

Recreation and Wellness Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 13, 2019 12:00pm – 1:00 pm

Attendees: Marie Turchiano (Committee Chair), Marlene Kasman (RAW), Durrone Newman (RAW), Laura Fitzgerald (RAW), Thomas St. John (RAW), Kate Valerio (RAW), Travis Liu (RAW), Christina Padrazo (RAW), Jennifer Yang (Club Sports), Brianna Bromley (Intramurals), Trinity Grasso (Fitness), HaiDong Qiu (GLO), Fallon Gilbert (SHAC), Pamela Pfeil (Staff member), Greisy Perez (Student Employee), Mona Ramonetti (UEC)

1) Welcome: Marie welcomed everyone to the first Recreation and Wellness Advisory Board meeting of the fall 2019 semester. She explained that since the Recreation Center receives student fees, the purpose of the advisory board was to bring any comments, questions and feedback to the board from the individuals and their constituents and to vote on recommendations for the student fee.

Introductions were made around the room.

2) Staff Updates (Marie) Marie introduced herself as the new Interim Director of Recreation and Wellness and the new Committee Chair stating that Jay left the university in July to take a position at USF. Leslie also left in July for a position at FAU.

The department is currently operating with 2 less people on the professional staff. Gaps are temporarily being filled within the department. Tom St. John has been promoted to Associate Director. Laura is currently responsible for the pool and challenge course in addition to fitness.

Travis is responsible for Club sports in addition to intramurals.

3) Facility and Field Updates (Tom)

In March 2019, the Department of Recreation took over all of the fields at South P. A lot of work is being done to enhance these fields for our students. Lights are going up on three of the fields thanks to a grant from Senator Flanagan of \$650,000. The grant covered the expense of lighting one field and an additional \$200,000 from the department budget is allowing us to light all three. 9 fields will be available to rent when not being used by students.

There is an indoor building on the property which is being renovated to provide locker space for sport clubs, 2 office spaces and restrooms.

The turf field at South P needs to be redone. That will be discussed when the budget is discussed.

In this facility, the cardio equipment is on a three year replacement plan. This year the elliptical machines have been replaced. In addition, a tire flip strength machine, two ski ergs for strength and cardio and four Peloton bikes are on order. All members will be able to use the Campus Recreation subscription for the classes on the Peloton's.

4) Budget (Marlene)

75% of the budget for the Department of Recreation and Wellness goes to student staff, professional staff include fringe benefits and contracts which includes the building and field maintenance. Undergraduate students pay a Recreation Center fee which is currently \$87.90/semester. Every year the advisory board votes on a fee increase for the following year which is presented to the university. In the past, we have asked for five to ten percent and we have received an average of 2.5%. Last year we asked for 10% and received 2.8% which amounted to \$2.40/undergraduate student per semester.

As mentioned before, the turf field out at South P needs to be replaced. The lifespan of a turf field is generally 8-10 years so money has been put aside each year to save for the estimated 1.3 million dollar cost. With the high amount of usage, the field will need to be replaced before year 10. Estimates have been requested. This will have a major impact to the budget.

Marie and I have discussed the departments' needs with the head of Financial Operations for Student Affairs who will present it to Dr. Gattaueu. They will get back to us with their thoughts and a proposed increase will be presented to and voted upon by the advisory board at the October meeting.

5) Area Updates

a. Challenge Course (Laura)

- Course focuses on teamwork, challenges and leadership
- Located behind the Intramural Fields

b. Pool (Laura)

- Light fixtures need to be repaired in the pool which Athletics is working on
- Staff is filled with 20 lifeguards who are all students

c. Intramurals and Club Sports (Travis)

- Intramural Flag Football, outdoor soccer and volleyball have begun
- There are approximately 90 teams participating
- New student referees have been trained for all three sports
- Sports field day – 9/28. There will be a flag football tournament and dodgeball tournament.

Clubs or individuals may participate

- 3 club teams travelled last week and 3 are travelling this week.
- Men's soccer, women's soccer and men's rugby will be hosting tournaments at SBU
- Due to funding being cut, off campus trips were stopped. Hoping to resume trips beginning with Frightfest.

d. Student Staff (Durrone)

- Operations is fully staffed

e. Fitness (Laura)

- Group fitness is continuing to use the Atleto app. Participants must use a Stony Brook email address to sign up.
- There has been a 50% increase in group fitness classes since last semester
- Fitness is partnering with CPO for Suicide Prevention Month. On 9/25 one of our yoga instructors who is also a veteran will teach a yoga class.
- Classes will begin for students who want to be an in house personal trainer or group fitness instructor. Classes follow the ACSM guidelines but it only certifies them for in house.
Classes are free but are capped at 15 students each

f. Health Education (Kate)

- Dental screening has been added to the Wellness room schedule on Tuesdays
- Wellness room offers, massage chair, dietician, Pace Screening (BMI, BP, blood sugar)
Free HIV/STD screening.

g. Marketing (Christina)

- Working on corporate sponsorship – banners, signage at South P, tabling events
- Working to make Rec and Wellness a hub on campus

Additional information: (Marie)

- A Chiropractic school would like to come and provide services in the wellness room. They had been here in the past.
Feedback was that many want it back here.
- First Night Out – Campus Recreation had a craft room, 3v3 basketball, a game truck parked outside, a movie and CPO had an escape room here. 500 students came in every hour between 8pm and midnight

5. Comments/Suggestions/Feedback

Q. What percentage of graduate students purchase a membership?

A. Approximate 7%

Q. Who do Graduate students get the option and undergraduate students do not?

A. 12 years ago there was a vote and USG voted yes and GSO voted no

Marie has been meeting with GSO to discuss options for graduate students. Currently GSO has a budget which allows them to reimburse students who purchase memberships to the recreation center up to \$75 until the annual budget runs out. Marie is working on another option where \$25000 will be paid to the Department of Recreation and Wellness and GSO will receive 3 month passes to hand out to their students.

Next Meeting is Friday October 11th, 2019 12pm - 1pm in Room 125