16th Meeting of the 17th Financial Board FY24
Meeting Room: CC Chairs Room
September 13th, 2023
5:30 - 8:00 pm
Present: Treasurer Katie Bowles, Accountant Lauren Abraham, Chair Felicia Link, Chair Theo Barnes-Cole, Chair Michaela Cluett, Senator Connor Chartier, Senator Aidan Eldridge, Senator Sri Mukunthraj, Senator John Peabody, Senator Axel Luca, Senator Evan Mandel

I. Call to Order
II. Treasurer’s Remarks
III. Old Business
IV. New Business
Appropriations Committee:
   A.24.9 Rangeela ($75) – PASSED
   A.24.10 Tea Club ($26.10) – PASSED
   A.24.11 Pickleball ($75.53) – PASSED
   A.24.12 The Alliance ($120.50) – PASSED
   A.24.13 Active Minds ($50) – PASSED
F.24.16 Hindu Yuva ($1867) – PASSED WITH STIPULATION
F.24.17 Esports ($515) – PASSED
F.24.18 Women’s Club Rugby ($516) – PASSED
F.24.19 Bionics Club ($453.10) – PASSED
F.24.20 SAE ($1210) – PASSED WITH STIPULATION
F.24.21 Competitive Climbing Club ($1060) – PASSED
F.24.22 Enactus ($87) – PASSED
F.24.23 Motorsports Club ($735) – PASSED
F.24.24 Men’s Club Rugby ($350) – CANCELED

V. Questions, Comments, and Ideas
VI. Adjournment
A.24.9 Rangeela ($75)

**Purpose of Funds:**
Application fee for dance competition.

**Presentation:**
Rangeela is a club sport with 22 members.
The team fundraises throughout the year for various events and promotes South Asian dance and culture on campus.
The team is going to a dance competition called Harvard Ranak.
Total requested: $75 for application fee.

**Questions:**
Q: Is the application fee just for a single event? A: Yes.

**Discussion:**
Pro: Well structured and thought-out.
Pro: Fits the purpose of the club.
Pro: Great to promote cultural organizations on campus.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
A.24.10 Tea Club ($26.10)

Purpose of Funds:
Tea frother for Pakistani tea event & future workshop use.

Presentation:
Tea club currently has a membership of 50-90 people, and was founded 2 years ago. Have run many previous events, including bubble tea. The club has no previous budget, and are having a professor come in to demonstrate brewing of Pakistani tea. Need tea frother for this event and future workshops. Total Requested: $26.10.

Questions:
N/A

Discussion:
Pro: Very good investment for the club as it is cheap, reusable equipment. Pro: Enhances the event they are putting on. Pro: Professor has approved of the request.

Outcome:
Passed in Full.
A.24.11 Pickleball ($75.53)

Purpose of Funds:
New pickleball racquets and grip tape.

Presentation:
The pickleball club is a recently founded, and very inclusive to anyone who wants to play the sport. The club accommodates a range of practice levels. Requesting more paddles & grip tape, previously had requested this in 2022. The club has grown from 15 to 40 members, and so requires more paddles in addition to replacements. Storage has been approved in the rec center. Total requested: $87.23.

Questions:
N/A

Discussion:
Pro: We previously approved balls, they will need associated paddles.
Pro: Able to include more people with more paddles.
Pro: Great community-building sport.

Outcome:
Passed in Full.
**A.24.12 The Alliance ($120.50)**

**Purpose of Funds:**
Flags and pamphlets for Bi Visibility Day

**Presentation:**
The alliance is requesting funds for Bi Visibility Day.
Will be table sitting on 21st to promote event, in addition to other advertising.
Event is open to all of WPI.
Total requested: $121.50 for flags and pamphlets.
In future printing costs will be through ODIME.
Event helps raise awareness for Bi folks.
The pride flags were very popular last year.

**Questions:**
N/A

**Discussion:**
Pro: Love supporting LGBTQ people and organizations.
Pro: Helps club spread awareness.
Pro: Increases inclusivity on campus.
Pro: Printing is a one-time cost.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
**A.24.13 Active Minds ($50)**

**Purpose of Funds:**
Infinity cubes for mental health workshops.

**Presentation:**
Active Minds is a national organization supporting mental health for young adults. The WPI chapter has weekly GBMs to learn about mental health and collaborates with other clubs on campus. This request consists of supplies for empathy/setting boundaries workshops. These workshops will be open to all of WPI. The infinity Cubes to use as de-stressing measure, and will be stored in the active minds locker. Total requested: $49.95. Event will help nurture well-being.

**Questions:**
N/A

**Discussion:**
Pro: Mental health awareness is important.
Pro: This is a fun, low-cost way to brighten people’s days/moods.
Pro: Excited to see active minds participating in wellness days.
Q: Did the FR account for tax? A: No, but it can be accommodated when the reimbursement form is submitted.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
F.24.16 Hindu Yuva ($1867)

Purpose of funds:
Ganesh Chaturthi event on campus.

Presentation:
Club has previously done several events: collaboration with SASA (200+ attendees), movie
night, wellness day event, ODIME.
Ganesh Chaturthi - One of biggest religious festivals in India, usually somewhere between
August and September, it is 5 days long.
Space has already been booked in the CRC.
Need funding for idols, food, a band, and various decoration expenses.

Questions:
Q: What are the listed “misc. expenses”? A: Decoration and prayer-related items.
Q: How many people are expected? A: 200+, Spread across 5 days. The event will be walk-in.
Q: Has the exemption from Chartwells been approved? A: Exemption has not been approved yet.
Q: Where will food come from? A: A nearby restaurant.

Discussion:
Pro: Effective & efficient use of money, represents a large cultural group on campus.
Pro: This is a religious event, it is good to support diversity.
Point: Wish there was more specific breakdown of costs.
Point (in response): Expenses will likely cover flowers/garlands, set of food as offering to idol,
possibly someone from local religious organization to come in and perform prayer.
Pro: These items seem reasonable.
Pro: Great when clubs can offer religious experiences on campus, helps improve accessibility.
Pro: After seeing more detailed cost breakdown, it is easy to approve this.

Outcome:
Passed - stipulating that the Chartwells exemption form must be completed first.
F.24.17 Esports ($515)

**Purpose of Funds:**
Registration funds for collegiate esports league for WPI Rocket League team.

**Presentation:**
Competing in NECC conference for Rocket League (6 teams). Requesting $515 for tournament fee, incl. transaction fee.

**Questions:**
Q: Will there be any travel involved? A: No.
Q: Is the $500 an entry fee? A: Yes, covers registration for every team that the school enters in the tournament.

**Discussion:**
Point: Entry fee can only be funded for ⅔ cost.
Pro: Rocket league is fun, the tournament fits the purpose of the club, and it may not fit normal definition of entry fee.
Con: This is still functionally a club sports entry fee.
Point: Rangeela previously was funded in full for a dance competition.
Pro: Fairly small cost for 20-22 people competing, student life fee is effectively distributed.
Point: Rangeela was in fact approved in full for application fee.
Point: This is a league registration.
Pro: Great opportunity for club to represent WPI.
Pro: This is more of an application fee, lasts the whole season.
Q: How is the propriety of entry/application fee decided? A: Largely at the discretion of the board.
Q: Was this funded last year? A: No, this is new.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
**F.24.18 Women’s Club Rugby ($516)**

**Purpose of Funds:**
New rugby balls and water bottles.

**Presentation:**
Requesting for new balls and water bottles.
Balls need regular replacement, and the team got 25 new players this season – balls pop, get lost, etc.
Need water bottles for quick water during the game to keep people hydrated.

**Questions:**
Q: What is the amount requested? A: $516.
Q: How long will the balls/water bottles last? A: Balls 2-3 seasons, Water bottles 5-10 years.

**Discussion:**
Pro: Fits the purpose of the club.
Pro: Lasts for a long time.
Pro: Helps the rugby players play rugby, keeps them hydrated.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
**F.24.19 Bionics Club ($453.10)**

**Purpose of Funds:**
New and replacement materials for thumb war project.

**Presentation:**
Bionics club: requesting for thumb war project.
Students will design, CAD, and 3D print a bionic finger through a series of workshops runs by the club.
The goal is to reach the point where the bionic fingers can engage in a thumb war by the end of term.
Event will be in Unity Hall 420 (end of term).
Club has 35-40 members, and will have material stored in the club locker in the CC.
Need new materials, will additionally be using old leftover components.
Total requested: $453.10.
Will serve as an entry-level project for new club members.

**Questions:**
Q: Why are there only 3 arduinos being requested? A: Each is a pack of 5.
Q: Will this be a recurring event? A: Something similar will be run every A-term, materials will be re-used.

**Discussion:**
Pro: Love the club – this was well presented, and they always have cool events.
Pro: Super cool and interesting, fits purpose of club, would personally be interested in participating.
Pro: Teaches students new skills, applicable to major.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
F.24.20 SAE ($1210)

Purpose of Funds:
Kona ice truck and materials for fundraising.

Presentation:
Raising money to deal with effects of Maui fires, will be using on-campus and online campaigns.
Event will be at the fountain sept 18th/19th, and on the quad on the 21st.
Requesting $210 for small items.
Kona Ice: food truck to help fundraise, they offered a $500 cost reduction.
Total requested: $1210.
Looked for mini-grant from SAO (were unsuccessful).
Fundraising goal: $10,000.
Pushing greek life connections, GPS, plus the online campaign through SAE’s crowdchange system.
Using social media, CC display, sandwich displays, MyWpi, etc. for marketing.
Have sign-ups set up for volunteering, will advertise to IFC.

Questions:
Point: SOAP fund is by SAO, contact Christine Sherry, if approved SGA can front this FR cost and be reimbursed later.
Q: Can you describe the event? A: Will have booths with homemade Hawaiian foods, funded by ODIME.
Q: Did you get a Chartwells exemption for this ODIME food? A: Yes.
Q: Is Kona ice free or sold? A: We are using the food truck as an attraction, so it will be free.

Discussion:
Point: Fundraisers are often not funded, however in some cases where we are not directly paying for the items they have been.
Pro: Have looked for a variety of decreases, the ice is free.
Pro: A food truck is a great way to give exposure, they are working toward a great cause.
Pro: Lots of due diligence and other fundraising.
Pro: FR is for less than cost of foodtruck, great fundraising efforts already.
Point: They will not be selling anything we’re directly funding.
Pro: It makes sense for us to fund the attractions.

Outcome:
Passed - stipulating that if SAO fundraising is successful, funds will reimburse SGA.
F.24.21 Competitive Climbing Club ($1060)

**Purpose of Funds:**
Tryouts for the competitive climbing team at CRG.

**Presentation:**
Competitive climbing tryouts, team will compete in USAC league and local competitions. Asking for funds to host tryouts, this will be to reserve space at CRG.
Request total: $1060.

**Questions:**
Q: Is this outdoors? A: No, indoors.
Q: What is extra $60 for? A: Tax/other fees.
Q: Is this open to all of campus? A: Yes.
Q: What do you think attendance will be? A: Expecting about 50.
Q: What is the date of the tryouts? A: Saturday.

**Discussion:**
Pro: Fits the purpose of the club and sounds fun.
Pro: Great to have time for just WPI students to go practice.
Pro: Good time for climbers to just go try out.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
F.24.22 Enactus ($87)

**Purpose of Funds:**
Gift for entrepreneurship speaker.

**Presentation:**
Enactus helps students build business and startup skills, assists in finding mentors and partners.
Recently have had Pitching and Creation Jam events.
Have invited speakers from startups recently, have recently invited Martin Burt.
Talk will help people identify unique startup opportunities.
Speaker did not ask for any payment.
Purchasing gifts and marketing materials.
Total Requested: $87

**Questions:**
N/A

**Discussion:**
Pro: Low cost, high impact
Pro: Very unusual to find speakers that will come for free.
Pro: Like a thank you card, good image for WPI to set.

**Outcome:**
Passed in Full.
F.24.23 Motorsports Club ($735)

Purpose of Funds:
Movie night using LNL services

Presentation:
Club is open to any motor-related sports!
Requesting for a movie night, which will be open to all of campus.
LNL fees will be the movie rights and projection.
Advertising through MyWPI, Instagram, etc.

Questions:
N/A

Discussion:
Pro: Cars is a great movie choice, SGA frequently funds themed movie nights.
Pro: Great for new students on weekends.
Pro: Cheap event, lots of impact.

Outcome:
Passed in Full.