

Campus Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

April 18, 2014, 12-1:00PM, CRC Multi-Purpose Room

Attendance: Jay Souza (CREC), Rose Faber (CREC), Leigh Mizvesky (CREC), Olivia Minton (SAAC), Molly Swartz (CREC), Chris Priore (CREC), Sue DiMonda (DOS), Caitlin Weisz (CSA), Grace Tan (Student Life), Collin Bartoldus (Sports Clubs), Alen David (CREC), Durrion Newman (CREC), Alexis Valentin (CREC), Nagaajay Sangem (CREC), Raven Dorsey (SAAC)

Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM.

1. **Introduction: Welcome**

This week we have some special guests –Dean Stein (Dean of Students) and Dexter Bailey (University Advancement)

2. **Special Guest: Vice President of Advancement: Dexter Bailey:** Dexter Bailey joined the meet today to talk to the Advisory Board about an opportunity that affects the Campus Recreation Center. Dexter works in University Advancement and does fundraising for is here and at East Campus. Dexter and the University have been working closely with the Simon's family. Many on the campus have probably heard about the Simons' family. Marilyn Simons received her PhD in Economics at the University and Jim Simons was a mathematician and professor here at Stony Brook. Marilyn's father, Walter Hawrys was also a brick layer that worked to build this campus. He was also a national champion speed walker. Unfortunately Walter Hawrys died earlier this year. He was extremely dedicated to his health and fitness. As a result, he lived 18 years long than was expected. The Simons' family has donated over \$340 million to the University. The Simons Center alone was a \$60 million gift. Their support also goes to help student financial aid and research. As a way to say thank you for the overwhelming generosity of the Simons Family, the Campus Recreation Center is to be named in honor of Mr. Hawrys. This is a way to acknowledge Mr. Hawrys legacy to the University as well as the Simons'. The Simons family are very modest and typically want little acknowledgement of their support, but this way one way the University could get them to agree to something that recognized their support.

The University has brought this idea to the SUNY Board of Trustees, the Stony Brook Council, and the Chancellor. All three have unanimously voted in support of this. In the next 6 month, the Campus Recreation Center will be renamed and there will be a ceremony honoring this event. It will likely happen at the beginning of the Fall semester.

Dexter Bailey wanted to bring this information to the Advisory Board, get their feedback, and see if they had any special ideas to celebrate and commemorate this event. Chris Priore felt this opportunity was an excellent idea and really shows the Simon' commitment to Stony Brook. Durrion believes it would give mean to the facility, those who work in it, and those who use it. Now, it's more than just a building. Chris Priore also mention that it would build tradition going forward. People will see that there are opportunities to give back and might be more apt to consider this institution. Dexter explained that there is not an official name yet. Advancement is working with the family

on it. There will also be a biographical plaque put up in the building so people will know who Walter Hawrys is and what his significances to the facility/Stony Brook is. Dexter would like to have a lot of students in attendance at the naming ceremony—this would show the enthusiasm and excitement of the facility and make it fun for the family. Chris Priore suggested create a fund for Mr. Hawrys in his honor to go towards the cause of his affliction. Dexter explained the hospital is already involved in getting this up and running. Dean Stein suggested a 5k walk or run honoring the event. The information could be advertised throughout the building/campus. Durrone also mentioned having the family signing a brick and putting it in a commemorative display.

3. Recreation Update:

- a. **Budget Updates:** Leigh gave a presentation on some of the budget updates. It highlighted student payroll, some of the major purchases, and where we stand now. This gives the advisory council a better understand of where the funding goes.
- b. **Summer Plans:** Some updates will take place over the summer. There is a possibility the IM fields will be taken offline and rehabbed. This depends on their cost. Jay is still waiting for a quote. He is also hoping to rent out the fields for additional revenue. There will be another water fountain installed and the carpeting will be replaced with the black flooring (approximately \$30,000). Chris Priore asked if the IM fields are closed, whether this would affect the revenue potential. Jay does not think this will be an issue since there are still fields available on South P.
- c. **Preparing for Fall 2014:** The fall semester will be here before we know it. Jay is planning on implementing new student employment software (Sub-It-Up), based on a University mandate. This is will help better track student employees time and offers improved scheduling.

4. Discussion

a. Membership Update

- i. **Spouses:** Jay brought up the idea of a spouse alumni membership to the committee again. Everyone was in agreement that the membership could be available because there won't be that many people and it's a way to generate revenue.
- ii. **Alumni:** Alumni memberships are a good opportunity to show what the building/University can offer. For example, the Dubin Family loves to see where their money goes and how it helps students. Dr. DiMonda suggests developing marketing to target the soon-to-be graduates of Stony Brook. This way they are aware of the potential opportunity to continue to use the facility. Durrone will reach out to some people and will be developing marketing.
- iii. **Retirees:** Jay is working with HR to develop this. They are technically part of the Stony Brook community, but aren't given the same access as emeritus. HR is trying to come up with a way Jay can get access to verify retirement status.

- b. Shutdown Week of CRC: May 25 – June 1:** A lot of work will be done. We have to shutdown because there is no air circulation and this can be dangerous to those utilizing the building. Plus, certain areas will be inaccessible, so it's better not to have people in the facility. The lockers will be installed and that hallway will be closed.
- c. Next year's Advisory Board members and meeting times:** Most of the students are not graduating and will be returning next year. The students were in favor of keeping the meeting at the same time/same day. Students were against moving it to Campus Lifetime. There are too many other things going on then.
- d. CREC Student Staff Training:** Going forward there will be new levels of student roles for the implementation of equipment use and proper techniques. Durrion is creating a new attendant position that will deal directly with issues related to the equipment use and techniques to prevent injuries. Jay and Durrion both have certifications in weight training and understand the correct techniques so they can train staff. This will increase the staff responsibilities and knowledge, while decreasing the likelihood of injuries for risk management purposes. Chris Priore mentioned that student employees should also receive additional training in conflict resolution. He often witnesses student staff that fear conflict instead of stopping members when they do something that should be addressed. He understands conflict is hard and awkward, but that's why we have student staff working to address it. Student staff should be comfortable with confrontation, but understand how to do it appropriately and professionally.

5. Other

- a. Equipment:** Chris brought up purchasing bars with central nerling. The current bars keep bending and are harder to use (i.e. less safe) without it. Chris can recommend some high quality bars. He will send this information to Jay to look into.
- b. Strength Club:** Jay mentioned in the future the Strength Club should have their own space to store items they want and can use, but the general population of CREC users will not. This way, equipment is solely for club use. First they need to get funding. If they want to open a FSA account, Dr. DiMonda can help with this.
- c. Open Rec Schedule:** It was requested that students can access the open recreation schedule online. It is currently available (as are calendars for the rest of the facility), but it is difficult to read. Durrion and the Marketing Team are trying to find ways to improve the ease of access and readability of the information online.