

Deerfield Park District

Recreation Center Advisory Committee

Minutes of October 28, 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, Anne Dickerson, Jay Keltner, Nick Solomon, Ilyse Steiner, Michael Brown, Jeff Nehila, Laura McCarty, Tony Korzyniewski, Tim Johnson, Chris Moilanen, Russell Clinton

Absent: Steve Bierig, Laurie Gordon, Elizabeth Seward, James Otto

**Matters from the Public**

There were no matters from the public.

**Review of Minutes**

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of August 26, 2021, with no changes or additions.

**General Manager Report**

**Current SRC COVID-19 Guidelines**

Tony reported that the COVID-19 guidelines haven't change since the committee last met. Everyone is expected to be masked while inside the facility unless swimming or showering. Staff is continually monitoring information as it becomes available.

**SRC Community Days Week Results**

SRC staff hosted a week-long "open house" style event during the week of October 18. The SRC nutritionist was on-site doing consults, FREE flash group exercise classes were offered, Wednesday, October 20 was FREE for all guests, new membership promotions were available, personal trainers and staff gave facility tours and RUSH Physical Therapy had a table and provided free injury screenings and had information on all their service offerings. There were also daily member appreciation giveaways. We did about 25 guided tours of the facility throughout the week and several people did their own self-guided tours. We had 16 new members sign up.

We had a one-day Personal Training Sale during our SRC Community Days Week and we sold 29 of our six pack specials.

The Community Days Week event was a success and will be held in same format again in January 2022.

### **2022 Proposed Capital Projects & Purchases**

The district has a 7-year capital plan that is presented to the board at the annual budget meeting. Proposed capital projects for 2022 include two new rooftop HVAC units, replacement of steam generators for the steam rooms, replacement of a hot water holding tank, new fitness floor equipment such as ellipticals, treadmills, and conversion of cardio equipment space into general usable space.

### **RUSH PT, Chicago Sky and North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics - Updates**

RUSH PT continues to be busy at SRC and have a steady schedule of clients. We will be cross-marketing with the golf course to advertise the services offered by RUSH PT.

The Chicago Sky won the WNBA Championship on Sunday, October 17. They defeated the Phoenix Mercury in four games. Banner and congratulatory posters were hung throughout the SRC. Returning players and coaches really appreciated all the support the SRC community and the Deerfield Park District showed during their historic championship run this past season. We look forward to seeing them back in April 2022. At the November 4 workshop meeting, the Park Board read a resolution recognizing the Chicago Sky's Championship and changed the Chicago Bulls Gym to the Chicago Sky Gym.

North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics sent 13 athletes to the 2020 Summer Olympics and just finished participating in the World Championships. There are over 40 children signed up in their classes. We are in the third year of a 3-year contract with them and will be negotiating a new 3-year contract.

### **Whirlpool Update**

We had a leak detection company come out to determine the location of the whirlpool leak. Then two contractors came out to determine the scope of work needed to complete the necessary repairs. The estimates came in lower than anticipated. The repairs should take about a week to complete.

### **Assistant General Manager Report**

#### **Membership Enrollment Update**

Our current active membership is at 341 Fitness Floor memberships, 50 Group Exercise memberships and 104 All-Access memberships and 2 student memberships. Staff will continue to promote the center to increase these numbers by focusing on what we are doing well such as cleaning and spacing.

### **November Group Exercise Schedule**

Looking ahead to November, we will be making a few changes. Due to lower attendance, we will be removing one of our weekly dance format classes. We will also add another Yoga format class, in anticipation of the need changes of our patrons during the colder winter months. We are currently offering 11 indoor classes per week but will increase to 13 for November. Outside we

are currently offering 15 classes but will reduce that number to 13. And we are currently running 11 classes on the virtual format Zoom and will increase that to 12 for November. We have a very active virtual community, and we will continue to offer this format. We also have the YouTube channel that members can access on a monthly basis.

There are plans in place for our outdoor classes for inclement weather that we will activate as needed.

### **New Personal Training Studio Update**

Our new Personal Training Studio is up and running. We have a new Cable Cross machine installed, as well as a very functional storage system. We have also added new kettlebells, dumbbells and attachments for the cable cross. We will be having a naming party to come up with a great name for the studio.

Trainers can sign up for a time to use the space. Staff feels that 3 trainers could use the space at the same time. Trainers still have the option to use the fitness floor if they choose.

As Tony mentioned we sold 29 6 pack of training sessions during our annual special. We also picked up 3 brand new clients in the last couple of days. We are also in the process of onboarding a new trainer. We've updated the website, took new photos of the trainers and updated all of their bios.

### **Earn Your Bird & Black Friday Plans**

In the past, Earn Your Bird has been a very big deal, so we've had a very active building on Thanksgiving morning. Staff is forming a committee to determine what could be offered that would be fun for the entire family. Details are forthcoming.

Nick commented that he really appreciates that Sachs has always maintained the equipment at a high level and equipment is never out of service for long periods of time.

Jay asked if any of the tennis courts were lined for pickleball. Tim responded that none of the tennis courts are marked but we do have 3 pickleball courts marked on the floors of Gym A and B. Tony also responded that our new tennis company will be working with staff to set up pickleball programming and leagues in the future. Jay mentioned that there doesn't seem to be a lot of information on the website about pickleball play at Sachs. Tony responded that we do have several people that attend the Open Pickleball sessions on Monday and Wednesday mornings, but we could do a better job of advertising. Staff has also discussed lining the tennis courts for pickleball in spring after the tennis program moves outdoors.

### **Current SRC Operations Overview**

Sales totals for the month of October as of the date of this report:

- (477) Lap Swim reservations – Swim Lessons are running Mondays and Fridays at 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Coho is practicing Monday-Thursday from 5-8 p.m.
- (16) Tennis reservations – play has increased due to changing weather
- (15) Racquetball reservations – NSRG is also continuing to use the court 2 days/week
- (31) Gym reservations – Chicago Sky utilized the newly named Sky Gym from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. daily while in season, Club Momentum volleyball is renting two nights/week and NSSRA is back on Wednesday evenings. We also have 3 other groups renting weekly 3 different days each week. Open Pickleball on Monday/Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. is also picking up.

### **Other Items**

Jay asked if there is a timeframe that people can start bringing in food for birthday parties. Chris responded that it is a personal preference of the people hosting.

Board Liaison Brown mentioned that in Lake Forest on Thanksgiving Day they hold a 5K and 10K event in which the entry fee is canned goods. He suggested that Sachs could team up with the West Deerfield Township Food Pantry to do something similar. Tim responded that we did this in the past and collected so much food and the Township was thrilled.

Executive Director Nehila thanked the committee for their support, time, thoughts and ideas.

Nick commented that we need to improve our online presence and increase our standing with the search engines.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business or additional discussion, the meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.