

Minutes from the first Clean Energy Revolving Fund (CERF) meeting on May 5, 2006:

Interim Board members, Tom Welna, Chris Wells, Craig Laughlin, and Timothy DenHerder-Thomas attended as did Treasurer David Wheaton, Facilities Management Director Mark Dickinson, Helen Warren from the Development Office, legal consultant (specializing in renewable energy esp. turbine projects) Jeff Paulson, and students Richard Graves, Angelina Lopez, and Roscoe Sopiwnik.

The Interim board voted unanimously to approve the charter, to approve Craig Laughlin as our interim alumni member, and to approve Chris Wells and Tom Welna as our co-chairs.

We decided that we will not try to transfer MCSG funding of \$20,000 to a separate account for logistical reasons, and will utilize solely the \$7,000 from Environmental Studies and any additional funds we raise (directed to that account) for summer expenses. We will set up an account at the earliest opportunity in the fall.

We debated the Community-Based Energy Development (C-BED) turbine project quite extensively. The Board is interested in pursuing the project, and would prefer to do so as a restricted fund under Macalester rather than a 501c3 non-profit. However, the board will be applying for 501c3 status in case David Wheaton does not feel comfortable enough with the project to approve it under the college, since the Board feels this option should be kept open. If this happens, we will have to ask all funding bodies to approve the transfer of granted funds to the non-profit if they feel comfortable doing so. We will be applying for non-profit status in the next few weeks.

Jeff Paulson is trying to solidify a C-BED turbine deal within a larger project. The board plans to approve initial development funding by the e-mail process described in the charter as is necessary from the funds available through the Environmental Studies account. The board will stay in touch with David Wheaton and Jeff Paulson as to the status of the C-BED project and with Roscoe Sopiwnik and Helen Warren in relation to fund-raising status over the summer.

In the fall, we plan to formally approve all Board members within the first week or two of the semester through the governing bodies designated in the Charter, finalize our plan for implementing the C-BED proposal, assuming the project remains feasible, and pursue additional funding for CERF through fundraising and work with the college administration and the Board of Trustees. Initial on-campus project proposals (probably small at first) should be available early next semester. Chris Wells has discussed the possibility of incorporating CERF into Environmental Studies Senior Seminar plans.