

Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
April 16th, 2026 6pm-7:30pm
Allan Hancock College Room F-243
800 S College Dr.
Santa Maria, CA 93454

1. *Call to Order 6:05pm*
2. Social Hosted by the Spare Time Society
3. Roll Call: Chuck Provencio, Denis Smitherman, Stephanie Saucedo, Hannah Wallace, Daniel De La Cruz, Kim Ensing.
Remote: Alex Sandoval, Brandon Taylor
Guests: Emily Barrey, Mariela Lopez, Zaira Gomez-Barragon, Anthony Calligiuri.
4. Opening Remarks (Chuck Provencio)

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION (Non-Action)

5. Enrollment
 - a. Campus-wide enrollment is up, but concentrating in traditional career pathways (e.g., nursing, engineering, etc.).
 - b. Program enrollment is at 90 students this year.
6. Curriculum and Program Overview
 - a. Program has fully transitioned to a linear progression with students being encouraged to start at REC 101 and take classes in sequential order.
 - b. REC 109, WEE 149, and other elective credits can be taken at the student's discretion.
 - i. REC 109 is encouraged as a late-program course due to high competency demands.
 - c. Current design leaves 11.5 elective credits in order to get a degree (33.5 GE, 15 Core Major, 11.5 Elective).
 - i. Additional electives are encouraged.
7. Community Development and Outreach
 - a. This is a major issue among students in the modern era.
 - i. Lacking connections
 - ii. Difficulty navigating social and institutional structures.
 - b. In program: Basic discussion skills, volunteering, campus recreation, networking opportunities, and career transition assistance.
 - i. Start small, move up (we need community support in the more robust areas).
 - ii. Please send volunteer and networking opportunities!
8. Rec Ready Program (Stephanie Saucedo)
 - a. Rec-Ready has helped six students (two cohorts of three) to get mentorship from Recreation and Parks professionals in City of Santa Maria.
 - b. Regular responsibilities, professional development, networking, mentor support, and a capstone project.
 - c. Contact Stephanie Saucedo (City of Santa Maria) for more information.

9. Rec Management LinkedIn (Chuck Provencio)

- a. Students get a basic training on setting up a profile.
- b. Network currently has 140 students and professionals.
- c. New LinkedIn policies prevent sharing posts to groups, so please post when you have jobs or events coming up.

ACTION ITEMS

10. Community Input

- a. Community priorities include programming for young adults and families (SM, Lompoc).
 - i. Seniors and Youth are the formal priorities for the City, but that's left a huge gap for young adult and family programming.
 - ii. Students often focus on youth activities, so starting to work with campus recreation programs (i.e., clubs) may be a great way to train.
 - iii. Marketing (Promotion) skills are critical.
 - 1. Great programs flop when they don't get promoted well.
 - 2. Grassroots, word of mouth, social media, and other marketing techniques become important.

11. Curriculum Needs

- a. Marketing - While marketing appears in many classes, it is only in small doses. A dedicated marketing class should be explored for future implementation.
- b. Outdoor Recreation is still a priority.
 - i. Growing demand with difficulty finding entry points suggests that developing programming for new entrants is important (e.g., guided hikes).

12. Professional Concerns

- a. Conflict management.
- b. Marketing/Promotion

INFORMATION ITEMS

13. Emerging Trends in Recreation

14. Transfer Pathways

- a. Development of an Associate's Degree for Transfer (ADT) seems viable in the next five years.
 - i. Current articulation agreements act as "handshake deals". While appreciated, a formal pathway would give students a clear pathway while retaining the current Associates Degree and Certificate options.
 - ii. With five Recreation Management programs in CA, there are nearby and remote options that would benefit students.

15. Future Agenda Items

Adjourn