



# AMS Finance Committee Minutes

Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver  
Aug 27, 2021 at 4:00 PM PDT  
@ <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91667532872>

## Attendance

### Members Present:

Cole Evans, Mary Gan, Keith Hester, Max Holmes, Grace Lee

### Members Present (Remote):

Rita Jin (Staff)

### Members Absent:

Ben Morrison (SaL), Lucy Li (SaL), Kamil Kanji

### Guests Present:

Taylor Bootsma

### Guests Absent:

Jason Pang

#### I. Adoption of the Agenda

BIRT the agenda is adopted

Moved by Mary, Seconded by Max.

#### II. Approval of Minutes

BIRT the minutes for the August 17th, 2021 Finance Committee meeting are approved

 [August 17th, 2021 Finance Committee Minutes.pdf](#)

Moved by Mary, Seconded by Cole.

#### III. SPF Application: UBC Disposable Glove Recycling Program (Guests: Jason Pang)

BIRT that \$2150 is approved from the Sustainability Projects Fund for the UBC Disposable Glove Recycling Program

 [GloveRecyclingProject\\_AMS\\_Fund.pdf](#)

Mary:

Taylor, would you like to go over the project and people can ask questions after?

Taylor:

Me and a group of student in our lab came together. One of the PhD students did a sustainability presentation and about how we can improve sustainability in our lab.

Afterwards, we formed a group to do things to make our lab more sustainable. One thing

I noticed is how much gloves we throw away; they are not contaminated. Because we work with steroids, everything has to be sterile so we have to change gloves regularly. It is crazy how many gloves we go through; 8 pairs of gloves in there one time. We developed an idea to recycle gloves in our lab and in the centre for brain health. Kimberly Clark has their own method of recycling their gloves and we just need to ship it to them. However, they only recycle their own gloves. Terracycle recycle all types of nitrogloves. So we wanted to create a system to recycle all of them by getting two boxes for each type of glove. Then we can reach out to labs and start a competition to see which lab recycles the most. In the end, we will tally the amount of gloves and ship them off for recycling. Environmentally, recycling them is better than making them from scratch.

Mary:

I personally quite support it. I recently graduated from a Bachelor of Science so I am also a life science student and can relate to the glove waste in the labs. I think it will really benefit have the gloves recycled than going into the landfill. I have one question. There are a lot of labs on campus, will all the lab tech and assistants help sort it into the boxes or just one box for all of them? How will you differentiate Kimberly Clark gloves from other brands?

Taylor:

We want to start in our lab. Me and the other team members will be there to help sort it. Ideally, we would transition to all Kimberly Clark gloves.

Mary:

For that plan, do you plan to start with Kimberly Clark and then expand to other brands too?

Taylor:

For Kimberly Clark, they can only recycle their own gloves.

So we will start with Terracycle boxes but they are a little too expensive.

Afterwards, we will start only accepting Kimberly Clark gloves.

Mary:

Will there be difficulty to sort a box of mixed types of gloves. Is it easy to differentiate them?

Taylor:

Yes, you can definitely differentiate them. But it might be difficult if they are all in one box. I can look into that more and send you guys an email to follow up.

Mary:

That was my only question; I think it's a good idea. Does anyone else have any questions?

**BIRT that \$2150 is approved from the Sustainability Projects Fund for the UBC Disposable Glove Recycling Program.**

Moved by Mary, Seconded by Max.

IV. SPF Application: Freedge for Fuel (Guests: Jason Pang)

BIRT that \$6,000 is approved from the Sustainability Projects Fund for Freedge for Fuel

 [SPF Application - Freedge for Fuel.docx](#)

 [Financial Summary - Freedge for Fuel.xlsx](#)

Tracy:

Hi, I'm Tracy. I'm a BUCS alumni, and I graduated this May. We applied first year pilot project.

Rachel:

Hi, my name is Rachel. I use she/her pronouns. I recently graduated from the Food and Nutrition Health program in LFS and will be going into my graduated studies in public health next. I want to give a heads up that Valerie might not be able to make it so we can carry on.

Mary:

Can you give a introduction/briefer on the project? We already have the project opened and we have read it.

Rachel:

Sure, so Freedge for Fuel is based on a mutual aid model. There hasn't been one at UBC. An open access, non-policed fridge that students can donate what they can. There won't be policed or registration needed. We decided on a mutual aid model because realized that food insecurity impacts nearly 40% of university students common across post secondary institutions and is a health concern both physically, mentally, and academically. 40% is an alarming rate and we believe that any initiative to support other students is a meaningful one.

Mary:

If that is it for the briefer, we can get started on the questions. My first question is guaranteeing the safety of the food. If it is open 24/7 and there is no registration/restriction on what can be donated, how can we ensure and regulate that food in the fridge is safe.

Tracy:

We have consulted this with the Freedge for Fuel in Vancouver. There are restrictions on what can be donated although we cannot guarantee. We can implement signs and clear banners that indicate which foods are not safe to donate (e.g. opened, eaten, expired). After the consulting, they proved a pretty good model. People will be aware that the food will be going to someone else for consumption – mindfulness.

Rachel:

They have also made us aware of the liabilities with donating food. With the food donor encouragement act, there is liabilities between damages, illnesses, and deaths that protects our project from that. However, from their experiences, there was never been an issue. That will come down to our effort on putting in proper guidelines for donations and usage so that the regulations are clear.

Mary:

Some other questions I had was will we be able to record when the food was donated and how longer it will still be safe to eat? Before it expires or go bad. Will we have records on hand that will regulate food that are perishable. Do you have a system for that?

Tracy:

We will have volunteers but we cannot guarantee every food. For now, we have chatted with a couple bigger organizations/community who can send us food donations in bulk; for these donations, we can review the dates. The concept of a community fridge is for people to donate when they can. We won't be able to have volunteers there 24/7 to regulate that.

Rachel:

In terms of perishable foods, we are looking at produce. We won't be accepting meats. We will have volunteers checking the produce regularly to ensure the food don't go rotten.

Tracy:

I see that Keith and Max both have their hands up. Do you want to chime in?

Keith:

Go ahead Max.

Max:

It is an interesting project. There are some outstanding questions in the application itself. For example, the location and how you plan to run it for 24/7. For example, there isn't any 24/7 open locations on the UBC Campus (aside from McDonalds off campus). That is one question. The second piece is more around whether or not for the continuity of the project for the communal fridge to have it as a separate project or to be integrated with the AMS Food bank so that volunteers from there could help with the fridge too?

Tracy:

That's a great point. For both points, we have thought about and discussed within our team. For the first question, we understand that there are difficulties with that. Our initial idea is that we just have the pantry and not the fridge. We are still looking for a location and that's why we want to do a primary survey to find which one will be most suitable for UBC students and logistically. We have been researching but we haven't finalized one.

Rachel:

In terms of consulting with the community, we recognize that we have limitations so we really wanted to bring in the student voices which our budget will help us do. We want to ensure that it is useful, accessible, and appropriate. For the second project, we have consulted with different community groups such as UBC sustainability and we pitched the idea that the program could be under the sustainability ambassador program. Students can be recruited on a term basis. We have thought about potential student employment opportunities through Work Learn funding but that is a long term plan.

Tracy:

Does that answer your question Max? Is there anything we should elaborate on?

Mary:

Any other questions?

Rachel:

One more thing, we also talked to Food Security Initiative. So we are well connected and we have discussed potential collaboration opportunities so that is another avenue for integration of sustainability.

Mary:

That should be all the questions then. Jason will let you know of the results.

Tracy:

When should we know of the results by?

Mary:

Probably within the next few days. The AVP Sustainability will contact you about it.

Max:

I think it is an interesting project. If we vote no, we should suggest some ideas for the project. Communal fridge has been successful in other locations. I feel uncomfortable approving the project if they don't have continuity. They are individual students and it would be difficult unless they partner with another organization for the project.

Mary:

They could not confirm if the food will be sanitary, fresh, or consumable. They said they can check over the food but they can't really tell aside from the common indicators. It is hard to guarantee the food will be consumable aside from appearance. They didn't really have a set out plan aside from checking and hoping for the best. I do not think they have a solution for these problems. Jason can base on our feedback prepare the response email to indicate what we want to see.

**BIRT that \$6,000 is NOT approved from the Sustainability Projects Fund for Freedged for Fuel.**

#### V. Sustainability Projects Fund Subcommittee

BIRT that the Sustainability Projects Fund Subcommittee is dissolved

 [Sustainability-Projects-Fund TOR Updated-November-9-2020-Final.pdf](#)

 [Sustainability Subcommittee Terms of Reference.pdf](#)

Mary:

The SPF applications used to be judicated by the Sustainability Project Fund subcommittee which was under Finance Committee. However, due to reductions and hiring, we no longer have the SPF administrator under my portfolio. Instead of having

the SPF subcommittee, we have delegated this job to the sustainability subcommittee which is under the operations committee jurisdiction. They review the SPF applications and any over \$5000 goes to the Finance Committee. Since the sustainability committee has taken over the tasks, the SPF subcommittee is not longer needed.

Max:

All we're doing is getting rid of a subcommittee right?

Mary:

Yes; Their mandate is going to the sustainability subcommittee.

Max:

Does that mean the SPF applications we have seen will no longer come to Finance Committee?

Mary:

If the value is over \$5000, it will still come to Finance Committee. If it is under \$5000, it will be reviewed by the sustainability committee instead of the SPF subcommittee.

**BIRT that the Sustainability Projects Fund Subcommittee is dissolved.**

Moved by Mary, Seconded by Grace.