

Minutes of the Special Meeting

Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

9:00 a.m., via ZOOM (with telephone capabilities)

The Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University of PA held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, 9:00 a.m., via ZOOM due to COVID-19 restrictions. There was no physical location for this meeting in accordance with safety precautions and social distancing requirements.

Chairman Matt Lautman called the meeting to order.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to review and vote on a proposal to reduce the Smith Student Center fee and the Aebersold Recreation fee by 50% for the 2020-2021 academic year.

ROLL CALL:

Trustees present: Alfonso Angelucci, Samantha Hawk, Dominic Ionta, Dan Lavallee, Elise Michaux, Matt Lautman, William McCarrier, Jeff Smith, Robert Taylor, Suzanne Vessella, Joshua Young

Dr. Lia Paradi, faculty liaison to the Council of Trustees, was present for the meeting.

Public Comments: No individuals registered through the President's Office to offer public comment. There were no public comments from the floor.

Purpose for Action:

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, SRU is implementing a very low-density model for the fall 2020 semester. As part of that model, our plans called for a reduction in the number of residential students living on campus, streamlined activities, and a reduction of the number of in-person classes, in order to mitigate the spread of the virus. Currently, the Smith Student Center and the Aebersold Recreation Center will remain open, but with limited capacity. Student life and recreation staff members will be creating virtual social, fitness and recreation programs.

Discussion:

Trustees called for an in-depth budgetary review of the Smith Student Center and Aebersold Recreation Center facilities to be presented at the Council of Trustees September 24, 2020 quarterly board meeting.

STUDENT CENTER FEE: The State System of Higher Education requires that student unions be funded through a student fee. The Student Union fee provides for the fiscal support of Student Union programs, services, and operations including maintenance, utilities, staffing, equipment, and special activities and events. Currently, the majority of this fee pays the debt service on the Smith Student Center building.

This action will provide fee relief to our students by reducing the Student Center fee by 50% for the 2020/21 academic year. This reduction would result in an academic year savings of \$210.50 per full-time undergraduate and graduate student.

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Ionta to approve reducing the Student Center fee by 50% for the 2020/2021 academic year. No negative votes. No abstentions. Motion carries unanimously.

RECREATION CENTER FEE: This fee supports the overall auxiliary operation of the Office of Campus Recreation to include facility management of the Aebersold Student Recreation Center (ARC), McFarland Outdoor Recreation Complex (MAC), Ski Lodge, REACH high and low rope Courses, deck hockey arena, Campground, & Disc Golf Course. The fee supports informal recreation and wellness services, facility maintenance, equipment, student and professional staffing, and facility reservations. The fee supports major programs that are offered at the fitness center, climbing wall, aquatic center, MAC, Ski Lodge, and REACH ropes courses, including activities such as Intramurals, Club sports, group fitness, and outdoor adventures, etc. This fee also covers the creation and maintenance of distance recreation activities.

This action will provide fee relief to our students by reducing the Recreation Center fee by 50% for the 2020/21 academic year. The reduction would result in an academic year savings of \$110.00 per full-time undergraduate and graduate student.

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Angelucci, to approve reducing the Recreation Center fee by 50% for the 2020/2021 academic year. No negative votes. No abstentions. Motion carries unanimously.

President Behre offered thanks to trustees for their time and action today. "Our students will appreciate this."

With no further discussion or action, Chair Lautman called for adjournment, Trustee Hawk moved, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina L. Moser

Administrative Liaison to the Council of Trustees