

Deerfield Park District

Recreation Center Advisory Committee

Minutes of April 22, 2021

The meeting of the Recreation Center Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video. The following were in attendance:

Present: Alan Barasky, Steve Bierig, Anne Dickerson, Laurie Gordon, Jay Keltner, Elizabeth Seward, Nick Solomon, Ilyse Steiner, Gil Antokal, Jeff Nehila, Laura McCarty, Tony Korzyniewski, Tim Johnson, Chris Moilanen, James Otto

Matters from the Public

There were no matters from the public.

Welcome to New Committee Members

Tony welcomed Alan Barasky, Anne Dickerson, Lauren Gordon, Nicholas Solomon and Ilyse Steiner.

Recreation Center Advisory Committee Expectations

Tony reviewed the expectations of the Recreation Advisory Committee members.

Review of Minutes

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of October 22, 2020 with no changes or additions.

General Manager Report

Current Guidelines- Restore Illinois Plan (Phase 4)

The center is currently operating under the Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan guidelines. As we receive updates and changes, staff pivots to accommodate them.

April 19 Operational Changes

SRC is currently operating at 50% capacity under Phase 4 Guidelines of the Restore Illinois Plan. The recent Bridge Plan announcement was another positive sign for operations moving forward. SRC will move to 60% capacity during the bridge phase and class sizes can increase to 50 indoors and 100 outdoors.

As of April 19, we no longer require reservations for fitness center use. We have expanded our time blocks to two-and a half hours. Both entrances to the facility are now open. We have also returned to the pre-pandemic daily visit fee of \$12 resident and \$15 non-resident.

For us to move into the Bridge Phase it would require 70% of the state's residents 65+ years of age be vaccinated and a decline in the number of cases and hospitalizations. This phase is based on state metrics not regional metrics.

Alan asked how many people have been utilizing the center. Tony responded that the average threshold seems to be 15 to 30 people in the fitness area per session. Tim commented that we had 32 people in the building by 6:10 a.m. this morning. These are numbers we have not seen in a long time.

2021 Capital Improvements

Eight AirPhx units have been installed in the facility. Each unit can sanitize up to 250,000 cubic feet of space, so we are more than covered for a 100,000 sq. ft. building. We have purchased and received a few new pieces of fitness equipment pieces and the remainder of the equipment should be onsite by October 1. Lighting contractor Twin Supplies replaced lights in the Bulls Gym with new LED fixtures. The immediate reaction to the new lights is very positive. The light level increase is very noticeable especially in areas that were previously not as bright along the south end of the gymnasium. ComEd provided the district with a \$10,000 grant for the LED lighting. Due to COVID-19, the district had to postpone a majority of capital projects and purchases to later years.

RUSH PT, Chicago Sky and North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics

Our newest tenant is RUSH Physical Therapy. They are working with clients 3 days per week at this time. This is a great way to get new people into the building.

The Chicago Sky will be back in the facility on a regular basis through September. We have a new 2-year signed contract with them.

Northshore Rhythmic Gymnastics continues to use the facility. We are halfway through a 3-year contract with them.

Laurie asked if staff knew the types of physical therapy offered and the qualifications of the staff. Tony responded that he would get the specific information to share with everyone and send in an email.

Assistant General Manager Report

Membership Enrollment Update

Our current active membership is at 363 which includes 238 Fitness Floor memberships, 54 Group Exercise memberships and 71 All-Access memberships.

We have 30 people that have redeemed our latest 14-day free trial postcard. Staff will follow-up with all of them to find out how they felt about their experience and their comfort level with the cleanliness & safety of the facility.

Student Summer Fitness Center Membership will return this summer. 3 months for \$89. The pass will be heavily marketed in newsletters, website, social media, indoor signage at SRC, TV slides at DPD facilities and DHS and the summer brochure.

Group Exercise Schedule and Personal Training Update

Outside Fitness Classes

Big changes in outside fitness classes this month. We introduced a modified schedule with an effective date of April 19. We are currently offering 12 outside classes each week. Each outside class has been strategically scheduled with a bad weather backup plan in place. We will either move the class inside at SRC or run the class virtually via Zoom. Currently we are utilizing Brickyards, Jaycee and the patio at SRC for our outdoor classes. We will be adding a couple of aqua classes starting in June. When the weather warms up, we will be adding Yoga to the outdoor schedule.

We will also be adding flash classes to our outdoor schedule and will advertise these a week in advance.

Indoor Group Exercise

We are currently offering 7 classes at SRC each week. New classes this month include Yoga on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and Yoga on Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m. We will keep an eye on the attendance levels for these two classes over the next several weeks. We are running a hybrid class doing Zoom and live and will see how it goes.

Virtual Exercise

We currently have 19 virtual classes running. We anticipate some type of virtual programming to continue into the future. These classes are included in our Group Exercise membership.

Anne commented how much she enjoys having access to all the archived classes because it allows her to do them on her own schedule.

Personal Training

One-on-one personal training has changed their method of operation. They used to use the fitness floor space, but people wanted to feel safer and not have other people around, so we found 3 areas of the facility to use as personal training studios. The new 2nd floor exercise studio and the spin room were converted to personal training studios and the Jungle Gym/TRX Room is now a PT studio all the time.

We will be offering a summer personal training special for the first time. Normally we only do this at holiday time but thought it would be a great way to stimulate interest in personal training.

We are also going to bring back Instagram interviews with our trainers.

Alan asked how the membership numbers and number of classes offered now compares to pre-COVID numbers. Tim responded that we used to offer around 65 classes per week and our membership was over 1,300 when we shut down on March 13.

Facility Operations Supervisor Report

Current SRC Operations Overview

The one area we are continuing to take reservations is for lap swim. The 4th lane, the lane with the steps, has been opened to accommodate more users. We are seeing 20-25 swimmers per day for lap swim. The pool is used for swimming lessons on Saturday morning, on Sunday for private swim lessons and Coho uses the pool daily from 4-8 p.m. for practices.

We are still getting requests for rentals of gym space, but they have slowed since schools are allowing for practices. We are hosting our first birthday party since last February and have a second scheduled. We have a bar mitzvah scheduled for September 11.

We have 3-7 groups of 2 that rent the racquetball court on a weekly basis and Northshore Rhythmic Gymnastics rents the space as well.

The Chicago Sky starts their training camp this Sunday and will hold practices daily.

On June 12 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. we will be hosting a Reuse-A-Rama event at the SRC to continue our community recycling efforts.

Other Items

Bulls Gym Lighting

James commented on the efficiency of the new lighting in the Bulls Gym. He explained that we are now using the same amount of electricity to run all the lights in the Bulls Gym that we were using previously for just one light. He commented that we will continue to look for more grant opportunities for light replacements.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business or additional discussion, the meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.