SUFAC Meeting Minutes

October 24th, 2019, 5:15pm

University Union 1965 Room

1. **Call to Order** 
   1. SUFAC Chair Hailey called the meeting to order at 5:18 pm.
2. **Roll Call**
   1. Haley Marks, Reese Eckenrod-Snyder, Kyle Klumb, Kejuan Goldsmith, Kody Klumb, Sierra Miller, Guillermo Gomez, John Landrum, Lea Truttman & Val Gonzalez.
   2. **Absent:** Yasmin Nur & Sarah Bock
3. **Recognition of Guests:** 
   1. Matt Suwalski - Director, University Union, Adam Fredrick – Student and Kyla Yeadon – Senate.
4. **Approval of Agenda** 
   1. Haley entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Sierra motioned. Kejuan seconded. Voice vote.

Consent was called, there was no dissent. Minutes passed.

1. **Approval of Minutes**
   1. Haley entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Kejuan motioned. Kyle seconded. Voice vote. Consent was called, there was no dissent. Agenda passed.
2. **Reports** 
   1. **OFO:** Committed $33928.53; Org. Start Up $1454.11.
   2. **Liaison:** 
      1. **Thursday** 10/24: UWGB Basketball vs. Michigan Tech (Kress Center at 7pm)
      2. **Friday**: Campus make a difference day, check Cue GB, Volleyball vs. Cleveland (Kress Center at 6pm), Swan Lake – Russian Ballet (Weidner Center at 7:30pm), Drag Show (Phoenix Rooms at 8pm)
      3. **Saturday**: Volleyball vs. Oakland (Kress Center at 4pm), Men soccer vs. Detroit (Kress Center at 7pm)
      4. **Monday**: Men Basketball vs. St. Norbert’s (Kress Center at 7pm)
      5. **Tuesday**: Harry Potter bingo (Phoenix rooms)
      6. **Wednesday**: Women basketball vs. Oshkosh (Kress Center at 7pm)**,** Haunted Union – scary trick or treating (Phoenix rooms at 9pm)
      7. **Thursday**: Grave dancers ball (Phoenix rooms 9pm)
      8. **This week:** Cheap seats – Spiderman far from home
   3. **Senate:** No meeting this week.
   4. **SGA Exec:** Working on finalizing some events, resolutions training to get some legislation through the senate, feedback for Provost (Academic plan), in contact with a documentary group in NY about voter outreach to get more early voters and the week to discuss early voting is changed to the week of the 11th.
   5. **Vice Chair:** Review budgets and make a presentation schedule. Working on emails for orgs that have to change things on their budgets.
   6. **Chair:** Budgets from orgs (75), Deal with few cases that came late, working on the presentation schedule and orgs that have to fix their budgets before presentation.
3. **New Business**
   1. **Union Contingency Request**
      1. Matt mentioned the Memo sent to SUFAC members
      2. The union has on schedule the renovating of its building project which will be done in 5-7 years. It will cost $6.5 million.
      3. Because no one in campus has the knowledge to dictate which option (renovating/ new building), the school is looking to fund a large-scale study, feasibility of the project. Group of people will come and interview students on campus, engineers will come and study the buildings and from it they will give the school data to develop the project like a budget inspection.
      4. The state of Wisconsin requires to do something like this to proceed with the project. UW-Milwaukee did one of these studies when renovating their unions. They have to apply to the state. Get some paperwork done of the plan.
      5. Matt showed gave some context of the Union building (when was created, smalls and big renovations, things that have changed.
      6. They are looking to add some space, change some equipment and renovating the entire building. The increase in footprint and the Alumni room are some of the reasons for this project.
      7. The study will cost $300000 (research). This will include data, campus interviews focus groups, surveys. The study will be done by a group that have done other unions in the state and that has a student first focus. They plan to split the cost
         1. Union Reserves $150000
         2. SUFAC $100000
         3. Campus administration - University Recreation $50000
4. **Discussion**
   1. **Union Contingency Request**
      1. Guillermo- The project is really expensive.
         1. Reese – The money they invested on is justified because they are going to use professionals for the study.
      2. Kejuan would like to see more studies so he can make sure students are going to benefit from it.
         1. Sierra thinks that the benefits are more long term and so they are not easy to shown at this moment.
      3. Haley clarifies that this request is not about funding renovation but funding a study to know what students think about the topic.
      4. Kyle thinks it would be a good first step to progress because the Union has to be bigger and improved.
      5. Sierra asked after the study where is the money to renovate, he Union coming from?
         1. John said that this project has being in the line for five years and the study is needed to start it.
         2. Guillermo said that some funding is going to come from students (increasing tuition) and some from the state.
         3. Haley said that there is not going to be a dramatic increase in the tuition. The union has been saving for the project. She reminded everyone that students use the Union building everyday so it will benefit them to have an improved place.
         4. Guillermo mentions that the cost of the project is 6.5 million which is 1/10 of the sizes of the library project
         5. John says the cost is of the study is what it is. The real question is who is going to pay for it. He said that the project will be funded by private donors. He talked about the Kress existing because of the increase in the segregated fees between the years 2000-2003 to get money for renovation.
            1. Guillermo asked how much was the Kress? John answered 32 million. Guillermo says that more students use the Union than the Kress. For such less money, students are using it more.
      6. Kejuan read about UW Milwaukee renovating union. They increased segregated fees dramatically since 2015 and won’t be paid until 2024.
      7. Haley asked members to raise their hands if they are in favor with the project. 5 people raised their hands to show their support.
5. **Questions/Comments**:
   1. Kejuan asked how long will the study be? Matt – 3 to 4 months by summer will be completed. There is administrative process in December and January.
   2. Sierra what benefits does SUFAC get? Matt - The University will not spend money where it does not have to. It will let the school prioritize what the students want to see in the renovation through a survey. Save us money in the future. Process- do the study, give option and a possibility of how to pay, talk to students, have them to vote. Present it to the board and then the state of Wisconsin who has to approve it.
   3. Reese is the school still planning to continue with the plan frame? Matt -That is the idea, but the state dictates the time of the process, not the school. He gave an example of a small renovation took them 7 years. Be positive!
   4. John mentioned that the Union building can get some help.
   5. Haley asked is the study looking how students use the space resources? Programmatic will give some finding and solutions of how much space is used and how much is need it for recreation and other purposes.
   6. Kejuan – during the construction process, in what ways will impact students? Winter? Mat- The renovation will be I certain phases - not taking everything away.
      1. Kejuan asked will it be slower doing it through phases? Matt- it will be easier to manage. Project comedy including student committee. UW- Stevens Point had to close their meal plan.
6. **Announcements**
   1. John- Relax about budgets. Don’t get too work up about it.
7. **Adjournment**
   1. Kejuan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sierra seconded. Consent was called, there was no dissent. Meeting adjourned at 6:01pm.