

Campus Recreation Center Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, October 11, 2013

Attendance: Sue DiMonda (DOS), Jay Souza (CRC), Dean Bowen (CRC), Leigh Hubbard (CRC), Brad Avenia (CRC), Rose Faber (CRC), Jessica Langley (SHAC), Lawrence Chong (Group Fitness), Raven Dorsey (SAAC), Chris Priore (Open Rec), Lindsay Brue (Student Employment), Tom Kirnbauer (GSO), Steven Adelson (USG), Paul Siegel (Campus Environmental Committee), Olivia Mintun (SAAC), Dannah Rae Sajorda (SHAC), Caitlin Weisz (CSA), Andrew Boskamp (DSS)

Meeting: Called to order at 12:10 pm.

1. Introductions:

- a. **New members and areas represented:** We had many new members and areas represented, so Jay asked everyone to please introduce themselves again. We have 20 people that committed to joining this advisory board, but we still need students from RHA and Intramurals.

2. Recreation Updates

- a. **South P Field Project update:** The field project is coming to completion. The sod has been laid and the rugby poles are up. The electrical lines will be run next month.

3. Discussion

- a. **Open Recreation:** A schedule is now available on the Campus Recreation website through the end of October. Due to the high demand of our most popular sports (badminton, volleyball, and basketball), there are pre-set times that vary daily for these sports. Students can check the schedule before coming to participate in open recreation. There are no sport club practices during these prime times, but there are intramurals. Open recreation space will most likely decrease for the remainder of the semester as the Fall II intramurals begin in two weeks, limiting the available space.

Some students on the advisory board recommended re-designing the schedule to look more like the sport club calendar. This is easier to read and determine what sports are available and at what times. If this isn't possible, then can there be specific days each week that each sport is consistently available to play rather than changing from week to week? Jay will continue to monitor the data on sports played to see whether the schedule needs to change, but he likes the idea of the live calendar. He will speak with the staff to get this calendar on the website next week.

b. Other

- i. **Sport Club Schedule:** Rose developed a sport club schedule that is available online. This schedule lists practice and game times. Spectators

are not encouraged for games inside the Recreation Center because we are not set up to handle them.

- ii. **Badminton Racquets:** The badminton racquet issue is an ongoing discussion. Jay would like to continue to provide racquets, but will charge for any broken equipment beyond the normal wear and tear. He may still decide to stop supplying them and will monitor breakage and usage. One student inquired whether it would make sense to have a student downstairs monitoring the courts to ensure students are utilizing the equipment correctly, but Jay feels it is unnecessary at this time.

4. New Business

- a. **Barbells:** Chris Priore brought up the issue of the barbells bending in the weight room. He inquired as to whether the economics of consistently replacing the barbells would make it worth looking into more expensive equipment to last longer. Jay explained that many are still under warranty and the company is replacing them with a more expensive and stronger bar.
- b. **Future Facility Requests:** Jay wanted feedback on what the advisory council would like to see on the campus in the future. It could be big or small, but this is the best way to help our department grow.
 - i. **Sports Classes/Clinics:** Lindsay Brue suggested hosting sports classes and clinics. This would teach participants about new sports without feeling intimidated. It might also help boost intramural participation. Many schools offer these classes as 1-credit activity courses, but Stony Brook does not. Kevin and his staff could get involved in teaching these and it might be a way to partner with some of the sport clubs. In turn, these classes could break down barriers and bridge the gap between students who are intimidated by those who can play sports at a higher level.
 - ii. **Rock Wall:** Students would love to see a rock wall in the facility. Sue explained that in the initial plans we had one, but then realized the amount of time and money it takes to maintain the wall. Everyone supervising the wall must be certified and this is difficult to get.
 - iii. **Ropes Course:** Jay plans to build a high and low ropes course in the next five years. This will be built near the University's Research and Development Park down Stony Brook Road. It would be a source of rental income and will help with team building and leadership skills.
 - iv. **Pool:** Many students would like to see a pool on campus. Once the pool is renovated, it will continue to be under ownership of Athletics, not Campus Recreation. President Stanley understands the importance of the pool, but it's still not in the budget to make the necessary repairs at this point.
 - v. **Larger Free Weight Room:** Chris Priore said he would love to see a larger free weight room because it's very tight right now. He has to plan his usage for times when he knows less people use the facility because it gets crowded and dangerous. Jay would like to see this area three times bigger. We outgrew this area before we even opened.

- vi. **Fitness Trail & Outdoor Equipment:** Outdoor equipment that utilizes body weight would be something students would be interested in. This is similar to an “adult jungle gym” where you use body weight to complete obstacles and work out. This could be put over by the wooded area near Roth.
- vii. **Workout Routines:** Having workout routines available for students might motivate them to be consistent with working out. It would also help them focus on problem areas or correct bad form. This would be a huge culture change. Jay agrees with the concept but feels that posting how-to videos on using equipment would be more effective. The Strength Club would be willing to host a clinic to show others how to properly lift weights and use the free weight area. This would prevent injuries. This is something the summer fitness intern will work on and post to YouTube.

5. Other

- a. **Facility Usage:** At the next meeting, Jay will provide more detailed usage data. We average about 1,700 – 1,800 students daily. This will begin to decrease during midterms, increase after Thanksgiving, and then decrease again during finals.
- b. **Cross Fit Competition:** Chris Priore inquired about our department hosting a Cross Fit style competition this year. Dean explained that we did try and hold one last spring and no one signed up. The department will still continue to host *Stony Brook Strongest* and the event will judge participants more on overall strength rather than before with judgments on squats, deadlifts, and bench presses. This competition will have outside judges so it is an unbiased opinion.
- c. **Anniversary:** The first anniversary of the Campus Recreation Center is Saturday, October 19th. We currently have nothing planned for that weekend. Jay feels that it is not easily justifiable given that we have to keep a close eye on our budget.
- d. **Lockers:** The colored wooden lockers are falling apart. In the meantime, Jay has been supplementing them with metal lockers. He was hoping to have the colored lockers last longer because it will be a major expense to replace them, but feels we will probably replace them sooner than anticipated.
- e. **Building Name:** The building name will be installed on Tuesday. It will be on the corner facing the Chemistry building and Sports Complex.
- f. **Marketing:** One of the HSC students recommended increasing our presence in their area. While the department markets on the eastern campus, it is mainly done in the hospital rather than by HSC. We might also want to consider contacting Traci Thompson to reach out and highlight our upcoming events. This would reach a broader audience that might not have otherwise used the facility.
- g. **Fitness Classes:** Some students inquired about how the fitness schedule was determined. Dean Bowen explained that the classes are based off instructor availability. Instructors are students, faculty/staff, and community members. As the certification preparation course for group fitness become more popular, we are hoping to have more student instructors so that we can offer a wider variety of times and classes. Students are currently polled to see what classes are the best times and what their top choices are.

- h. Membership Option through Solar:** Tom Kirnbauer brought up having memberships available through Solar again. He said more graduate students would be willing to purchase memberships if they could purchase them through Solar and roll it over to the student financial aid. It's easier to justify the purchase when it's not a straight \$85 immediately. This was looked into before the building opened and the Bursar said it would be too complicated because students would have to opt out and might forget. Jay will look into this again.
 - i. Black Pants for Student Employees:** Lindsay brought up changing the dress code from khaki pants to black pants. With the new grey shirts, khaki doesn't match well and grey would look better. More people have black pants and it would look more professional. Jay will get feedback from other student employees and the professional staff.
 - j. Tour Guides and Gender Statements:** Some of the students on the advisory council reported hearing University tour guides make gender statements and assumptions on different areas of the building. The weight room was for men and the fitness classes were for women. We want to promote gender equality and break down barriers, so this is something Jay will address with admissions. We will continue to host *Ladies Night in the Rec Center* to further promote women utilizing the weight area.
- 6. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm. The next meeting will be Friday, November 18th.