

AMS Finance Committee

Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver

March 22nd, 2023

Meeting called to order 4:08 PM

Present:

- Lawrence Liu
- Rachel Kim
- Sneh Agarwal
- Kana Kawanishi
- Thomas Dunsmore
- Celia Chung (nv)
- Gavin Fung-Quon (nv)

Guests:

- Ben Du
- Nadeem Kajani

Minutes

Lawrence motions to approve minutes,

Unanimous consent

Item I: Event Venue Benefit Presented by Ben Du

- Background Problem: Benefit Great Hall is the biggest bookable venue for free for clubs , but currently the requests have to be denied because of the scarcity
 - Other venues on campus: very high cost
 - Barrier to participants of clubs who cannot afford
- Fund for Venues
 - Assess application within 3 business days, and have amount deposited within 5 business days
 - 50% of venue cost up to 1000\$
- Why?
 - Full academic year since COVID-19 restrictions
 - Ending the year off well for clubs to have their year end events without financial difficulties of venue costs
- Asking for:
 - Up to \$60 000 from Clubs Benefit
 - Minimum of 60 successful clubs applications
 - Liberal estimate for request
- Precedent
 - Clubs Recovery Benefit
 - Should not worry about this
- Eshana Asks: this funding date is close to the end of year why?
 - Ben: it is a two month interval which is enough time, but for clubs who have had events, it can potentially be accessed retroactively

- Lawrence:
 - Current spending of \$20 000 if the Clubs Benefit Fund, so there is space to move
 - Could this be used to book out say night clubs?
 - Ben: Perhaps, but must be used smartly for venue costs, not catering or other expenses.
- Rachel: Is this for clubs only or constituencies?
 - Since it will be coming from clubs benefit fund, not clubs & constituencies fund, it would be exclusively for clubs.
- Ben: It is acceptable to spend more than intake because since it is the first full year, we need to help in the recovery since the club's growth has been limited in the past two years.
- Lawrence: Who would be in charge of processing?
 - Ben: Administration office

BIRT the finance committee approves the disbursement of up to \$60 000 for the event venue grant

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Rachel

Unanimous consent

Note : Committee update by Ben Du on April 5th

Item II: AMS Events Budget Presentation by Nadeem Kajani

- Total Budget 550K
- Increase in AMS Events Office budget 282K for events office:
 - Salaries, of a full time new staff, senior events coordinator for planning events like music festivals, will be hourly
 - Paying staff better than minimum wage
- Eshana asks: Would this be a full time staff you are adding on?
 - Nadeem: Yes because the previous person working has been moved into a different role. They will be turning this into a permanent staff position
 - Eshana: Will not be able to hire students for that position?
 - No this will be a professional full time person who has experience working with festivals and planning
 -

WBBQ: Need an increase in budget for Welcome Back Barbeque

- Cost of hosting for both all ages and 19+ events
- Expenses remain the same, but ticket revenue will take a hit

First week

- Drop in first week kit sales, but to address spending, more sponsorship revenue
- 10K, 1/3 of what was spent previously
- Eshana: Will these be sold?

- Nadeem: the kits will be given out for free and lets sponsors use the
 - Eshana: generally against these sales, so move in right direction because they are often given out already and it presents AMS Events as sales people
- Events in first week
 - Projected to be higher because of increased revenue of ticket sales

Block Party:

- Change in talent expenses, more expensive over year
- Push to move for increased advertising
 - Physical postering around town
- Production and venue costs continue to go up with market

Lawrence: Inquiring more about the permanent staff + Eshana adds: they need to be given benefits as well.

- Nadeem: more clarity and transparency on production side which should save money compared to current third party business who handles this task
 - Day to day: checking and overseeing team, helping with hiring as well as helping out with tasks as well

Lawrence: What about reducing associates in the light of this new hire?

- Nadeem: agreed cutting down on paid associates, having more student volunteers to help would be beneficial

Lawrence: support this position as long as salary and benefits are approved, as long as associates roles are limited and inclusion of more volunteer roles

Nadeem Ends his presentation:

Meeting adjourned at 4:45