

5th Meeting of the 17th Financial Board FY23
Meeting Room: CC Taylor Room
Feb. 8th, 2023
6:00 - 8:30 pm

I. Call to Order

II. Treasurer's Remarks

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

Appropriations committee:

F.23.388 BRASA (Brazilian Student Association) (\$270)---PASSED

F.23.389 African Percussion and Dance Ensemble (\$700)---DENIED

F.23.390 Vietnamese Students Association (\$204.99)---PASSED

F.23.391 Engineers Without Borders (\$35.97)---PASSED

F.23.392 Cheerleading (\$1250)---PASSED

F.23.393 Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (\$37.04)---Passed in Amended Amount

F.23.394 Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Club (\$27.5)---PASSED

F.23.395 Ski & Snowboard Club (\$7103)---CANCELED

F.23.396 Powerlifting Club (\$9064)---PASSED

F.23.397 Promotion of Animal Welfare Society (\$390)---PASSED

F.23.398 Men's Club Volleyball (\$2500)---PASSED

F.23.399 Christian Bible Fellowship (\$664.99)---DENIED

F.23.400 WPI Alpine and Nordic Ski Team (\$8900)---PASSED

F.23.401 Christian Bible Fellowship (\$350)---Passed with Stipulation

F.23.402 Korean Student Association (\$4066.25)---Passed in Amended Amount

F.23.403 Choral Music Association (\$4904.97)---PASSED

F.23.404 Running Club (\$900)---PASSED

F.23.405 WPI Green Team (\$6434.27)---Passed with Stipulation

F.23.406 Wind Band Association (\$2500)---CANCELED

V. Questions, Comments, and Ideas

VI. Adjournment

F.23.388 BRASA (Brazilian Student Association) (\$270)

Purpose of Funds:

The funds will be used to purchase the meal-style items for our dinner event. The increased budget will allow BRASA to order the meals for our de-stresser dinner rather have to buy materials and prepare the food with members and exec.

Presentation:

Event Name: Stroganoff Dinner. Annual dinner event. Club is requesting for additional funds than what is already allocated in their budget because they have more club members and the food will be catered and not cooked by the club. Event is approved by Chartwells.

Questions:

Q: Should this be considered as a food meeting?

A: Food is relevant to club's purpose, by supporting its culture. The event is also described as a de-stress event.

Discussion:

PRO: Event supports purpose of the club.

CON: SGA should not fund this event is it is not open to all students on campus.

MOTION: Stipulate that event must be open to all undergraduate students on campus.

PRO: Request follows bylaws.

Motion/Stipulation Passes.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.389 African Percussion and Dance Ensemble (\$700)

Purpose of Funds:

Fees covering the rehearsals, performances and transportation costs for the African Percussion Dance Ensemble Instructor

Presentation:

\$700 rehearsal fees, transportation for the instructor.

Invoice is dated from 1/29/23. Date of event was 1/30/23. Event was already hosted and assumed that payment was already made, previous to when request was brought to financial board.

Questions:

Discussion:

CON: Request does not follow bylaws. No purchases must be made before funding request approval.

Outcome:

DENIED

F.23.390 Vietnamese Students Association (\$204.99)

Purpose of Funds:

Materials for Event

Presentation:

Event Name: Pan-Asian Cultural Games Night

VSA is hosting this game night event to destress and promote their culture.

Games will come from various Pan-Asian organizations, including Shaka, WooJA, and others.

Requesting for \$204.99 to purchase games.

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Games help promote culture and fits the purpose of the clubs.

PRO: Event promotes diversity on campus.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.391 Engineers Without Borders (\$35.97)

Purpose of Funds:

The funds will be used to buy paper boxes, candy (Hershey's kisses), and valentine's day stickers do have a fun de-stress event that's valentine's day themed. Everyone is welcome to join.

Presentation:

Date of event is February 16, 2023. Requesting for funds to purchase paper boxes, stickers, and candy.

Total Requested Amount: \$35.97. Event is open to all club members and WPI community.

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Inexpensive.

PRO: Items are relevant to the purpose of event.

PRO: Open to all of campus.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.392 Cheerleading (\$1250)

Purpose of Funds:

To pay for mat space at Baystate All-stars (cheer gym).

Presentation:

Club cannot find enough mat space on-campus. WPI cannot accommodate their needs. Club hopes to practice off-campus at Baystate All-Stars gym for 8 practices at \$50 per hour.

Total Requested Amount: \$1250

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Fits purpose of club.

PRO: There is insufficient practice space on campus. Club must practice somewhere off-campus.

PRO: Club requires enough practice space to be safely practicing.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.393 Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (\$37.04)

Purpose of Funds:

This event will be a destress event to bring people together to make cards, friendship bracelets, and eat candy, and most importantly, relax!

Presentation:

Club will use funds to host a Valentine's destress event day before valentine's day, February 13. Funds will be used to purchase bracelet-making materials and candy (Hershey kisses and sweet tarts).

Total Requested Funds: \$64.98

Questions:

Q: Is the event open to all of campus?

A: The presentation does not mention that the event is open to all students on campus. The event seems to be an internal general body meeting.

Discussion:

CON: The event seems to be an internal food meeting and the food is not relevant to the purpose of the club.

MOTION: Amend out the cost of food items.

PRO: The food items are not relevant to the club's event and is not tied to the club's purpose or culture. SGA does not fund food for internal, general body member meetings.

Motion Passed. New Amended Amount is \$37.04

CON: Event should not be funded if it is not open to all of campus.

MOTION: Stipulate that event must be open to all of campus.

Outcome:

Passed in Amended Amount

F.23.394 Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Club (\$27.5)

Purpose of Funds:

To promote the upcoming collaborative resume event with the biotech and data science club, to fund printed career brochures/cheat sheets for the event, to fund promotional/prize BCB stickers at event

Presentation:

Club will be collaborating with the Data Science club. Club is requesting for \$7 worth of stickers and prizes that will cost less than \$1 per attendee. Club also wants to purchase pamphlets, brochures, and printing.

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Presentation is detailed and thorough.

PRO: Request follows bylaws.

PRO: Clubs rely on funds from SGA because they are a new club on campus.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.395 Ski & Snowboard Club (\$7103)

Purpose of Funds:

Presentation:

Request was canceled.

Questions:

Discussion:

Outcome:

CANCELED

F.23.396 Powerlifting Club (\$9064)

Purpose of Funds:

Assist the Powerlifting club afford monthly memberships and weekly ground transportation to train at nearby powerlifting gym.

Presentation:

Club aspires to send members to national level. Club members powerlift and club mission is to encourage health and personal development. Club requires an appropriate and dedicated space to train with coach sufficient equipment. Location of gym: Evolve Fitness and Training. Request is approved by Ann McCarron.

Off-campus gym fits the needs of the club. Club is also requesting for a bus to travel to gym.

Funding Request Breakdown:

Club will be organizing weekly practices from 2/15/23-4/26/23

\$550 for bus

Gym memberships for students: \$40

Requesting for SGA to cover 66% of gym memberships for up to 45 students for 3 months of training (\$3564)

Total Requested Amount: \$9064 for 10 practices for the spring semester

Questions:

Q: How many members are part of club?

A: Over 110 members in Slack. 30 people attended last general body meeting. Invitation to GBM was not through Outlook Calendar because of logistical issue. Club is in the process of having TechSync members and sending meeting invites more efficiently.

Q: Can anyone on campus attend practices?

A: Yes. Team is split into competitive and non-competitive members. There are no requirements to powerlift.

Q: Do members have to pay ahead of time to cover the fee?

A: The price is not guaranteed to be \$45. Students will pay \$40 out of pocket and 66% of it will be reimbursed to members. Up to 45 students can receive reimbursements.

Q: How will club choose who will attend?

A: Club will send out a sign up form. Representatives don't expect more than 45 people attending.

Q: What is the minimum number of people who will attend practices?

A: 25 students have committed. Many of them are also interested in receiving coaching.

Q: Is the coaching fee included in the fee?

A: No, coaching cost is an additional fee.

Discussion:

POI: Newly established club on campus.

PRO: Funds will be used to support a new club. Club currently has limited funding. Students can bond together through powerlifting.

PRO: Recreation Center gym is an inadequate space for club to operate.

PRO: Club coach's presence at practices is beneficial.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.397 Promotion of Animal Welfare Society (\$390)

Purpose of Funds:

To buy dogs for Dog Therapy on Wellness Day

Presentation:

Club raises funds to donate to Worcester Animal Rescue League

Event: Dog Therapy on February 24th (Wellness Day).

Club has recently been reactivated after Covid.

Total Price: \$780 (2 hours, 6 dogs , \$65 per hour per dog)

Total Requested Amount: \$390 (50% of total)

Other 50% will be covered by Center of Wellbeing.

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Event has been done before and was approved in the past.

PRO: Supports the mental health of students. Beneficial to the student body. An enjoyable activity that is relevant for Wellness Day.

PRO: Fits purpose of club.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.398 Men's Club Volleyball (\$2500)

Purpose of Funds:

The funds will be used to purchase jerseys for Men's Club Volleyball

Presentation:

Club Background: 20 students attend open practices. 12 students attend invite only practices
Funds will be used to purchase jersey tops and bottoms, and a traction mat. Current jerseys are 4-5 years old.

Total Requested Amount: \$108

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club

PRO: Mat will ensure safe practices. Items are integral to club's operations. Jerseys will help team represent WPI when playing sport.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.399 Christian Bible Fellowship (\$664.99)

Purpose of Funds:

These funds will be used to purchase items that will facilitate bonding/outreach. We are hoping to buy a Nintendo switch (with controllers and games) to use for public events and to promote bonding and fellowship.

Presentation:

Club intends to receive funding for a Nintendo Switch to attract new involvement in the club. The switch will encourage the club to organize more frequent game nights. Price of device and games is \$664.99.

Questions:

Q: Where will the Nintendo Switch be stored?

A: The device will be stored at the club representative's apartment or the Campus Center- whatever location is allowed.

Q: How often does club host game nights?

A: At least once a week.

Q: How many people attend game nights?

A: 40 people.

Q: Will the Nintendo Switch stay within the club?

A: Yes

Q: Are game nights open to all of campus?

A: Yes

Q: How many active members are within the club?

A: 40-50 people

Discussion:

PRO: Guitar fits the purpose of the club and is relevant to club's operations.

CON: The Nintendo Switch does not seem integral to the club's mission. Funding a Nintendo Switch for this club could set a precedent for other clubs.

CON: Wording of presentation implies that club already has more than one guitar in club's possession.

CON: The Nintendo Switch seems to be used for more personal use, rather than for club's activities. Nintendo Switch and games do not fit purpose of club.

CON: Club claims to use the Nintendo Switch as a method of "promotion and outreach". There are other methods to achieve this.

Outcome:

DENIED

F.23.400 WPI Alpine and Nordic Ski Team (\$8900)

Purpose of Funds:

Funds will be used for lodging, transportation, and entry fees

Presentation:

The team has qualified for regionals, placing 1st in the division for men and women are successful as well.

Regional Championship is at Sugarloaf and the winner goes to Nationals.

Request Breakdown:

Bussing: \$6400

Housing: \$2500

Tickets/Fees: \$2730

Requesting for only housing and bussing.

Total Requested Amount: \$8900

Total is around \$1000 more expensive than last year.

Questions:

Q: Where is it the competition located?

A: Sugarloaf.

Q: How many students are going?

A: 7 athletes from men's team and 7 athletes from women's team.

Q: Representative stated that team is waiting on division results. What does this imply?

A: Women's team are at 5th place and may not qualify based on the results from a race.

Q: What if the women's team does not qualify?

A: Only one of the women would need to attend competition.

Q: Are the tickets/fees a registration fee?

A: Yes they are.

Discussion:

Q: What are registration fees a part of?

A: Registration fees are used for trips, conferences, and competitions.

POI: Cub is only requesting for bussing and housing costs to be covered.

PRO: Making it to regionals is a great accomplishment. The team can represent WPI well.

POI: The team already has heavy funding in their budget. This team is a large expense for SGA funds.

Q: Does this team have a budget item for competitions?

A: Yes. There is a budget item for USCSA dues (\$680)

PRO: Skiing is an expensive sport, so high costs are reasonable.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.401 Christian Bible Fellowship (\$350)

Purpose of Funds:

These funds will be used to get a new guitar for our worship team. We have worship every Friday night and one of guitars is broken.

Presentation:

Club intends to receive funding for a new guitar (\$349.99). Club needs a new one because the old guitar belongs to a senior and is broken. Guitar is used for worship nights.

Questions:

N/A

Discussion:

PRO: Fits purpose of club. Guitar is used for worship.

CON: Presentation states that funding will be used to replace “one of the guitars”. This implies that there is at least one other guitar that club owns.

CON: Storage of guitar is unclear.

CON: Overall, presentation was ambiguous and lacked detail.

MOTION: Stipulate that guitar must stay within the club and must be stored on campus.

PRO: This stipulation will ensure that the guitar is stored safely.

OUTCOME: Motion passes

PRO: Request will follow bylaws and fits the purpose of the club.

Outcome:

Passed with Stipulation

F.23.402 Korean Student Association (\$4066.25)

Purpose of Funds:

Funds will be used to host an overall better event through better venue lighting and setup, more food, and wider variety of food options to showcase the flavors of Korea

Presentation:

Requesting funds for annual dinner event.

Club's goal is to promote Korean culture.

The Korean Dinner is the club's biggest annual event. Club wants to provide a variety of authentic food.

Expecting 150 attendees. Club wants LNL to provide proper lighting and sound. This part is new so it is not included in the budget. Club wants to advertise the event with flyers. Club will be purchasing silverware and dishes. Club will be purchasing decorations to make the event a high-quality event. The event will be located in the Odeum. \$4300 for food and drinks.

Total cost is \$5663, but club only has \$1200 in budget.

Total Requested Amount is \$4462.90.

Club is expecting event to grow because there is high interest from last year. Club also wants to produce a higher quality event.

Questions:

Q: Is the food catered through Chartwells?

A: No, but the club has a Chartwells exemption.

Q: How long will the silverware stay with the club?

A: The silverware will only be used for this year, but some of it will also stay with the club.

Q: Is the event open to all of campus?

A: Yes

Q: Do students need to RSVP?

A: Yes. Club will be table-sitting to raise awareness of event.

Discussion:

CON: The event seems overly expensive for an attendance increase of only 30 people.

POI: The cost per attendee comes to about \$30 per expected attendees.

Q: Is this event a banquet?

A: No, a banquet is just for members within the club.

PRO: The event will be a great way to unite the WPI community. This event has been funded before. This event fits the purpose of the club.

Q: Can SGA only fund up to \$200 for a club's promotional materials as per the bylaws?

A: It's a rule of thumb.

MOTION: cut out stationary and table snacks line items

PRO: Table snacks are unnecessary and not integral for the success of the event. Stationary is excessive.

PRO: SGA has denied table sitting snacks in the past and this is similar.

Motion Passes (New Total is \$4066.25)

PRO: These funds will allow the club to host a good, high quality event.

Motion: Stipulate that all ticket sales must be used to offset the cost of the event.

PRO: This will reduce the financial burden off of SGA.
Stipulation Passes

Outcome:
Passed in Amended Amount

F.23.403 Choral Music Association (\$4904.97)

Purpose of Funds:

Paying for LNL, facilities, and promotional materials for the concert

Presentation:

Event: Invitational style acapella show, which will include all 5 of PWI's groups and some musical groups from other schools. This is an opportunity for all 5 acapella groups to get together and perform together, which has never been done before.

Total Requested Funds: \$4904.07

\$4500 is to pay for LNL services (setup, labor, rented microphones). LNL suggests that individual mics will be best, to create a better audio mix. 32 microphones will be needed. More mics will make transitions between performances cleaner and simpler.

\$238 in custodial fees.

Additional funds to pay for advertising.

Questions:

Q: Is this event open to all of campus and will there be ticket fees?

A: This event is free to WPI students and external students will be ticketed.

Q: When is the event?

A: Saturday, February 25.

Q: Is the invitational only for WPI groups?

A: Club is hoping to invite some external groups from other schools.

Q: How many groups will be performing in total?

A: 10 groups will perform: 5 from WPI and another 5 invited each by one of the 5 WPI groups

Q: Is this a new event?

A: Yes. Organization hopes to establish this as an annual event.

Q: Have any external groups confirmed that they can perform?

A: Yes. Wheaton College, Simmons University, and others are ready to participate. Waiting for some groups to confirm.

Q: How many attendees will be reserved to attend? How many tickets do you expect to sell?

A: Organization is still figuring out ticketing and capacity. In the past, all of the seats in Alden have been filled so a large audience is anticipated. There are 350 seats available in Alden.

Q: What is the ticket price at other organized acapella concerts?

A: Usually \$5-10 for the general public, but free for WPI students.

Discussion:

Q: How much is a typical acapella concert?

A: SGA funded the Technicords concert. They received \$5300.

PRO: Spending \$5000 for 5 groups is a good investment, compared to funding only 1 group, which was done for Technicords.

PRO:

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.404 Running Club (\$900)

Purpose of Funds:

Pay for a bus to the bowling alley, shoe rental and 1.5 hours of bowling for 24 club members

Presentation:

Funds will be used to fund the club's Fun Friday Activity for 2/17/23. Club intends to play 1.5 hours of bowling at Apex Bowling. Fun Friday Activities help unite the runners together and serves as a community building activity.

Breakdown:

Bus: \$500

Bowling \$270

Buffer of \$22.

Total Requested Amount: \$900

Questions:

Q: What is the purpose of the buffer?

A: Help round the amount to a nice even number and to cover any unexpected costs.

Q: Is the event open to all students on campus?

A: Yes. However, roster is closed.

Discussion:

PRO: Fits the club's mission to encourage team-bonding within club.

PRO: Event is open to all of campus.

PRO: Effective destress event.

Outcome:

PASSED

F.23.405 WPI Green Team (\$6434.27)

Purpose of Funds:

For the materials needed to build/maintain the community garden

Presentation:

Expense Item: Community Garden at the CRC

Club has worked with the Office of Sustainability to propose this idea.

Discussed with right faculty and administration to build a garden with 6 beds.

This project will help efforts to solve the food insecurity issue. Garden can be a place to relax and improve mental health. Garden can also be a place for people to gather.

Total Requested Amount: \$6434.27

Funds will be used to purchase supplies (tools, 20ftx8ft green house etc.)

Seeds for garden will be included in future budget.

Club intends to expand space in the future (more beds, develop club's own compost system, rain water tank) Club hopes to make garden ADA-accessible. Club has received strong staff support.

Questions:

Q: Has club sought financial assistance from the Office of Sustainability?

A: Office will provide paid interns in the summer to take care of garden. Office can allocate a portion of their budget to support garden.

Q: How will garden be maintained?

A: Green Team has an organized subcommittee. Members will be trained. Students outside of club have also expressed interest in supporting the garden. Anyone can volunteer to maintain the garden. Anyone can collect their harvests from the garden.

Q: How many members are part of club?

A: 15 members in subcommittee. 50-70 general body members.

Q: How will club regulate planting and gathering?

A: It will be managed by the subcommittee.

Q: How will seeds be purchased?

A: Seedlings will be purchased at a free or reduced cost. Club intends to request for funds in the future. Club will purchase items based on available space.

Discussion:

PRO: Fits the purpose of the club.

PRO: New initiative on campus that could benefit the mental health of students.

CON: Club should first ask for department funding.

MOTION: Stipulate to first ask department (Office of Sustainability) and then SGA, for additional funding

CON: With limited SGA support, the expenses for the garden may not be included in a future budget.

PRO: In the club's efforts to establish the garden, they should seek department funding. SGA can provide support to sustain the garden through a budget.

Stipulation passed

Outcome:

Passed with Stipulation

F.23.406 Wind Band Association (\$2500)

Purpose of Funds:

Presentation:

Request was canceled.

Questions:

Discussion:

Outcome:

CANCELED