

SAF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Friday May 27th, 2022

[ONLINE]

Meeting Time: 10:30- 12:30

Meeting Facilitator: Abraham Dawidziak Kiermaier

Meeting Minute Taker: India-Lynn Upshaw-Ruffner

Members in attendance:

Sebastián Di Poi (SAF)

Duha Elmardi (SAF)

Rebecca Black (SAF)

Faye Sun (CSU)

Erik Huang (Community)

Roy Singer-Shay (Student-at-Large)

Julia Maksymetz (GSA)

Willem Burnaby (Fine Arts)

Christopher Vaccarella (CSU Council)

Sean Levis (CSU Sustainability Coordinator) [non-voting for today]

Sai Praveen Gudichuttu (CASA/JMSB)

Georgette Pascual (Arts & Science)

Mitchell McLarnon (Concordia Faculty)

Members absent:

Courtney Witter (SAF)

Brett Cox (Sustainable Concordia)

Jessica Di Bartolomeo (Student-at-Large)

Kelley Boileau (ENG)

Cassandra Lamontagne (Concordia Staff)

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

a. Sign up for next meeting

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

a. [May 4th, 2022] BoD Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the [May 4th, 2022] meeting minutes:

• Moved by: Chris

• Seconded by: Erik

- In favour: all
- Against: none
- Abstain: none
- *Motion passes unanimously*

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Motion to adopt the [May 27th, 2022] agenda:

- **Moved by:** Mitchell
- **Seconded by:** Willem
 - In favour: all
 - Against: none
 - Abstain: none
- *Motion passes unanimously*

4. SAF General Updates

a. **Vote in Sean Levis as SAF board member in CSU Sustainability Coordinator seat (starting June meeting)**

ii. Will be replacing Faye after June 1st

iii. Conflict of interest of Sean:

- On board of woodnote cooperative, was the one who submitted an application to SAF for funding. Will be passing on board duties starting in October. Will not be voting on any votes regarding Woodnote

Motion to vote in Sean Levis as board member in CSU Sustainability Coordinator seat starting June 1st to replace Faye.

- **Moved by:** Willem
- **Seconded by:** Faye
 - In favour: all
 - Against: none
 - Abstain: none
- *Motion passes unanimously*

5. Committee Updates

a. **HR/Governance**

i. No updates currently, next meeting to be held the following month to onboard Sean

b. SPC

i. Regular project funding budget: \$10,401.59

ii. Living Labs budget: \$30,040

- End of fiscal year next month, any leftover funding will roll over to the next year

c. Finncomm

i. May Fincomm meeting

- Applied for line of credit but its been delayed for 6 months to increase credit
- Diversifying funding streams - strategic direction to increase internal resilience
 - Via community funding model, partnerships and possible fee-levi campaign for an increase
- High increase in demand for project funding and it will likely continue this way, need more revenue to meet demand
- 2022-23 budget: more money for staff
- 15k deficit, healthy for our organization. With the expectation of increasing funding base to support internal capacity

ii. 2022/23 SAF Budget Approval

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 SAF Operating Budget.

- **Moved by:** Roy
- **Seconded by:** Erik
 - In favour: all
 - Against: none
 - Abstain: none
- *Motion passes unanimously*

d. Marketing/Outreach

i. SRA Report

ii. 15 Year Anniversary Recipients Promo

iii. Instagram takeover - no responses

iv. Workshop 101 Toolkits

e. 15 year Anniversary Fund Committee

i. Selection of recipients

- Emilio Wawatie: setting up a base for camping activities, bushcraft. Has been involved in previously funded saf projects, working with indigenous orgs, and they teach classes

- Autumn Banks: working with collective 4891 on a zine project, art as a healing mechanism, creating spaces for marginalized folks and queer folks
- Ourania Ntagizege Nima: Community Carrot, a space to share ideas and give meals, a space to help with sharing experiences, building community
- Michelle Duchesneau: Part of batiment 7 and Press Start, working with young BIPOC and LGBTQ+ to support their art and art creation, community oriented project
- Anqi Sun: Music therapy community services, helping people with their well-being. Helping underrepresented group of people in the city

6. Project Funding Allocation (8 projects to review)

a. Regular Project Funding Budget: \$[10,401.59]

b. Living Labs Project Funding Budget: \$[30,040]

Project 1: [Engaging Solarity: Taking Solar Media Mobile (SLLFP)]

- Request for \$4,965
- Recommendation to approve full funding
- Presented by [Georgette]
 - Notes
 - Student run initiative
 - SPC wants to provide full funding
 - One time event occurring 4 times
 - Explores solar energy for communication, internet carbon footprint, decarbonize internet infrastructures.
 - Speculative solar media designs
 - 4 events as a series of interactive and experimental events, invites attendees to engage in topical aspects surrounding solar energy and the internet
 - Consider the roles of solar power in daily life and in the future, encourage critical thinking and technical possibilities of bringing solar energy into the everyday
 - Petal box gallery: partner that brings art based support
 - In the long term: new collaborations to bring more solar nodes into their research to work with more artists and researchers
 - Living labs application
 - Sabrina has greenlit the project, but only fits under research category 4.1
 - Willem: loves the idea of a pop up educational stand and the focus on solar power. In full support of the project
 - Roy: thinks it's a good idea, interesting events. Disappointed that they can't address more climate goals. But he sees potential to grow and expand through partners. Great and thorough application
 - Seb: great that they are linking up with another SAF project (Petalbox gallery), increases their impact through linking up

Motion to approve full funding of [\$4,965] to the [Engaging Solarity: Taking Solar Media Mobile] project.

- **Moved by:** Georgette
- **Seconded by:** Chris
 - In favour: all
 - Against: None
 - Abstain: none
- *Motion passed; unanimously approved*

Project 2: [Mending the Museum (SLLFP)]

- Request for \$9,997.42
- Recommendation to deny funding
- Presented by [Georgette]
- Notes:
 - One time event
 - Organized by Karina and Camilia
 - Teaming up 4 artists to create new pieces using archives relating to ancestry and cultural memory
 - Digital product: tackling textile waste and encouraging alternative ways of making
 - Research and development phase then workshops for Concordia students phase
 - Receiving funding for textile museum of canada for use of their space for exhibition
 - Decolonizing research and the institution. Repatriation of objects due to repatriation
 - Wants to deny funding because project is taking place in Toronto, and the funding would be going towards the first part of the project of research, not the part benefiting Concordia students directly
 - Targets waste 2.1 and research 4.2
 - Project was not greenlighted by Sabrina for living labs, and would have to come from regular funding. Do not see how project is addressing any of the targets
 - Project leaders: have reached out to museums in Montreal but they have not received responses. Collections they were interested in were the McCord and MMFA. Funding could help support their request. Want to contact FOFA for the vitrine, but can only be requested once project is confirmed
 - Georgette: the exhibition will present works that were stolen in the archives, implementing a way to positively demonstrate the true history of the objects
 - Roy: interesting project, but there is not enough connection to Concordia. Not surprised that museums denied them access. Could be a wonderful event at 4th Space? Textile waste is a topical subject. This could be a great project but there needs more connection to the university
 - Willem and Faye: agree with Roy
 - Georgette: going to the wrong person for funding, will benefit toronto though. Would like

- to give recommendations of places for them to get funding as suggested by Faye
- Seb: if this project was connected to museums in montreal, would the board be more interested in funding it?
 - Georgette: would approve half the funding and encourage them to find funding from other sources
 - Mitchell: theres a lot going on, but maybe with a more specific project application they can have a clearer direction to concordia
 - Willem: clarification of budget details would be needed should they reapply for funding
- Georgette: should we give them recommendations to fix their budget and find local funding/museums to work with and encourage them to resubmit?
- Roy: with a more fine tuned application and relation to montreal/concordia, Roy would love to fund it
- Seb: more funding sources are needed

Motion to deny funding of [\$9,997.42] to the [Mending the Museum] project.

- **Moved by:** Georgette
- **Seconded by:** Erik
 - In favour: all
 - Against: None
 - Abstain: none
- *Motion passed; unanimously approved*

7. Community Announcements and Ancillary Items

a. **SAF Strategic Retreat (end of June/early July)**

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:00.