

**University Recreation & Wellness Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 09/06/2019

**Time:** 9:00am

**Location:** University Recreation and Wellness Center (MP 7)

**Attendees**

Amelia Kreiter - Chair, All Campus Representative  
Dr. George Brown - Ex-Officio, Recreation and Wellness  
Giovann Alarcon Espinoza - At-Large Representative  
Kenzie Maybrun - At-Large Representative  
Anneke Duin - At-Large Representative  
Raymond Muno - Civil Service Minneapolis  
Brandi Hoffman - Faculty P & A, School of Kinesiology  
Kevin Ross - P & A Staff Representative  
Karen Lovro - Budget Subcommittee  
Gerry Weber - Interfraternity Council  
Andrew Durkot- Professional Student Government  
UJ Bhowmik - Minnesota Student Association  
Otit Mayo - Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence

**Staff Advisors**

Rahul Rajan - Recreation and Wellness  
Jaime Medina - Recreation and Wellness

**Guests**

Beth Asfahl- Recreation and Wellness  
Lisa Lemler - Recreation and Wellness  
Eric Paredes - Recreation and Wellness  
Steven Lipovetsky - Recreation and Wellness  
Dejha Pontoo - Recreation and Wellness  
Mark Bell - Recreation and Wellness  
Azu Dashzeveg - Recreation and Wellness

**Regrets**

Molly Hynes - Minnesota Student Association  
(Vacant) - International Student and Scholar Services  
(Vacant)- National Pan-Hellenic Council  
(Vacant) - Housing & Residential Life  
Sydney Crims - Multicultural Greek Council  
(Vacant) - Civil Services

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Kreiter called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

**II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The April 26, 2019 meeting Minutes were distributed to all attendees. After a short review by the Board, Ms. Hoffman motioned to approve the Minutes, with a second from Mr. Alarcon Espinoza. All were in favor, and the motion to approve the Minutes passed.

**III. Introductions**

Chair Kreiter welcomed the group, and invited all attendees to introduce themselves.

**IV. Summer Review**

**A. Staffing Updates**

Chair Kreiter invited Recwell's new staff members to introduce themselves to the board:

- Eric Paredes - Associate Director for Business Operations and Strategic Planning
- Mark Bell - Coordinator for Events and Operations
- Steve Lipovetsky - Personal Fitness and Wellness Manager
- De'Jha Pontoo - Membership Coordinator
- Ella Aho - Youth and Community Programs Coordinator
- Azu Dashzeveg - General Mechanic

Mr. Brown updated about the two open positions "Fitness Director" and "Assistant Director - Aquatics" and noted "Ms. Mckee and Ms. Lemler are currently working on the hiring process"

**B. Youth Programs**

Chair Kreiter invited Ms. Vanessa Fielder, Recwell's Youth Programs and Community Outreach Manager, to review the summer 2019 season. Ms. Fielder noted the program just wrapped up 10 weeks of programming, and shared the following summer 2019 highlights:

- 2,985 kids attended the YP camps (ages 5-17); expanded to 17 years of age from 15
- 586 kids were left on the Program's waiting list
- Gross income of \$858,712.68 for the season (summer 2019)
- Ms. Fielder introduces Ella Aho, Youth and Community Programs Coordinator, and noted the "wonderful job" she did in terms of staff hiring and program design
- 60+ group leaders, 20-40 instructional staff, and partnered with 24 University partners and 22 Community Partners
- Established new partnership with 4-H and expanded youth leadership program (addressing the offerings gap for 14-17 age group)
- Ms. Aho noted "really great group of staff" that the program hired for summer 2019 and 100% of participant survey respondents said they had a good experience with the camp leaders
- 90% of the YP staff said they had a wonderful experience and would return/recommend the same to their friends to work for YP next year
- Campers raised \$342.68 in Penny Wars
- 37 kids received financial aid to attend the camp

### **C. Summer Internship Program**

Rahul Rajan, Facilities & Risk Management Coordinator shared the highlights for the 2019 Summer Internship program:

- June 3rd - August 2nd
- Three interns (Facilities, Youth Program & Marketing)
- Facilities Tours - Bethel University, Allianz Field, University of Wisconsin - River Falls, TCF Bank Stadium
- Six guest speakers had small group session with interns
- Mr. Rajan noted “interns had a wonderful experience” and worked in individual program areas and a group project (Recwell Welcome Week presentation)
- Interns did a Final individual presentation and group presentation
- Internship might be expanded in FY 2020 depending on funding and other program area interest

### **V. Facility Updates**

#### **A. Field House**

Chair Krieter invited Ms. Beth Asfahl to share an update on the Field House construction project. She gave a brief overview of the history of the Field House and the different program areas who utilize the facility. She shared the intent of the project was to replace the asbestos side walls and make sure the facility has more natural lighting. The University used the HEAPR funds for the project and construction project was estimated around \$7.5 million. She mentioned the tentative date for re-opening will be early-December. She also mentioned seven trusses were found to be under critical condition and are being fixed. This is expected to increase the cost of the project by \$800,000. Ms. Asfahl also shared some of the other additions as part of the renovation:

- Sprinkler system
- Improved event entrance
- New office space and storage room

Ms. Hoffaman asked how the construction project has impacted the programs. Mr. Medina responded that most programs were moved to the RecWell Center and URW Sport Field Complex.

#### **B. Aquatic Center Air Quality**

Chair Kreiter invited Ms. Linda Mckee to share an update on the Aquatics HVAC project. She mentioned the project took three and a half months and the pool reopened on June 8, 2019. Multiple events were hosted this summer including the Speedo Sectionals which saw over 800 athletes and spectators. Ms. Mckee noted that multiple people praised the air quality inside the Aquatic Center. She also shared additional updates in regards to the project:

- Chloramine levels were down 73% compared to summer 2018
- University of Minnesota has been awarded three national level events:
  01. USA Diving National Championship
  02. US Paralympics Team Trials
  03. USA Swimming Futures Championship

### **VI. Finance Updates**

Chair Kreiter invited Ms. Karen Lovro to share financial and budget reports with the Board. Ms. Lovro briefed the role of the finance sub-committee and mentioned FY20 sub-committee

presented an increased budget proposal to the student fees committee citing minimum wage increase. The budget request was approved as the result. Ms.Lovro highlighted the challenges the department faces in regards to utilities bills and get ongoing financial support from the central budget office and the sub-committee for the FY21 fees request will start working on this. She encouraged interested board members to contact her to serve on the FY21 sub-committee.

**VII. Announcements**

Chair Kreiter shared the following announcements with the board:

- Board has been invited to table at the President's inauguration at Mcnamara Alumni Center on September 18, 2019
- Board is looking for a volunteer to serve on the OSA Mental Health Advisory Committee
- Board is also looking for interested student board members to serve as the Vice Chair

Mr. Brown explained the five proposed changes in the constitution and mentioned the board will be voting on the changes during the October meeting.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Chair Kreiter called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hoffman motioned to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Mr. Alarcon Espinoza. With no objections, the motion to adjourn was passed at 10:04am.