaver Bus)
- Combined fees for Philomath Connection and Night Owl will increase by $0.07 per student per term for FY16
  - OSU pays 70% of overall costs for Night Owl service, while the remaining 30% is covered by the City of Corvallis
  - Contracts with outside service providers are still open and the request reflects a 10% increase, although the amount could be different when finalized
  - CTS has agreed to absorb any additional increases if needed

BUDGET APPROVAL PROCESS, 3:10-3:25 & 3:35-3:36
- The Solar Trailer has been added to our indexed with future projections of maintenance costs with the intent to include them in the budget
  o Solar Trailer valued at $38,172.64
  o Could create separate line-item for solar trailer equipment reserves or keep in Green Fee section of Working Capital operating with it as untouchable
- Board still wants to pay for GTA out of Working Capital, per decision at last meeting, despite new SIFC recommendation

DECISION(S)
- Andrew Futerman moved to approve the FY16 budget and it was seconded by Danielle Marias
  o Motion passed unanimously

GRANT REVIEW
ACTION(S)
- Board will review the second wave of grant applications and vote via email by 12PM Sunday, January 25th