

SFC Minutes

Fall 2020 EFG Meeting (2 of 2)

November 16th, 2020

Virtual Zoom Meeting

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.
- II. **Public Comment**
 - a. No public comment
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. *Eli* motioned to approve the 11/16 agenda
 - *Emily* second; passes unanimously
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. No minutes for approval
- V. **Chair Report**
 - a. ***Sammi Metcalf*- Chairperson**
 - SFC currently has an allocation of \$45,452.88 to close the semester.
 - a) [The meeting recording did not include the remainder of the Chair Report]
- VI. **Advisor Report**
 - a. ***Kash Dhanapal*- Faculty Advisor**
 - No faculty advisor report
- VII. **New Business**
 - a. **Campus Cinema**
 - *Hannah Goodall (Campus Cinema President)*: Campus Cinema this semester had a slight decrease in our member count, going from 8 good standing members to 7. We've been promoting our membership at the different events around campus. Fall 2020 was not very successful for Campus Cinema due to the global pandemic and the social nature of a movie theatre. In June, we signed a contract with our provider Swank, saying we must show at least 25 regular showings per semester. This is the same contract we've been signing for the past two years. Regular titles include all of the pre-released movies we show. In past semesters, we have shown movies outside of this contract with other providers, but there have been none of those this semester. Due to the pandemic, we were given a discounted rate of \$830 per movie. Our total attendance as of October 27th 2020, was 394 which is down significantly from past semesters. Our largest attendance for one movie was 126 for Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker at the Shoreline Theatre. Our income for this semester was \$0 because we didn't charge for attendance due to the pandemic. We partnered with the Special Events Committee during homecoming, and these events typically do better overall, so we're going to look at doing more of those in the future.
 - *Sarah Kendall (Campus Cinema Treasurer)*: Our total movie expense to date was \$16,607.50, which is way higher than past semesters because we included a Pixar series to offer more events on campus. We showed 20 movies over 40 showings, which is higher than past semesters. Our AV charges came out to \$6,988. This was the first time

that Campus Cinema requested additional funding under the current leadership. We made educated guesses in terms of where the money would go, but it was needed in other places, and we included that information in our report for SFC. We are projected to fulfill our movie contract. We're looking forward to the events we're planning for next semester, especially some partnerships with groups like the Special Events Committee and Black Student Union. In conclusion, we are requesting to keep our allocation of \$4 per student to account for the lower enrollment in the coming semester. We'd like to maintain our carryforward of \$467.58 because we are unsure if our movie rental fee will increase next semester.

- *D'Mario*: Can you please explain your organization statement of intent?
 - a) *Hannah*: Campus Cinema is dedicated to bringing movies to students that are usually, under normal circumstances, just out of theatres, but not out on DVD yet. We don't charge for students or faculty, but, again under normal circumstances, we would charge \$1 for the public.
- *Emily*: What kind of movies do you guys plan on showing for next semester?
 - a) *Sarah*: As of right now, we're planning on waiting until January to see what movies Swank would be offering before we picked any.
- *Emily*: If we were to give you your allocation and your carryforward, do you guys think you'd have to come back for more funding or do you think that would be enough for next semester?
 - a) *Hannah*: At our last meeting, we discussed decreasing our number of showings per semester because of the lower attendance, so we would be decreasing to close to half of what we did this semester. We also would not be using the Shoreline Theatre so we wouldn't be paying any fees from there. We will not be needing nearly as much funding next semester.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
- ***D'Mario* motioned to approve Campus Cinema's request to maintain their allocation of \$4 per student**
 - a) ***Emily* second; passes unanimously**
- *Emily*: Last semester they did need the extra money from us, so I personally would be okay with giving that to them.
- ***Emily* motioned to approve Campus Cinema's request to maintain their carryforward of \$467.58**
 - a) ***Olivia* second; passes unanimously**

b. Student Art Gallery

- *Jalen Sims (Director of Student Art Gallery)*: We at the Student Art Gallery have quite a few things we're looking to do next semester. With that being said, we would like to maintain our current allocation and our carryforward. Some of the things we would like to do include increasing wages for the director, assistant director, and employees. We'd like to host more events if possible, more outreach, and make more promotional materials. We actually designed a new system for our monitors to be more engaged with the SAG and creating more for us. If possible, we would like to host more workshops for students, such as painting and tie-dye workshops. We would also potentially need funds for cleaning supplies, extra help, and any other miscellaneous fees. We will also be contacting ASNMU to paint a mural underneath Harden Hall, so we would need supplies for painting that. We did an estimate with the secretary of the art

and design building, as we estimated that the payroll would be about \$15,000 next semester.

- *D'Mario*: What are the wages now and what are you planning on increasing them to?
 - a) *Jalen*: The wages currently are minimum wage for the monitors, \$10.25 for the assistant director, and \$10.75 for the director. We're going to increase that to \$12 for the director, \$11 for the assistant director, and up to \$10.25 for the monitors.
- *Emily*: What exactly is your carryforward?
 - a) *Jalen*: I'm not sure I have that exact number with me.
 - b) *Sammi*: I have it here, it looks to be \$14,296.54.
 - c) That was as of October 29th, so it will be a little bit less when it comes time to actually retain it.
- *D'Mario*: You mentioned making stickers; do you guys have a logo?
 - a) *Jalen*: Yeah, we're actually going to be hosting a competition for people to submit their version of a new logo, and then we would pay the winner.
- *Kash*: Do you know what your allocation came to this semester?
 - a) *Jalen*: I believe it stayed at \$1.85 per student.
 - b) *Kash*: I just want to make sure you can cover your expenses with your allocation and not your carryforward.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
- *Emily*: They have good numbers considering everything.
- *Sammi*: One thing about the wages is that most places on campus increase their employee's wages each semester, so that's probably where that increase comes from.
- *Kash*: He has been actively looking for new things to do with the Student Art Gallery too.
- *D'Mario*: So, the money we give them is taxed?
 - a) *Kash*: It's taxed as a paycheck. As an EFG, they have a university account and they run payroll just like any other office. The money comes from the fees. Also the work study employees have the majority of their paycheck paid by the federal government.
- *Emily*: I personally don't see any problems with their requests.
- *Kobie*: What do you think about maybe increasing their allocation?
 - a) *Sammi*: I wouldn't be against it, especially considering everything they're trying to do.
- *D'Mario*: If we allow them to increase wages, we'll have to increase their budget eventually. Their budget says they plan to spend half on supplies, and then the rest would be one semester's wage. Then they'd only have a little carryforward left. I think we should increase their allocation this semester.
- *Sammi*: We could just round it up another 10 cents to see what that does.
- *Kash*: With a \$2 allocation, \$12-14,000 would go to them.
- *Eli*: Even if we did raise their allocation, their allocation would be less than their total payroll.
 - a) *Sammi*: So maybe we increase allocation and see where that lies at the end of the semester.
- ***D'Mario* motioned to increase Student Art Gallery's allocation from \$1.85 per student to \$2.05 per student**
 - a) ***Gab* second; passes unanimously**

- **Emily motioned to approve Student Art Gallery's request to retain their carryforward of \$14,296.54**
 - a) **D'Mario second; passes unanimously**

c. Platform Personalities

- **Sarah Kendall (President of Platform Personalities):** This semester, we have five members. To promote membership, we did send an email to everyone on the sign up sheet from summer orientation and Fall Fest. Every member also plays a big role in advertising on campus. We plan on working to get more membership, but with only being able to put on virtual events, there's not a whole lot of planning going into them and there's also not a lot of promotion opportunities. This semester, we only did one event; we had an evening chat with American astronaut Scott Kelly on October 14th. The way we picked him was a campus-wide email sent out where we asked students to rank a selection of seven speakers from which they'd like to see the most to the least. We had two options, one being seeing it in person in Jamrich and the other being a virtual stream via Zoom. In total, we had 69 people in person and 104 virtual attendees, which was really good. It featured a moderated conversation with audience questions for the last half hour or so, and the format was really great. He was very funny and had some awesome stories. We feel like this event was a success and have a positive attitude going into next semester. We have several speakers in mind and just have to send out another poll and do a bit more research into them. We'd like to maintain our allocation of \$6 per student. We have a carryforward of approximately \$77,806.79 and we'd like to keep that in order to bring bigger names. We currently are still in a contract with Kepler's Associates from the Winter 2020 semester stating that as soon as we're able to, we can host David Harbour [(Hopper from Stranger Things)] and the cost for bringing him virtually would be about \$30,000. We aim to educate, motivate, and inspire students by bringing these speakers that can expose them to new ideas outside of the classroom.
- **D'Mario:** What is Kepler's Associates? I tried to google them but couldn't find anything.
 - a) **Sarah:** Yeah, they are hard to find online. They are one of the talent agencies we work with to bring speakers to campus.
 - b) **D'Mario:** So you're still tied to paying \$30,000 for David Harbour?
 - c) **Sarah:** That is an estimation based off his in-person rate of \$42,000. We're hoping to be able to negotiate a better price.
- **D'Mario:** What other speakers did you have in mind?
 - a) **Sarah:** We're thinking of bringing back some of the people from our poll. One of them is Sarah Thomas, the NFL's first female referee. Another was Brandon Stanton, the creator of the Humans of New York page.
- **Emily:** Going back to David Harbour, no matter what, you guys are going to bring him and have to?
 - a) **Sarah:** It's just whenever we can do it. We're looking at next fall where we could hopefully bring him in person, but if Zoom ends up being the better option, then that's what we'll do.
- **Kobie:** What exactly is the contract, jus that you're going to have him on campus?
 - a) **Sarah:** I haven't seen the contract myself. We did sign it in the fall of last year and then COVID changed that.
- **D'Mario:** Do you guys have any minorities on the list of speakers you plan on bringing?

- a) *Sarah*: I believe so. Lately we've been focused on female and minority representation. I don't have the list pulled up but yes, there are.
- *Emily*: Do you guys plan on doing hybrid showings or just virtual next semester?
 - a) *Sarah*: If we are able to, we would love to continue doing hybrid showings.
- **SFC Deliberation**
- *Emily*: D'Mario, in regards to what you were saying, I do remember them bringing the actress from Orange Is The New Black [(Dianne Guerrero)].
- *Kobie*: Do they normally have a carryforward as large as this one?
 - a) *Sammi*: I only have the numbers from fall of 2018 here with me, but their carryforward then was \$32,874.97. Last semester, they would have had a pretty decent one because of COVID.
 - b) *Emily*: Also, their winter 2020 allocation was \$51,876.79.
- *Emily*: Assuming there are 6,000 students, which is lowballing, they will receive about \$36,000 from the student activity fee. Which, added to their carryforward, would be about 100,000.
- *D'Mario*: They have good attendance, that seems reasonable to me if they're bringing speakers to campus. If they want to bring actual speakers that charge \$40-50,000, and we don't give them the money, they probably won't even consider bringing those bigger names.
- *Sammi*: They are able to come back and request additional funding at the start of the semester though, once they have a better idea of who they are bringing.
- *Emily*: If they do get those bigger names, that's with those large sums of money, but they won't always have that. So if people like seeing those bigger names, how do we be sure we can continue giving them that money? We won't always have this much. If we just want to test it out this semester, I don't see a problem with it; I'm just thinking long haul for them.
 - a) *Sammi*: It is setting a precedent for later semesters that won't always be able to be followed. If they are pooling it all and saving it to use for bigger names in future semesters, then as a student, you're paying that money for later students to get those bigger names. Students now aren't actually able to get what they're paying for in that sense.
- *Kash*: Just something to keep in mind is that this is not a normal time in any way. Most of these groups are trying to do stuff, it's just no longer easy or dependable. Not everybody is willing to do stuff over Zoom, so they don't have a lot of choices. For all groups, please keep that in mind. I don't want us to punish a group that is trying and things aren't happening due to things out of their control. If they are going to spend that carryforward this year, that's better than us keeping that large sum of money and no event taking place.
- *Emily*: I'm okay with keeping their allocation. As for the carryforward, maybe we should take a little bit of it. I agree with what Kash said, these groups deserve a chance. There is a trend though, each semester their carryforward increases and it's not getting spent.
- *Sammi*: You guys could retain a small portion of it.
- *D'Mario*: I feel like they just got that chance to bring bigger names and if they don't end up spending it, we could always look at retaining it next semester. I think this is a reasonable request, personally.

- **D'Mario motioned to approve Platform Personalities' request to maintain their allocation of \$6 per student**
 - a) **Eli second; passes unanimously**
- *Sammi*: If we absorb any amount of their carryforward, and they end up needing additional funds, we could see a budget from them in the first week of the semester.
- *D'Mario*: I think they're planning based off of these numbers and if we change that, they have to start from scratch.
 - a) *Sammi*: I think that's what they say each semester and there's always a surplus of \$30-40,000.
- *Kobie*: I say we absorb \$15,000. Even if they do bring three speakers at most, obviously depending on who it is, like they said, the prices would be cheaper because it's on Zoom. I don't see them spending \$107,000 on speakers if they're all virtual. They'll be left with a carryforward of at least \$25,000 for next semester.
- **Kobie motioned to absorb \$15,000 of Platform Personalities' \$77,806.79 carryforward, leaving them with \$62,806.79 of carryforward**
 - a) **Emily second; passes unanimously**

VIII. Old Business

- a. No old business

IX. Good of the Order

- a. *[The committee had a discussion about the previous EFG meeting process and voiced concerns regarding how it took place]*

X. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.