Opening and Welcome

Co-chair Bruce Tytler welcomed everyone and introduced Dan MacNeill, SUNY Cortland football coach.

Guest Perspective

Coach Dan MacNeill commented that he appreciated being invited to share his perspective on the happenings around Cortaca. Unfortunately, the football players that were to attend the meeting with him had other obligations.

Dan reported that there had been different types of disruptions associated with the Cortaca game years ago (such as fans rushing the field) but they had solved before he arrived in Cortland to coach. He reported that he has seen no issues at the actual game and that it is an exciting event. Each year representatives from both Ithaca College and SUNY Cortland meet, have a news conference, and go over the code of conduct for game day.

Dan reported that he recently visited Virginia Tech as his daughter is considering attending the school. He reported that at every meeting he attended, the staff talked about student expectations. There is one Saturday a year designated for freshman to go out in the community and do service as part of a “COR 101” required class. This
helps students feel like a part of community and builds a culture of civic engagement. The staff also promotes football and athletics as a part of student life that should be embraced and celebrated. Dan reported that we have students who come to Cortland to be part of the Cortaca experience. The meaning of the Cortaca game for the football players is huge. He suggested that there be a cost for bar owners to be able to open at 8 a.m. and that those funds could go back into the community. He also suggested that a possible reason why more students don’t attend games in Cortland is that tailgating (with alcohol) is not allowed. The Cortaca game, however, is nearly always sold out.

A question and answer period ensued.

Subcommittee Solutions Discussion

The summary sheet was distributed to commission members and will be discussed at the next meeting on March 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Park Center Hall of Fame Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melony A. Warwick