

Student Finance Committee Minutes

March 21st, 2022

1203 Northern Center

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m.
- II. **Public Comment**
 - a. No public comment
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. *Tommy* motioned to approve the agenda
 - *Spencer* second; passes unanimously
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. *Eli* motioned to approve the minutes
 - *Tommy* second; passes unanimously
- V. **Chair Report**
 - a. ***Emily Martens- Chairperson***
 - SFC currently has \$96,660.80. That number has gone up from last week because there were some canceled events and some groups didn't use all of their funds. I will be meeting with the President's Roundtable on April 1st at 3 p.m. to get the word out on the allocation increase. I encourage you guys to go to the Diversity Forum on March 30th from 6:30-9:00 p.m. I hope to confirm a room for our EFG meeting this week. Kash is back to work next Monday! I'm not sure when he'll return to these meetings, but he will be back then.
- VI. **Advisor Report**
 - a. ***Jeff Korpi- Faculty Advisor***
 - No faculty advisor report
- VII. **New Business**
 - a. **South Superior Climbing Club**
 - *Vaughn Rodriguez (Vice President of SSCC)*: I have been a part of the South Superior Climbing Club as the VP for a little over a year now. Because of this club I have been able to climb all over the U.P., Midwest, and even out west! It has been extremely valuable to me and my climbing abilities. Our main goal is to unite students and community members alike to hangout under one common passion- climbing. Our Facebook group is home to over 1000 climbers who all love climbing in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. That is our home base, but we also make use of NMU's The Hub to host events and communicate with our audience.
 - *Micah Carroll (President of SSCC)*: I have been a part of this organization for four years. I came here as a climber and found a rich community in SSCC that I was able to contribute to as events coordinator my sophomore year and eventually President my junior and senior year. Specifically I wanted to mention the history of our organization in relation to you guys. We have had six years of consecutive funding from SFC for Reel Rock, a movie we show for free on-campus. We didn't host it last year- it was a digital premiere due to Covid- so we're excited to host it again this year. Last year, we applied for and received gear funding. We have used this gear to open up our events to students who struggle to

pay for gear. We've had one of our most successful years of student engagement in the history of the club! We calculated that we provided 250 first-time rock climbing experiences. The gear was specifically used in our fall and winter social climbs, which brought in about 40-60 students each month. So the first part of our budget is for Reel Rock and the second part is for more gear.

- *Vaughn*: Reel Rock is an annual film tour that shares the stories of the global climbing community. It is great to unite climbers. In 2019 it cost us \$1,200 to put on the movie, which sounds like a lot, but 112 people (both students and community members) came and enjoyed the film for free. Reel Rock in 2022 cost \$1,300 to bring to campus. Reel Rock is an annual showing, but they do offer packages so we can show it all throughout the season. Climbing is an inherently expensive sport and we understand it has barriers. That is why the second part of our budget includes the purchasing of more gear for club members that will continue to help us keep Wildcats climbing.
- *Hugh Gunderson (SSCC Officer)*: Of course you need a lot of stuff for climbing- ropes, helmets, shoes, and more to be safe and successful. We also want to set members up with cool SSCC merch like magnets and stickers.
- *Gary Lawton (SSCC Officer)*: I went climbing for the first time last winter during a hall event and then started climbing at the PEIF all the time. I wanted to climb outdoors but I had no gear or knowledge or connections. I went to a SSCC event at Sugarloaf though and then was able to continue climbing with all the new people I met. With the knowledge I've gained through this club, I've been able to climb independently as well- just this spring break, I went to Horseshoe Canyon Ranch in Arkansas climbing nonstop.
- *Spencer*: I noticed there was a 20% discount listed for you guys at Downwind Sports.
 - a) *Vaughn*: The owner is a climber and a friend of ours. Our club has a discount with them year-round!
- *Emily*: First off, this was a great presentation. My question is that on the technical Reel Rock budget, there is only the funds for the movie listed, but on the gear budget you have things like printing, media purchases, and merchandise- are those supposed to be listed there?
 - a) *Vaughn*: We split those up based on things that are one stand alone event, like Reel Rock, and then things that are year-round, like gear and tangible items.
 - b) *Micah*: The printing cost refers to advertising for club events. Reel Rock provides us with stamped posters, so the total cost includes those posters.
- *Emily*: So the media purchases line item refers to what?
 - a) *Micah*: The physical DVDs of the films.
- *Emily*: I know you mentioned acquiring merchandise- how exactly are you going to disperse those?
 - a) *Micah*: We want to bring them to events. We don;t have any specific dispersion plans, but we were thinking of a first come first serve for people who come to our local events. We don;t want to charge people and wouldn't make any priorities either.
 - b) *Vaughn*: Fall Fest and Winterfest tables as well.
 - c) *Emily*: Okay! We cannot give money to let orgs give things to their members, but we can fund promotional items. I would almost say that if this budget were to pass, you would have to ensure they're for promotion only.
- *Vaughn*: Hypothetically, hockey-game style cannon to disperse the shirts?

- a) *[Cannon style dispersion of SSCC merch was tabled]*
 - **Tommy:** How do you store all of the equipment you have?
 - a) *Micah:* We currently use giant Ikea bags that live at my house. Club members are able to reach out to me directly and get the gear brought to them at the drop of a hat. We have talked in the past about storing on campus somewhere, but this method allows us to make sure the gear is accessible.
 - b) *Vaughn:* This system has worked pretty well. We aren't missing a single piece of gear. We are open to exploring other options though.
 - **Eli:** Can you compare what gear you already have vs. what you are looking at purchasing?
 - a) *Vaughn:* Last year, we bought bare bones gear. Things that a lot of people don't have doubles of are harnesses, shoes, and helmets. So we would like to expand the foundation you guys helped us build last semester, but also get some gear that will allow anyone to go by themselves with the knowledge they get from the club if we aren't available to take them out/loan our gear.
 - b) *Micah:* It doesn't assume that the club leaders are affluent. Right now, we're using our own personal gear to make events happen and in the future there may be students that have the skills, but not the money to make events happen. This budget intends to make it future-proof so that anyone can be a club leader and contribute to events.
 - **Tommy:** Do you have a rough guess of when you want to host Reel Rock?
 - a) *Micah:* If this budget passes, we'll immediately start working to figure out a date, preferably 2-3 weeks out so that we have time to promote.
 - **SFC Deliberation:**
 - a) *Hunter:* As someone who has bought film rights before, it is a large amount of money, but it is also a smaller film intended for a more niche audience.
 - b) **Tommy motioned to approve South Superior Climbing Club's budget for Reel Rock in full for \$1,300**
 - **Spencer second; passes unanimously**
 - c) *Emily:* I am really glad to see that the equipment we funded has been getting good use. However, the merchandise section of this budget concerns me because if they were to unintentionally go about it wrong, they could get in trouble, as well as us.
 - d) *[The committee realized that additional line items were added to the budget]*
 - e) **Tommy motioned to table South Superior Climbing Club's budget for gear, merchandise, printing, and media purchases**
 - **Spencer second; passes unanimously**
- b. Medicinal Plant Chemistry Club**
- **Darren Simmons (President of MPCC):** We would like to host Dr. Todd Hillhouse to speak here at NMU on the topic of how ketamine can be used for pain management. We would like to provide him with money for a hotel, gas, and food for one night.
 - **SFC Deliberation:**
 - a) **Spencer motioned to approve the Medicinal Plant Chemistry Club's budget in full for \$195.43.**
 - **Tommy second; passes unanimously**
- c. Divest NMU**

- *Molly Miller (Member of Divest NMU):* We are an organization that advocates for the removal of fossil fuel investments from the university's endowment and reinvesting in the community. We are a fairly new club.
- *McKenzie Geary (Member of Divest NMU):* The main part of our budget is event supplies and advertising for a tabling event at the end of the week. We'd really like to get our voice out there and get people interested. Another event we'd like to put on is a speaker to talk about divestment.
- **SFC Deliberation:**
 - a) *Tommy* motioned to approve Divest NMU's budget in full for \$1.065.
 - *Spencer* second; passes unanimously

VIII. Old Business

- a. No old business

IX. Good of the Order

- a. *Emily:* In the fall of 2022, Eli will be your official Chairperson!
 - *[Applause followed, clearly, as Eli is one of the best people around and the committee looks forward to having him as the next Chairperson of SFC]*

X. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.