

**RECREATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes from Thursday, November 15, 2007**  
**Staff Lounge, 201 Field House**  
**12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Attending:** Rachael Collier, Mark Johnson, Harry Ostrander, Kerry DuBay, Mike Doyle, Jan Lawler, Mary Eggenburg, Mike Widen, Rich MacNeil, Wayne Fett, Nancy Fraga, John Miller, Mark Baumhover, Rob DuBay, Ellie Herman, David Grady, Chris Turner, Jeanette Luke, Angela Charsha, Michelle Harder, Marc Long, Anna Roskowinski and Pat Kutcher.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Harry Ostrander called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*CRWC Update*

Ostrander thanked everyone for attending the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center ground breaking. He commented that the ceremony went well and was well attended.

Wayne Fett gave an update on the project. Bids were received on October 31<sup>st</sup>. There were bids from four construction firms and they were all between three and five million dollars over the \$51 million available. Two of the bids were from local firms, McComas Lacina Construction and Knutson Construction. There were eight bid alternates. We accepted two budget deducts including the green roof (\$296,000) and the sunscreen on the East side (\$550,000). They also met with RDG to identify another \$1.6 million in changes that won't impact the design or program. Examples include eliminating one air handler in the competitive pool (\$152,000), eliminating the sunscreen on the North and West side (\$330,000), and changing the exterior brick design (\$275,000). Ostrander met with Vice President True and he has agreed to make up the difference. The University is now taking the changes back to McComas Lacina, who had the lowest bid. If they agree to the changes, the project will move forward immediately. Otherwise we will have to rebid. Fett mentioned there was a 5<sup>th</sup> bid from an Iowa State University Construction Management class. They suggested an extra alternate. If we replaced the Tigerhawk in the bottom of the diving well with a cyclone they would deduct \$70,000 from their bid. Luckily there bid was a class project and not a real bid.

Herman asked if the sunscreen would change the views in the fitness areas. Fett answered it would not. Lawler asked if Marc Long, the Varsity Swim Coach, was okay with removing the 5<sup>th</sup> air handler since Mercer Park has had similar issues after removing an air handler during their bid process. Fett answered that the mechanical engineers said it wouldn't be a problem and it was an air handler that they were thinking of removing anyway. McComas Lacina will let us know Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> if they accept the changes. The original bids ranged from \$53.8 million to \$55.5 million. The total

package is still \$69 million which includes about \$1.5 million for the Field House renovation.

### **STAT Proposal**

K. DuBay updated the committee on a recent request from STAT, Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow. STAT is a program run through the Alumni Association. It costs \$20 to join and they have approximately 3500 members this year. Students who join receive a variety of discounts at local businesses as well as \$10 off Football tickets. STAT is requesting a \$5 - \$10 discount off a fitness pass. In addition, they would help advertise Recreational Services programs and would host STAT functions at our facilities. They think this would be a huge benefit to the students and would advertise it heavily. STAT feels that many of their student members will take advantage of this discount. K. DuBay has some concerns that the discount would be on something that students are already and will continue to pay full price for. Also, Fitness is the major funding source for Recreational Services. If 25% of the students (875) took advantage of a \$5 discount, Recreational Services could see a loss of \$4375. If it was a \$10 discount, a loss of \$8750. If 50% (1750) took advantage of a \$5 discount the amount would be \$8750 and \$17500 for a \$10 discount. K. DuBay doesn't feel that offering such a discount will bring in enough new members to off set the loss associated with current members paying less. She would instead like to see Recreational Services offer discounts in areas that we are always trying to increase student participation, like the Outdoor Rental Center, Aerobic and Cycling classes and certain Intramurals. STAT is a Student Services program and Recreational Services feels it would be a good relationship to establish.

Chris Turner suggested a discount on a punch card. Ellie Herman thought the discount should be on something that will continue after the new facility opens. K. DuBay asked the student members why they joined STAT. Mike Doyle joined for the football discount and Rachael joined for the local food discounts. Rachael thought a climbing incentive would be good if students would have to still pay once the new facility opens. Dennis Miller reminded the group that fitness is what funds our programs and that the financial impact would be much greater if we offered a fitness pass discount. Ostrander asked K. DuBay to put together a package of incentives.

### **Boat House Update**

Ostrander distributed facility schematics for the new Boat House. It will be located on the East side of the Iowa River by the skate park. The University is leasing the land from Iowa City for \$1 a year in exchange for public restrooms. The facility will be managed by Recreational Services. It will have meeting rooms and a roof terrace which will be made available for student and community groups. There will be a circular drive to help get boats in and out of the facility. The total construction cost is \$ 6.2 million of which \$1 million is from Recreational Services and \$ 5.2 million is from Athletics. There will be a tank room which will allow the teams to simulate actual rowing conditions.

Rich MacNeil asked what clubs would be using the facility. Ray Beemer answered the University Men's Rowing Club as well as Recreational Services' rowing lesson

programs. They are currently storing their boats in the Iowa Advanced Technology Laboratories next to the IMU. Ostrander added that for many years we had very active men's and women's rowing club teams until women's rowing became a varsity sport. The community club, Capitol Rowers, will also have access because we use their boats for lesson programs. Herman asked if there would be adequate parking. Ostrander thinks there will be. Mike Widen asked if the boat trailers will be stored there as well. Ostrander said no, they will continue to be stored at the Hawkeye Recreation Fields. Chris Turner asked about future floods. Ostrander responded that the facility was designed to withstand future floods.

### **Club Sports**

Beemer distributed information on the club sports. The definition was recently updated but Beemer feels it is still too broad. He thinks he can make a case for 50 – 75% of all student groups to be housed under Recreational Services under the current definition. There is a review committee that has been reorganizing the student groups. The old process for recognizing student groups involved becoming a “recognized student org” by Student Government. Now sport clubs come directly to Recreational Services, bypassing Student Senate. We no longer receive additional money for the clubs. Beemer told the committee that we have added approximately 10 clubs of the past year but have not added any funding. Ostrander added that Recreational Services would be asking for \$1 per student annually to add approximately \$25,000 to the current \$30,000 sport club allocation. David Grady said that this probably wouldn't be possible until 2010.

All student organizations are going before the review committee. They must fill out an outline with the club's purpose. If there are risk factors or other concerns, they go before the committee to decide if they are accepted fully, accepted with limitations or denied. The Committee meets weekly. On average the sports clubs have the most risk.

Herman asked if the sport clubs pay Recreational Services for facility usage. Beemer answered they do for outside facilities but not for Recreational Services or Athletic areas. They collect dues and pay out of pocket as much as \$1500 a year for various expenses. Herman asked about other campuses. Ostrander answered that more money is typically allocated for sports clubs. MacNeil asked about the new fee system and how it might impact sports clubs. Ostrander answered that a separate request would be made for sport clubs.

Roskowinski asked if all clubs get the same amount of money. Beemer answered that they don't. He bases the amounts on the club size, activity levels, expenses and how much revenue they self generate. The highest amount distributed is \$2000. Grady said that was not unusual. The University of Texas at Austin has a max amount available for clubs in each of their club tiers. Beemer brought up a problem with supplemental funding in that the sport clubs are no longer able to ask for supplemental funding since they now fall under Recreational Services. R. DuBay asked what the clubs are allowed to spend money on. Items include equipment, entry fees, travel expenses and facility usage fees.

Eggenburg asked with the additional 10 clubs in the past year, if any have been dropped. Beemer answered that a couple had been in the past due to lack of interest and student participation. Ostrander asked if any clubs had not been approved. Beemer answered that Free Running was not approved and gymnastics had been denied in the past. Skydiving was recently approved. Turner commented that club sports form an important tie to the University.

**The next Recreational Services meeting is scheduled for January 24th at Noon in the Staff Lounge.**