

2nd Meeting of the 17th Financial Board FY23  
Meeting Room: CC Chairs Room  
Jan. 18th, 2023  
6:00 - 8:30 pm

I. Call to Order

II. Treasurer's Remarks

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

Appropriations committee:

F.23.324 WPI Equestrian Team (\$300)---PASSED

F.23.325 Society of Automotive Engineers (\$1739.59)---PASSED

F.23.326 SFPE: Society of Fire Protection Engineers (\$285.36)---PASSED

F.23.327 Vietnamese Students Association (\$509.7)---PASSED

F.23.328 Running Club (\$65.42)---PASSED

F.23.329 Running Club (\$)---CANCELED

F.23.330 Masque Theatre (\$2000)---CANCELED

F.23.331 Magic the Gathering Club (Part of Science Fiction Society) (\$284.15)---PASSED

F.23.332 Ski and Snowboard Club (\$6516.3)---Passed with Stipulation

F.23.334 African Student Association (\$33533.4)---PASSED

F.23.335 BRASA ( Brazilian Student Association) (\$3849.6)---PASSED

F.23.336 BRASA (\$500)---CANCELED

F.23.337 Investing Association (\$2920)---PASSED

F.23.338 Institute of Systems and Industrial Engineers (\$2789.4)---Passed in Amended Amount

F.23.339 Bowling Club (\$4561.25)---PASSED

F.23.340 Student Government Association (\$375)---PASSED

V. Questions, Comments, and Ideas

VI. Adjournment

### **F.23.324 WPI Equestrian Team (\$300)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

Last semester, the club used about half of the money that they requested due to cancelations and rollover from previous months. They will be submitting requests for the following months as well.

#### **Presentation:**

Purpose of Funds: C and D Term Riding Lessons

This team has both competitive and recreational teams. They ride at Maplewood Farm.

Lessons for the team have been requested for in the past. The riding lessons have been approved by Ann McCarron.

Lessons Breakdown:

Lessons for January- Total cost is \$600. Requesting for SGA to cover 50%: \$300. Riders attend 4 lesson per month.

Lessons for February: \$2400; Lessons for March: \$2400; Lessons for April: \$2400

Team roster has not been finalized, but less than 20 students are expected to attend. Barn capacity fits 30-40 riders. Individual rider dues: \$360 per semester.

Club fundraised \$3600 from WPI's 2022 Giving Day.

Unit cost per lesson: \$60

#### **Questions:**

Q: Elaborate on the credits included in the breakdown?

A: Barn did not charge club for riding cancelations from fall semester. The unused costs get credited to next semester.

#### **Discussion:**

POI: The TechSync says that the club is requesting for the funds for just the January rides, even though the presentation includes the months from January to April.

PRO: SGA will only be paying for the January rides, which is essential for the club's continued function.

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club.

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

### **F.23.325 Society of Automotive Engineers (\$1739.59)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

These funds will be used to build a club go kart. We have designed this from the ground up and are teaching many important engineering and fabrication skills to club members through the development of this go kart.

#### **Presentation:**

Event: Club Go Kart

Requesting for parts and materials to build go kart. During the previous semester, the club members designed a go kart model and they are hoping to construct a go kart from their designs. Through this project, students are taught the engineering behind go karts, giving them an educational avenue that isn't provided in WPI classes. Building the kart will provide the "hands-on" learning aspect of the project/event.

Total Requested Cost: \$1,739.59

Funds will be used to cover: off the shelf components and aluminum and steel stock

#### **Questions:**

Q: Will the go kart be driven after it has been built?

A: Yes, it will be used at a racing track in Western Massachusetts, which the club has received permission to use.

#### **Discussion:**

Q: Has this type of request been heard before?

A: This club has requested for a computer simulation system before, but no physical materials for building a cart.

PRO: Club is promoting a more "hands-on" approach, which should be encouraged especially since many of the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.

CON: Safety concerns about driving the carts. Club will have to discuss with SAO on rules of driving student-made vehicles.

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

**F.23.326 SFPE: Society of Fire Protection Engineers (\$285.36)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

Purchase materials for the informative burn demonstration with a twist for the holiday

**Presentation:**

Event: Spring Burn Demo

Date of event is near St. Patrick's Day, so event is themed to be a St. Patrick's Day burn demonstration. Club will use crib fire with dye to color the fire green.

20-30 participants will be attending event.

Total Requested Cost: \$285.36

**Questions:**

N/A

**Discussion:**

PRO: Event is relevant to the timing of the event.

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club.

PRO: Promoting fire safety.

**Outcome:**

PASSED

**F.23.327 Vietnamese Students Association (\$509.7)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

Materials for Performance

**Presentation:**

Event: Tet Performance

Event will be next month and will feature Vietnamese cultural dance. It is necessary for dance equipment to be replaced, such as fans. Club intends to reuse the fan props after the event.

Total Requested Cost: \$509.70

**Questions:**

Q: Confirmation that the fans will be reused?

A: Yes. Also more fans will need to be ordered since there are also more performers and the old fans need to be replaced.

**Discussion:**

PRO: This cost is not a repeated purchase and the items will be reused.

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club.

**Outcome:**

PASSED

### **F.23.328 Running Club (\$65.42)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

A funding request form was submitted earlier for the wrong amount. That request form is no longer applicable.

#### **Presentation:**

Item: Transportation for Volunteering at the Boston Marathon

Club is requesting for transportation to volunteer at a water station on the day of the Boston Marathon (4/17/23). Students will be giving back to the running community through this event. Fits mission of club.

Total requested amount: \$65.42.

Will be using 2 cars. \$32.71 for each car.

#### **Questions:**

Q: How many people will be attending?

A: 11 individuals have registered

Q: Is this opportunity open to all of campus?

A: Anyone can join, but the sign ups have closed.

#### **Discussion:**

PRO: Fits club's purpose.

PRO: Follows the bylaws.

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

**F.23.329 Running Club (\$)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

**Presentation:**

**Questions:**

**Discussion:**

**Outcome:**  
CANCELED

**F.23.330 Masque Theatre (\$2000)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

**Presentation:**

**Questions:**

**Discussion:**

**Outcome:**  
CANCELED



### **F.23.331 Magic the Gathering Club (Part of Science Fiction Society) (\$284.15)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

We are requesting funding in order to host multiple events. We will use this funding to purchase 3 boxes of sealed magic gathering packs in order to host a free draft for all of the student body who wish to attend. A draft is an event in which three packs of cards are used per attendant. The first pack is opened, and the opener takes one card out. Then they pass along the pack until no cards are left. The process repeats for the second and third pack. Then, time is given to construct a deck with the new cards drafted. Following this, three rounds of up to 3 games are held with players using their newly constructed decks.

#### **Presentation:**

Hosting event that is split into 3 different events. Requesting for funds to purchase booster box of cards to be played with and distributed.

A similar type of request has been heard by the Financial Board before.

This event is open to all of campus.

Total Request Cost: \$284.15, including tax

#### **Questions:**

N/A

#### **Discussion:**

PRO: Fits club's purpose

PRO: Open to all of campus and will be an engaging event that many WPI students will enjoy.

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

### **F.23.332 Ski and Snowboard Club (\$6516.3)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

Money to provide a bus and discounted lift tickets for people to ski at Loon Mountain on 01/22/2023

#### **Presentation:**

Event: Loon Ski and Ride Trip

Date of event: Coming Sunday, 1/22/23. Funds will be used to purchase bus and discounted tickets. This type of request has previously been funded. All of campus can attend the trip. 44 individuals have filled the form to attend the trip, along with 6 reserved spots for executive board members and the club officer. In total, 50 attendees.

Cost Breakdown:

Bus: \$2700

Bus Gratuity: \$150

Lift Ticket: \$101 for each ticket; club intends to purchase 50 tickets; attendees will pay \$50 for the tickets.

Total Request Cost: \$6,516.30

#### **Questions:**

Q: How will club advertise for event?

A: Slack and email alias. 600 members on Slack.

#### **Discussion:**

Q: Is it necessary for students to pay \$50 out of pocket, when SGA will cover 66% of the cost?

A: No, could be a miscalculation. Students should only pay \$34.

Motion to add a stipulation.

Stipulation: Reduce the attendance ticket price to the correct amount \$34, if not, the excess profit made from ticket sales should be used to offset the other items in the funding request.

PRO: Follows Bylaws.

Stipulation Passes

#### **Outcome:**

Passed with Stipulation

### **F.23.334 African Student Association (\$33533.4)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

We are excited to plan this unique event and we are looking forward to talking to SGA more about the event and getting support from SGA financially. Could we kindly request to have a meeting with the hearing board ideally the first week back as the event is to be held Mid February, and we would like to give the events office enough time to offer a contract to the artist who will be performing? His name is Bad Boy Timz.

#### **Presentation:**

Event Name: Touch of Africa

Purpose of Club: Share the diverse cultures of Africa to the WPI Community, assist new African student with assimilating to American and WPI culture, provide networking opportunities with students at WPI, students in Worcester, and students in the general Massachusetts community.

Event Description: The event aims to showcase the diversity of African cultures and allow students to share more about their African identities with WPI. Event will also facilitate new connections with students on campus. To highlight the African culture, African dishes will be served and performances will be organized, such as dances, skits, literary art and more. Event will be taking place on Friday, February 17th in Alden Hall.

Expected attendance based on previous records: 250-300 people.

Event is open to all students on campus.

Breakdown is split into 3 sections: 1) Programming Costs 2) Food 3) Decorations (some decorations will be reused from last year)

Total Cost: \$33,533.40

#### **Breakdown Summary:**

1) Programming (Total: \$25,250.80)

LNL Quote: \$680

Custodian Fee (Club consulted with Events Office): \$232.8

African Artist Support (Pay + transportation): \$20,000

Zuzu Acrobat group: \$2750

DJ - Afro: \$500

2 Photographers: \$300

Other line items include printing, renting for tables and chairs

#### **Descriptions and Justifications of Line Items:**

Club is requesting to invite Zuzu Acrobat Group and external artist to support and showcase African talent. DJ Afro will provide authentic Afrobeat music. Club is working closely with Events Office and Students Activities Office about artists' contracts.

2) Food (Total: \$6,237.6)

Starter: \$500

Main Course: \$3000

Dessert: \$1000

Drinks: \$500

Catering Fee: \$1237.6

Food distribution has been approved by Chartwells.

3) Decoration Committee (Total: \$5170)

Items include table cloths, dinnerware, balloons, attire, table decorations, ceiling decorations, photo booth, entrance way.

Predicted Income from Ticket Sales: \$3,125

Total coverage from ticket sales: \$3920.4

Ticketing will be through Event Brite. Ticket Sales will be used to offset DJ costs.

**Questions:**

Q: To clarify, the event is open to all of campus, including students, faculty, staff?

A: The club is inviting many people to attend. Alumni will be able to attend through external ticketing software, which has been approved.

Q: How will club advertise for the event?

A: Instagram, the Events office, and Table sitting

Q: Can you provide more clarification on the "African Artisit Support ( Pay + transportation)"?

A: Artist will be traveling from Nigeria so flight tickets are about \$2,000 to \$3,000. Artist will be traveling with security and team, thus their costs are also included. Club was not given a specific breakdown, specifying the details of the total artist cost, but club is willing to inquire.

POI to Club Representative: SGA does not fund airfare.

Q: Can you describe the differences between the Black Student Union's Fashion Show and the event you are planning to host, especially since both events will invite an external performer?

A: The African Student Association caters to international African students, while the Black Student Union generally caters to Black students who are born and raised in the United States. This event will highlight and celebrate the diversity of the African students and how they are distinct from the Black Student Union.

Q: Is this the club's first time inviting an external guest for this event?

A: Yes this is the first time. Last time this event was hosted a visiting friend had performed and gained a lot of attraction. The club was motivated to invite an external guest for this year's event.

Q: Has the club looked into inviting local artists?

A: Yes, and based on the approved funds, they will choose a suitable artist. However, most individuals will resonate with an artist from Africa over a local artist.

**Discussion:**

Q: Is this a feasible from an SGA Financial standpoint?

A: Yes.

Q: Will approving this request set a precedent for other clubs?

A: Yes, it is a concern that we should consider.

PRO: Very well organized presentation and request is thorough and detailed. Club has consulted with the right offices for their approval and advise.

Q: Is inviting an external artist allowed?

A: Nothing in our bylaws concerning this topic.

CON: Concerns about feasibility of inviting an outside artist, which could set a precedent for future events. Black Student Union fashion show is similar to this event in that they invite an external performer and culture/demographics may overlap.

PRO: Event will be a great benefit to the campus.

PRO: The \$20,000 in the “African Artist Support (Pay + transportation)” line should be considered as the general contract price and not a specific cost for transportation.

CON: Black Student Union is also inviting an external performer.

PRO: This event will allow students to connect with other students through their shared culture. Event could be a positive addition to campus.

PRO: While there is a major concern about pricing, the cultural impact of the event will be more beneficial.

**Outcome:**

PASSED

### **F.23.335 BRASA ( Brazilian Student Association) (\$3849.6)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

The funds will be allocated for food, decorations, and LNL. The budget for food will be split between meal-style food bought from vendors, along with funds for beverages and dessert options. The funds for decorations will be used to buy supplies for this year's theme. Along with possibly needed items such as tablecloths.

#### **Presentation:**

Event: Carnival

Funds will be used to purchase food, beverages, desserts, decorations, and other supplies.

SAO will be marketing event and spreading awareness for the event.

Amount and variety of food are increasing.

Two presented cost options; one has less from LNL.

The option of lesser value includes the bare minimum, which does not cover moving or colored lights. Attendance from last year was 212 and club is expecting more than that amount for this year. Club is switching from finger food to meal style dining at the event. Collaborating with two other clubs for performances. Club emphasizing marketing this year to help increase attendance.

#### **Questions:**

Q: Has the club completed the Chartwells exemption form?

A: Will be working with the same vendors from previous times.

#### **Discussion:**

PRO: Will spread awareness of the culture and club in an exciting way.

PRO: Strong attendance from previous time.

PRO: Club is collaborating with Hill House, which will bring in attendees to be engaged in the WPI community.

PRO: Cost-effective for events of similar capacity.

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

**F.23.336 BRASA (\$500)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

**Presentation:**

**Questions:**

**Discussion:**

**Outcome:**  
CANCELED

**F.23.337 Investing Association (\$2920)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

The funds will be used for transportation between WPI and the Financial District of NYC.

**Presentation:**

Event: Financial District Tour on February 24, 2023

Attendees will travel to financial district for the opening bell.

**Questions:**

Q: How many students will be attending?

A: About 25.

**Discussion:**

PRO: Will be a suitable event for those who are interested in this topic.

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club

PRO: SGA has approved similar trips in the past.

PRO: WPI has a strong focus on STEM and technology, but this event will give students a unique opportunity that will align with their passions.

**Outcome:**

PASSED



**F.23.338 Institute of Systems and Industrial Engineers (\$2789.4)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

Conference Registration Fee, Non-Airfare Transportation, Polos

**Presentation:**

Funds will be used for conference registration fees and polos.

This event will be a networking opportunity for students seeking to connect with individuals in the industry and academic fields.

6 students will be attending the conference. The attendees will need matching shirts for the conference.

**Questions:**

N/A

**Discussion:**

Motion to amend down the registration fee per our new bylaws

PRO: Follows the bylaws

Motion passes (New Amount: \$2789.40)

PRO: SGA has consistently funded conferences

PRO: Follows the bylaws

PRO: Good networking opportunity for those attending

**Outcome:**

Passed in Amended Amount

### **F.23.339 Bowling Club (\$4561.25)**

#### **Purpose of Funds:**

Bowling at Bowlero Auburn, bus transportation

#### **Presentation:**

Funds will be used to cover bus transportation to Bowlero in Auburn, MA and to cover bowling registration for C Term. 5 weeks with 25 students attending each week. Price of bus per week is \$500. Fee to bowl is \$16.49.

Total Cost: \$6385.75

#### **Questions:**

Q: There is a miscalculation with the presented amount. Can SGA amend to correct amount?

A: Yes.

Q: Description of Event?

A: Weekly Bowling at Bowlero in Auburn. The bowling price is the cheapest negotiable price.

Q: Is this request only for C Term costs?

A: Yes.

Q: Is the event open to all of campus?

A: Yes. Around 25 people typically attend each week.

#### **Discussion:**

PRO: Fits purpose of the club

POI: The corrected total cost is \$4561.25.

Pro: The bowling fees are at a cost-effective price

#### **Outcome:**

PASSED

### **F.23.340 Student Government Association (\$375)**

**Purpose of Funds:**

Reallocation of funds for SGA Spring Retreat.

**Presentation:**

Reallocating \$375 from Food to Transportation. Bus prices have increased. To travel from WPI campus to SGA's retreat at Morse Hill Outdoor Education Center in Shutesbury, MA, the total cost is \$875.

**Questions:**

Q: What is the current transportation budget?

A: \$500 has been allocated for transportation.

**Discussion:**

PRO: Transportation is necessary for individuals to attend event.

PRO: Funds will be most effectively used under the correct label.

**Outcome:**

PASSED