

## Student Finance Committee Minutes

### Earmarked Fund Group Meeting

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

1317 Jamrich Hall

- I. **Call to Order**
  - a. Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.
- II. **Public Comment**
  - a. No public comment
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
  - a. *Tommy* motioned to approve the agenda
    - *Spencer* second; passes unanimously
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. *Eli* motioned to approve the minutes
    - *Tommy* second; passes unanimously
- V. **Chair Report**
  - a. ***Emily Martens- Chairperson***
    - SFC is ending the semester with \$81,094.89. Dale Kapla, who is currently serving as Provost, approved the new bylaws with the new limitation. You guys will have six members to start next semester. Thank you to you guys; this has been a real whirlwind of a semester. I will save my sappy speech for later, but I just wanted to say thank you to you guys now.
- VI. **Advisor Report**
  - a. ***Kash Dhanapal- Faculty Advisor***
    - Thank you for everything you guys, you have worked very hard.
- VII. **New Business**
  - a. **Platform Personalities:**
    - *Jacob (President of Platform Personalities)*: In terms of membership,, we have had two members graduate and have added no new ones so far. Laurie Hernandez, a gold-medal Olympian gymnast, came to speak and was absolutely fantastic. We got a lot of social media and community engagement for her, and had about 200 attendees. We got a lot of positive reception from that. As far as next semester goes, our entire current membership is graduating, but we have assured continuity membership and leadership and I'm sure they will continue to recruit at Fall Fest. As far as funding goes, we spent well in excess of three quarters of our budget on the one speaker, and that is how it will probably continue to be, as speakers of Laurie's stature are charging in the realm of \$30,000 now. I've requested an allocation increase of 50 cents, but I recognize that because the referendum didn't pass, you may not be able to grant that and we will be able to make our current allocation work. I would request, however, that if that increase doesn't pass, we're able to keep our carryforward of about \$9,000.
    - **SFC Deliberation:**
      - a) *Sydney*: The Laurie Hernandez event was so cool!

- b) *Hunter*: I think their decision to do one big event a semester is a good idea. I see no issue with them keeping their carryforward.
- c) *Tommy*: There are other groups asking for more.
- d) *Spencer*: Are we wanting to give it to them or save it for perhaps a group asking for more?
  - o *Emily*: They were one of the ones that did get an increase last semester.

- **Spencer motioned to maintain Platform Personalities' allocation at \$6.50**
- **Hunter motioned to approve Platform Personalities' request to retain their carryforward of \$9,194.64.**

**b. NoMAD (Northern Michigan Artist Discovery)**

- *Jaren Thompson (President of NoMAD)*: This semester, we saw great success. We gained 16-20 active members, and can expect more membership in the fall, as we've added 10-15 more members on The Hub after our Great Ballroom Blitz event. We held the show on March 12th in the Grand Ballroom, and featured Vundabar, Miloe, and Lapdgos who traveled from Boston and the Twin Cities, respectively. This was something that our organization was really excited about, and I believe that showed in our members' communication and promotion of the event. We brought a total of 460 attendees. Our allocation was \$15,891 and our carryforward was \$2,379.67. We also were granted an additional \$15,000 by the SFC towards the start of the semester. We made a total of \$580 from general public ticket sales and our total expenses was \$28,832.53. We have a leftover carryforward of \$4,436.24 that we are requesting to retain. We prepared to request an allocation increase based on the referendum passing, but would still like to request an allocation of \$5.50 to ensure we can continue bringing bigger acts. NoMAD has grown exponentially, we created a community, and went on to win the 2021-2022 University-funded Organization of the Year. We have gained 154 new followers on social media since the start of the semester, on which we asked for artist suggestions and received 30+ that are in our price range. We have been able to use our funds in a responsible manner and have been able to provide musical acts with rental equipment and concert-goers with lighting setups, all at discounted rates from the partnerships we've fostered with local vendors. We are looking forward to keeping the ball rolling come the fall semester.
- *Spencer*: How many followers on all social media:
  - a) *Jaren*: I don't have the numbers for all of them, but our Instagram has 354 followers as of this morning.
- *Emily*: Is there potential of posting on The Hub for more student outreach?
  - a) *Jaren*: We posted a survey in the past for possible options and Chris put it out on The Hub.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
  - a) *Hunter*: Can we adjust the amount that they requested? It is a \$2.50 increase.
    - o *Emily*: They are the organization with the lowest allocated amount that brings in artists and are the first organization to beat out Campus Cinema for Organization of the Year in recent history, which is super impressive.
    - o *Kobie*: They will get more money in fall with the increase in enrollment as well.

- b) *Emily*: Our allocation is sticking at \$2.35 until the next referendum in the fall of 2024 unless you want to have another in the meantime.
- c) **Spencer** motioned to approve NoMAD's request to retain their carryforward \$4,436.14.
  - **Hunter** second; passes unanimously
- d) **Tommy** motioned to maintain NoMAD's allocation at \$3 per student.
  - **Hunter** second; passes unanimously

**c. Special Events Committee**

- *Abigail Stelter (President of Special Events Committee)*: Our goal this year was to really establish our values, which is largely to provide free events for all students, including, but not limited to Homecoming and Winter Fest activities. These events are to be social and interactive, bringing NMU students together in a safe environment and providing opportunities for involvement on campus. We added more members after recruiting at Winter Fest. One thing we decided to hold was monthly open skates at varying times, and anticipate being able to do this again. A brand new event this semester was disco-themed bowling at Superior Entertainment with free, unlimited pizza and this was wildly successful and anticipate doing this again as well. We brought back the HotPlate Pottery event as well, which hosted 80 attendees in total and 90 people on the waitlist. Next year, we'd like to hold this event in a larger classroom to accommodate more students. We also had a lot of collaborations with Radio X, Campus Cinema, and the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Our expenses came to \$9,902 this semester. We would like to retain our carryforward of \$4,135.33.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
  - a) **Kobie** motioned to approve SEC request to retain their carryforward of \$4,135.33
    - **Spencer** second; passes unanimously
  - b) **Hunter** motioned to maintain Special Events Committee's allocation at \$2
    - **Tommy** second; passes unanimously

**d. Northern Arts and Entertainment**

- *Anna Watson (President of NAE)*: Our membership increased and we recently added on a Vice President as well as a secretary. We held a Bryce Vine concert for 627 people in the Grand Ballroom. We paid \$35,000 for Bryce Vine and had a local opener, Liquid Mike. We had a total budget, including our carryforward, of \$42,000. Promotional materials were around \$286,000, printing was about \$350, AV cost roughly \$5,700, hospitality was \$800, and our opener was paid \$250. We also requested an additional \$9,100 from SFC and had \$5,600 left over. Next fall, the group would like to hold an outdoor concert or in the Vandament Arena. We would like to increase our allocation to \$6 and keep our carryforward because acts are requesting more and moving into a larger space would require spending more on event setup.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
  - a) **Hunter** motioned to approve Northern Arts and Entertainment's request to retain their carryforward of \$5,600
    - **Tommy** second; passes unanimously
  - b) **Spencer** motioned to retain Northern Arts and Entertainment's allocation at \$5 per student
    - **Hunter** second; passes unanimously

**e. Campus Cinema**

- *Luke (President of Campus Cinema):* This semester, we gained three new member, including a social media coordinator and secretary. We showed 14 films this semester and collaborated with various clubs across campus including Latinx Student Union, Wid Pups, the Mathematics and Computer Science department, Special Events Committee, and Radio X. We were allocated \$21,188 and total expenses came to \$13,411.76. Our final cost with Swan was \$10,310, but they gave us a few deals on the movies as well. Next semester, we plan on holding our regular outdoor showing during move in weekend, and want to also reinstate the loyalty program where students get punches that add up to free concessions and posters. We also plan to repaint our logo in the LRC tunnel. We would like to team up to Escape MQT to partner up for a showing as well. We used to host three showings a weekend and would like to try to do that again. We had really good attendance at our showings, with Spiderman: No Way Home having the highest attendance with 94 students. We would like to keep our allocation at \$4 per student and would like to retain \$1,000 of our carryforward, leaving \$6,776.24 for you to absorb.
- *Spencer:* How much does it cost your organization if you have to cancel a showing?
  - a) *Luke:* We still have to pay about \$150 for the AV and \$930 on the movie, so a total of a little over \$1,000.
- *Emily:* Can you explain what happened with the \$2,000 from the previous semesters?
  - a) *Luke:* It was never taken from the past semester's allocation, and I believe it was released back to the SFC. We were under the impression that we had it, but we did not. Our financial reports were a disaster and we have worked hard to organize them onto a spreadsheet and ensure nothing like this happens again.
- SFC Deliberation
  - a) *Emily:* I do like that they are slowly moving back into their pre-Covid showing schedules.
    - *Eli:* I also think it's really cool that all the groups are working together.
  - b) **Hunter motioned to approve Campus Cinema's request to maintain their allocation of \$4 a student**
    - **Tommy second; passes unanimously**
  - c) **Spencer motioned to approve Campus Cinema's request to retain \$1,000 of their carryforward, with SFC absorbing \$6,776.24**
    - **Sydney second; passes unanimously**

**f. Student Art Gallery**

- *Frances Dykema (Director of SAG):* Right now we have an allocation of \$2.05 per student that we are able to hold five events with- the Pickup Show, Sustainable Show, Ice and Snow, Ode to the Body, Paying Homage, and the Trash Show. We also had a collaboration with Social Justice For Us to display photos and hold a reception. We also had a booth at NMU's Vendor Fair.
- *Julia Pickett (Assistant Director of SAG):* We want to get back into hosting art shows at the Ore Dock, with 10 vendors. We had good attendance with both students and community members.
- *Frances:* This year, our allocation totaled at \$10,858.85 and our carryforward was \$10,795.51. We had a total expense of \$6,950, consisting of payroll, gift cards, and

things like that. We would like to retain \$7,000 of our carryforward (totalled at \$14,703.39) to help with maintenance and cosmetic changes.

- *Emily*: For the SJFU event, they came to us to receive funding. What did they pay for in relation to what you did?
  - a) *Frances*: SJFU was able to find somebody to cover the cost of the frames, and they came to us to ask for help paying for gift cards for the models involved in the event.
  - b) *Emily*: Were the frames something you guys were unable to pay for?
    - *Frances*: We were not asked to.
  - c) *Kash*: What happened to all the frames from that project?
    - *Frances*: I believe SJFU is still in possession of those.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
  - a) *Tommy*: Last semester, they had a large carryforward. Is this typical of them?
    - *Emily*: Yes, but then they typically ask to retain what would cover their expenses.
  - b) *Emily*: I am confused regarding the Social Justice For Us event.
    - *Kash*: It sounds like they came here and requested SFC funding for their frames, and then asked the SAG to cover the cost to put on the event and provide gift cards for the models. It would be difficult to do anything weird with our money since we pay bills. I don't have concerns in that regard.
  - c) **Hunter motioned to approve the Student Art Gallery's request to maintain their allocation of \$2.50 per student**
    - **Kobie second; passes 5:0:1**
  - d) *Kash*: Their costs will likely increase next year. It's good to keep note of what they try to carry forward next year.
  - e) **Eli motioned to absorb \$6,303.37 of the Student Finance Committee's carryforward and allow them to retain \$7,000**
    - **Kobie second; passes unanimously**

VIII. **Old Business**

- a. No old business

IX. **Good of the Order**

- a. *Tommy*: I appreciate being able to be a member of the Student Finance Committee and getting to do the work and have too much fun doing it. I'm happy I was accepted into this group of goofballs and I wish you all the best in the future.
  - [Snaps and claps ensued. Tommy and his comments will be missed dearly, SFC won't be the same without his humor and insight.]
- b. [*Spencer* cried]
- c. *Emily*: I will sum up my first point with a paraphrase of a quote from our boy Freddy Mercury: "We're nine misfits who don't belong together. We're playing for the other misfits; they're the outcasts right at the back of the room, we're pretty sure they don't belong either. We belong to them." Now for my actual speech. I joined SFC because a representative came to my house government and my RA said this would be the perfect committee for me. She could not have been any more right. Working alongside all of you as a member for two years and then as your Chair, there has never been a moment where I wondered why I signed up for this. Instead, I regretted not joining sooner so that I could have done more. I want to leave you with some

parting words. Remember that within chaos, there is opportunity. Remember that what you do here makes a difference on this campus. Remember the good times and the bad because one day it will all be over and you're going to start that new chapter in your life. It has been a fun year, but I must say goodbye. If anyone needs me, whether it be as a reference, a second opinion, or just as a friend, please don't be afraid to reach out.

- [The Student Finance Committee will miss Emily dearly. She grew so much in her time with the committee and it was a pleasure for everyone to work with her. We hope she will make a celebrity appearance some time in the future. We will be ready with Sharpies to get her autograph.]

**X. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.