

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER
ALSIP, IL 60803

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 9, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Director Gleason. The meeting was held at the Midlothian Park District, Midlothian, IL

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANNETTE HUBER
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	MIKE LEONARD
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	AUSTIN SANDUSKY
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

LORI CHESNA	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARGE COZZONE	BUSINESS MANAGER
ERIN LYNCH	SUPERINTENDENT OF RECREATION

ABSENT

POSEN PARK DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE
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ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD –

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 19, 2008

Motion made by Director Suhs to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on March 19, 2008. Motion was seconded by Director Huber. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director DeBella. Director Suhs made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$139,682.90 plus the Certificates of Deposit. Director Dziallo seconded the motion. The Scholarship Fund was discussed, and Marge Cozzone gave the Board an update on the amount awarded this fiscal year to date that will be deducted from the fund. It was suggested that a good way to replenish the fund would be to transfer the interest earned on the certificates of deposit into this fund on a regular basis. This idea was accepted and a motion will be made under New Business. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion carried, 7—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. **MARCH HIGHLIGHTS**
Executive Director Chesna explained that our spring season had been cut from our usual 10 weeks to 8 weeks. This gives us time to regroup and prepare in-between. Our program pricing had been questioned because it went down in the fall when there were 2 less weeks. April started our new spring season.
- B. **EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**
Executive Director Chesna announced that Mike Kelly was named Employee of the Month. Mike has been working for us for several years as a driver delivering brochures, etc. He saves us a lot of time so we are honoring him.
- C. **SUMMIT PARK**
Lori advised that she and Director Suhs have started going to meetings held on Wednesdays by the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). Director Suhs initiated this relationship and has included SWSRA. Although we haven't identified any individuals with special needs yet, this is a huge breakthrough in the community for programming in the Summit area,. The group is comprised of younger individuals, both single and married who were born and raised in Summit. They want to get involved in the community and make it better for their children. One of the activities they are striving for is a race that will take place. The Dia del Nino (Festable of Children) is Sunday, May 4, which is the same day as the Palos Marathon. We offered to have a costume character (Dora the Explorer) for the kids which will cost SWSRA about \$85. We also bought prizes, crafts and giveaways. Total cost for event about \$350. Director Suhs is providing games and picnic tables, etc.
- D. **PR & MARKETING**
Executive Director Chesna advised that we have received around eight resumes for this position. Interviews will start the third week of April.
- E. **RECREATION SPECIALIST POSITION**
Lori reported that she talked to the LULAC group about this position and asked them to share the information with individuals in the community. Trust is a huge issue, and we want an individual who is bi-lingual and has already built up trust in the community. We are willing to train someone to be an activity leader for that position. Beside the Southtown/Star newspaper, this position was also posted on the Moraine job board. Lori also told Donna McCauley about it.
- F. **IAPD CONFERENCE**
Lori attended the conference in Springfield. She attended the conference and then she had to leave less than half way through for a meeting with Emil Jones, but Lori thought it was more important.
- G. **SPRING FORMAL**
The board had received a flyer on the Prom and Lori asked that they please talk to their staff about it. Alsip is hosting this event again this year. We used to have it at Nathan Hale. We offer Pick-a-Prom dress for participants to come and select a gown or dress. Lori thanked those who had donated dresses.
- H. **SWSRA SUPPORT GROUP**

- 3 South West Special Recreation Association
Minutes of Meeting
April 9, 2008

Executive Director Chesna reported the speaker at this month's meeting will be Amy Parise DeLaney from DeLaney Law Office. Next month we will wrap it up with a party. We are led by what the group wants, so we will have it in May and then skip June, July and August and resume in September.

I. DELLS TRIP

Lori told the board that the trip to the Wilderness Resort at the Dells is booked for April 27th through April 30th.

J. CHANGE OF OFFICERS

Executive Director Chesna announced that the changing of officers will take place at the upcoming May Board meeting. The rotation dictates that the current Vice President, Director Suhs, will become President; Director DeBella will become Vice President; Director Leonard will become Treasurer; and Austin Sandusky agreed to be Secretary.

K. MAY MEETING REMINDER

Lori reminded the Board that the May meeting will be an evening meeting. Alsip Park District is hosting the meeting, although Director Huber cannot be there.

L. ALSIP VILLAGE PROFILE INTERACTIVE MAP PROGRAM

The Alsip Chamber of Commerce is updating the Alsip Community Map. Village Profile is the company who was selected to produce this interactive map. Lori plans to take an ad and had given the Board the details on cost.

Director Huber made a motion to accept the Executive Director's report; seconded by Director DeBella. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – Correspondence received from Tressler, Soderstrom, Maloney & Priess regarding the proposed changes to the Family and Medical Leave Regulations. The final regulations have not been adopted yet by the Department of Labor. It is anticipated they will be adopted in the next few months, and our attorney will keep us informed.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. RECREATION - No report.

B. FINANCE

1. Approval of Bills & Payroll

Motion made by Director Suhs to approve bills for the month of April, 2008 in the amount of \$11,270.24. Motion was seconded by Director DeBella. A question was raised as to the number of vehicles currently leased by SWSRA. The monthly payment of \$616 covers two vehicles. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion passed 7—0.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report

4 South West Special Recreation Association
Minutes of Meeting
April 9, 2008

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS -

Director Huber made a motion to transfer funds from interest revenue to the Scholarship Fund; seconded by Director DeBella. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion passed 7—0.

Lori told the Board that there was going to be a segment on Chris McKinney who is one of our participants on the NBC news this week.

Executive Director Chesna presented Director Gleason with a plaque honoring her for the completion of her third term as President of the SWSRA Board. Lori commented that Evelyn has always been one of her mentors.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director Huber to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Dziallo. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

Mike Leonard, Corporate Secretary