

**UTK Faculty Senate
Athletics Sub-Committee**

Minutes for April 25, 2016 Meeting

Present: Dean Kopsell (chair), Jennifer Gramling, Cary Staples, Sally Hunter, Vickie Mayfield, Rex Pringle (ex officio), Andrew Adam (SGA), Dawn Coe, guests: Andrew Donovan (UT Athletics – Compliance); Mario Riles (Intramurals Sports Coordinator); Jon Janis (Sports Clubs and Marketing Coordinator).

The meeting was held at the Rec Sports Fields on Sutherland Avenue. The committee was given a tour of the facility by Rex Pringle, Mario Riles, and Jon Janis. The sports fields serve REC Sports which is a Division of Student Life. Staff described the initial planning, design, and construction of the fields. The entire process took nearly 10 years, and a cost in excess of \$14M. The site currently has natural and synthetic turf fields, sand volleyball courts, and softball diamonds. Of special note, the design and management of the facility utilizes as much sustainable practices as possible...from lighting to irrigation to hardscapes (see attached). The facility recently was awarded as an Outstanding Outdoor Sports Facility by NIRSA: Leaders in Collegiate Recreation. A distinction based on the design, management, and usage for the facility.

The meeting was very informative and provided an overview of the outdoor recreational sports available to all UT students.

This was our last meeting of AY2015-2016.

Sustainable Outdoor Field Project on a Budget

University of Tennessee Knoxville RecSports Fields at Sutherland

Grand Opening: August 30, 2013 **Project Cost:** \$14.6 million

Architect Firm: Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, Inc.

- ❖ Project came in \$400,000 below budget while obtaining all add-ons and meeting minimum silver LEED qualification.
- ❖ The University of Tennessee Knoxville (Sustainable Guide Project Information) requires all construction projects to be held to a minimum of Silver LEED qualifications even though they do not always file for the certificate.

Sustainable Features of the Project:

1. Musco “Light Structure Green” was installed on all 10 field areas.
2. Musco Control Link Central with controls, monitoring, and smart lamp operating system.
3. Recycled rubber/sand in-fill in the 4 Astro Turf field areas (Astro Turf Game Day Grass, XPE-42, slit-film).
4. Combined light poles to service field areas and the sand volleyball court area.
5. Recycled rubber boundaries were installed at the sand volleyball courts.
6. On-site well was drilled for irrigation (have the ability to switch to city water if needed, however by using well water, the department will re-coop this cost in just over a year compared to using city water)
7. Cambridge drains were installed in the fields.
8. Irrigation pond was located on site for the Cambridge drains to return the water to. An estimate of 80 – 85 % of the water for the initial irrigation of the new sod turf was being returned to the irrigation pond.
9. LED lighting in the pavilion and parking lot.
10. Light sensors to control the lighting in the central building’s bathrooms and hallway.
11. Dyson hand dryers to eliminate paper waste in the bathrooms.
12. Low E glass and double glazing in the windows and doors.
13. Sun shades around the building.
14. Light Tubes were installed in the roof to provide natural light to the interior of the central building.
15. LED and wireless scoreboards were installed on all 10 field areas.
16. Brown field of the site was encapsulated.
17. Site work was held to strict run-off code enforcement. Mitigated water migration from the site even though we were over 20 inches higher than the average yearly norm during the project.
18. Bio-swales were installed in the parking lot with low curbs to catch and filter the rain water, along with decreasing and possibly eliminating any of this water entering the storm sewers.
19. Recycled rubber wheel stops were installed.
20. Wheel stops were located in the middle of two parking spots reducing the number of stops required.
21. Light colored roof membrane was installed on all facilities.
22. Facilities are heated by natural gas.
23. Ceiling fan was installed in the maintenance building.
24. Combination recycling/trash cans were installed.
25. Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed for participant and employee safety.

26. Bicycle parking was installed on the site with direct access from the Knoxville Greenway system which connects back to campus.