

Augusta plans a beach volleyball court

Fundraising efforts for Olympic-size sand court continue Tuesday

Kennebec Journal

January 10, 2011

Beach volleyball is coming to Augusta.

Fundraising efforts are under way to build an Olympic-size sand volleyball court at the Buker Center, according to Sarah Dunckel of Cynergy, a group of young professionals in the capital area.

"The plan started about three years ago," Dunckel said. "Cynergy talked about ways of giving back to the community and one of them was Olympic-size sand volleyball courts for the public to be able to use."

During that time, the group has gotten engineers involved in the project and talked with officials in Portland where there are two sand courts. Cynergy received a grant of \$2,500 from the Department of Economic and Community Development toward its goal of \$10,000.

"We've been talking to a lot of organizations and groups about ways they can help us out," Dunckel said.

The group also applied for a grant from Realize Maine and received \$5,000 grant. Fundraising efforts will continue Tuesday at Club 223 from 5-8 p.m. in Hallowell. A donation of \$15 includes live music, unlimited pizza and non-alcoholic beverages. Tickets are available at the door.

The court will be located at the west end of the field behind the Buker Center where a storage building formerly stood. Dunckel said the court is expected to be ready by June.

"One of the ways we're hoping to help the upkeep and the maintenance is by having tournaments," Dunckel said. "We know that the (Kennebec Valley) Y has got a really great winter league, but there's nothing for summer. We're hoping to work off the Y's winter league. A lot of people are really excited to have a summer league."

The City of Augusta has been a great help, Dunckel said, in both providing the land and preparing it to offset costs. Should the first court prove a success, there are plans to build another beside it.

http://www.kjonline.com/sports/augusta-plans-a-beach-volleyball-court_2011-01-09.html

FUNDRAISING EVENT

What for: Sand volleyball court in Augusta

Where: Club 223, Hallowell

When: 5-8 p.m. Tuesday

Tickets: \$15 available at door, includes live music, pizza, non-alcoholic beverage