RFAB Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2021
Zoom Conference

In Attendance:

Tazio Capozzola – Chair, Member-At-Large
Gabe Avillion – Co-Chair, Athletes Council (TAC)
An Vu – Muir College
Solyana Chan – Thurgood Marshall College
Gregory Thein – Member At Large
Macey Rafter – Alumni Representative
Tasnia Sharia – Revelle College
Omar Ceron-Santiago – Rec Leadership Council

Michael Ostertag – UCSD G&PSA
Ben Du – UCSD G&PSA
Heidi Carty, PhD – Staff Representative
Rich Mylin – Director, Recreation
Lourdes Dawson – Business Manager, Recreation
Roger Castillo – Financial Serv. Analyst, Recreation
Jessica Roswell – Asst. AD, Marketing, Athletics
Julie Sullivan – Executive Secretary, Recreation

1) Meeting called to order at 12:03PM

2) Recreation Area Updates: Omar Ceron-Santiago
   Aquatics is hiring new clerks and lifeguards. Outback is hiring trip guides for summer. The Triton Fit Park has expanded its hours. REA is training new staff for checking reservations. We hope to have the first trolley ride mid/end of November and construction will end in June. We need to bring Warren Field back up to our high standards. We had been planning to use a general contractor to help so it is not just a patch work job, but something that will look impressive when people get off the trolley at that stop because it will be the first thing people will see.

3) Intercollegiate Athletics: Corey Robinson & Jessica Roswell
   We have 24 matches left for the 20-21 season. One highlight is the Big West Championship this weekend (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). Women’s Water Polo won the tourney.

   We are wrapping up Triton Tide interviews. We are doing Spirit Pop-ups across campus, so look out for us, and tell your organizations. Odd weeks we will be doing social media challenges and we are still working on plans for Fall.

4) Open Group Forum: Reports from Colleges/Organization
   N/A

5) Approval of Minutes: April 7, 2021
   Gregory motioned to approve. Gabe seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

6) Triton Fit Park/ Marshall Fit Park Conversation: Rich Mylin
Rich would like to have a conversation about the outdoor fit parks at the next meeting. He would like you, and your constituents, to think about if we want to keep them outside (Triton and Marshall Fit Parks). Should we keep both outdoor parks? Do we need more reservations? Longer reservations? Fencing for security overnight? What is your recommendation to us? There is financial impact here, so we need real feedback for Week 8, since indoor fitness is opening back up.

Michael Enjoys working-out outside and others seem to like it a lot. Requested that we take down the net in the middle of the court. Although, if people want indoor – since RIAMC Weight Room is so close to Marshall Fit Park. Omar works at Triton Fit Park, which has been a great success. He asked if we will still be keeping 6ft social distancing when we re-open in the fall and move indoors. Tazio said the Triton Fit Park continues to be busy. Maybe keep the Triton Fit Park open and return the Marshall Fit Park to a tennis court, unless reservation numbers are really high for the Fit Park. Rich will get us the reservation numbers Week 7, or 8, to help us make a decision.

Solyana asked about when the weight room opens up, will we still need to maintain extra space between machines and stations? Rich said right now capacity levels are 25-50%, so we might still need to maintain 6 ft apart. As things open up, the levels of capacity will tell us what to do.

7) **Budget Question and Answers: Lourdes Dawson & Roger Castillo**

Tazio sent another email this week to encourage everyone to bring questions about the budget, so that we feel comfortable to vote. Michael said that the numbers look roughly the same as FY20-21 and asked why there is $200K in training for Admin when there aren’t that many admin staff. Rich said these funds are for Professional Development for all 70 full-time employee, not just the admin staff – this is just the way we manage it. Rich suggested telling RFAB which conferences and trainings we are going to for each budget cycle. We’ve never spent more than ½ of the funds allocated per year in the category. We also should start giving quarterly budget updates.

Michael said that we may not have predicted the effect of covid really well. What is the impact did covid have on extra funds going into reserves and capitol projects not completed? Lourdes said that we didn’t spend what we thought we would, but facilities continued to run. Sub 2 is not what we usually have. To date we spent $16-17 million, including the THA Program, which will be paid for by “return to Learn”, and 75% of the year is almost gone. Michael is concerned about the student fees which are still being used, but students aren’t getting anything. Could we use those funds to enhance the student experience? Rich said that back in Fall of RFAB agreed to (not an actual vote but more of a show of hands) to off-set this by offering all programming at not cost, and we made not revenue on the hikes, trips, intermural sports, classes, etc. Omar questions what happens to the remaining funds that weren’t used? Rich said that they get absorbed into future budgets, so the money comes back to the Department. Omar asked what the preliminary thoughts are on increasing wages from minimum wage, and since the budget is fixed – how...
many L1/L2s will you hire? Rich said that since the hours have not changed we already took that into account, also there is a wage increase January 1st, 2022.

Tazio asked if there were greater contributions to reserves from the saving that we did not spend? Lourdes said that the funds are not tagged to be put away, but they are rolled over into surplus, and we would like to spend on enhancing the student experience. Tazio asked if it helps us, or hurts us, to not contribute to reserves and what is the reason for doing that? Lourdes said that we have a really healthy balance in reserves, but we can’t just use those for anything, and RFAB is the Board that oversees these funds. Our team is very creative and if there is that RFAB thinks we need we can do that, otherwise we can use those for emergency fund. We need to have a balance but don’t want to hold on to money that can be spent on student support and enhancing the student experience. Rich said it wouldn’t be the right time to add more to reserves as we need to get invest in the student experience to Mesa and get kids back in camps for summer. Next year we will hopefully be voting on Canyonview and using funds for other aging facilities, but our reserves are already in a healthy space. Gregory agrees that we need to invest more into the student experience, it has been difficult with Covid. Are reserves, everything in the budget that is not accounted for? Lourdes responded that targeted reserves go to specific funds and the surplus goes back to the allocation that it came from – so funds don’t get mixed. This is the same for deficits (the surplus goes back to the allocation that it came from). Last year our focus was providing online services for Campus. Gregory asked how quickly we need to get the capital projects done? There was a reference to the line item listed as a sewing machine: $2500. Michael asked where the equipment request was on the FY21-22 budget for the sewing machine? Lourdes said it was on Sub 4, Maintenance. The Tec Café is a self-supporting activity that serves North Campus. Michael asked if it is a gaming center or a café? Rich explained that is it both and E-Sports center and a self-supporting café. Rich said that Week 8, we will vote on the cost of the Rec Pass.

Michael said that last quarter we discussed having the committee heads getting some funds to have coffee with new members to transfer information, is there a place in the budget for that? Lourdes asked if the Sustainability Rep and the Health Rep in the budget? Lourdes asked if this was a stipend paid appointment? At this time, we are not sure, but this is something that we can vote on, and pull funds from training and development for it. It also may need a change in the Charter language – just 1 or 2 lines, which we can vote on. Gregory asked if “appointees” become “employees”, if they get a stipend? Yes, they do – according to Lourdes, if they get paid Michael asked how much income do we make off of graduated students, if there is no fee after graduation? Rich said that students taking summer school have to pay a fee for it, so it’s not fair to them if others get it for free. Michael asked how much we make off of Summer school fees – Lourdes said that is was higher than usual this year. Michael is curious to see the numbers. If you have more questions, please direct them to Lourdes and Roger. Budget vote pushed to Week 6.

8) Meeting adjourned at 1:03PM