

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER  
ALSIP, IL 60803

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

February 28, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Director Huber. The meeting was held at Justice Park District in Justice, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANNETTE HUBER
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	MIKE LEONARD
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	JACKI DAZZO

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

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

ABSENT

POSEN PARK DISTRICT	JOY OCHOA
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO

ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Executive Director Chesna distributed copies of the proposed 2007-2008 budget that had been previously emailed to the board members. Lori proceeded to explain some of the changes; and asked that if the board members had any questions, she would like them to email her prior to the March meeting.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2007

Motion made by Director Suhs to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on January 10, 2007. Motion was seconded by Director Gleason. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director Gleason in the absence of Director Ochoa. Director Gleason made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$81,085.54. Director Huber seconded the motion. Marge Cozzone explained that the full CD interest that had accumulated in that account was shown in the proposed budget "to date" amount and will also appear on the income statement interest figure next month. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion carried, 6—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Director Chesna reported that the Chicago Wolves game and Odyssey Fun World both took place in January.

B. EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Executive Director Chesna announced that Jim Reeves was named Employee of the Month. Jim has worked for SWSRA for many years and has recently also offered to volunteer.

C. COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Executive Director Chesna stated that we will be recognizing three individuals for their outstanding contributions to SWSRA: Dan O'Neil, Bob Berger from School District 126 and the Palos Heights Women's Club. We are going to invite them to the March meeting.

D. IAPD INVOICE

Executive Director Chesna is recommending to the Board that SWSRA join the IAPD. Director Leonard inquired about the definition of "recognition" versus "accreditation." Lori explained that the SRAs have already paid four different attorneys to make it fair so that not just one is giving an opinion. They reviewed it and came up with set criteria. We went through IPRA first and they gave us there blessing to use IAPD.

E. CREATING AN IAPD RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Lori explained that there are four criteria that are outlined. These will recognize what an SRA is. It only serves the purpose of what we set out for Medicaid. Director Leonard inquired if you need to be accredited to be able to bill, and Lori replied that you do not. You need to be recognized as an SRA to be able to bill Medicaid. Lori will go back and make sure she understands this correctly. Lori is in agreement that we could "hold out." Director Suhs asked if it would behoove us to become a member to facilitate this Medicaid thing. Director Leonard asked if IAPD would say that they will not recognize you if you are not a member. Executive Director Chesna said that there are districts out there that are operating who do not meet the criteria. I think you should still write letters. Director Huber said that she has talked to Scott Tripan before.

F. CANDLELIGHT BOWL

Executive Director Chesna stated that she has decided to keep the Candlelight Bowl fundraising event at the Orland Bowl. Based on an incident last November, Lori reviewed other alleys to potentially host this event. Lori feels that we have already built up clientele who are accustomed to the same location. We currently get a full buffet for the same price that a new location would only offer pizza. Lori did talk to the manager at the Orland Bowl and discussed the problem. We are going to leave it there and trust that next time they will do a better job.

G. LEISURE EDUCATION BACK AT SWSRA

Erin Lynch gave a report to the board on the new program for Eisenhower students which takes place twice on Fridays—once in the morning and once in the afternoon. The participants seem to be enjoying themselves. As a side note, we have been dying to be able to use that pool and that is now a possibility.

H. PR & MARKETING

Executive Director Chesna stated that the board has indicated we should be out in the community more, so we have set up different speaking engagements and booths. We went to an Aero Coop meeting recently at Aero Cooperative and spoke to a group of teachers, aids and nurses. They are interested in what we offer. It was great to be able to talk to them directly. The February 13<sup>th</sup> Destiny Program was cancelled due to bad weather. The Autism Society of Illinois had an event on February 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a representative there who represented all the SRAs. We also have a booth at the upcoming Alsip Chamber Community fair. Director Leonard asked about going to the Palos Heights fair in March.

I. SERTOMA

Sertoma Center, Inc. is having their 2007 BIG event with sponsorship opportunities. They have agreed to discount us to \$500 (from \$1000) and discount the VIP sponsorship from \$200 to \$100. If we decide to go, it will give SWSRA a lot of coverage and name recognition.

J. LEGAL REPRESENTATION & FEES

Steve Bloomberg recently updated our Personnel Policies Manual. He has suggested that SWSRA no longer pay the monthly retainer, but rather bill us on an hourly rate next year. Lori said that we hardly use them for routine matters that would fall under the retainer. The hourly rate is \$195 for an associate, \$235 for a partner and \$80 per hour for a paralegal for anything that would be considered a "project," so Lori is going to put more in the budget for next year. Director Huber inquired if the Personnel Policy Manual was covered in the retainer. Lori responded that it should be in the current billing. She thinks that only normal stuff like reviewing contracts, minutes, etc. would be covered under the retainer. Lori is going ahead with the hourly rate.

K. ½ DAY CAMP?

District 218 is interested in having the teens of the BUILD program who attend summer school in the morning come to SWSRA in the afternoon for recreational activities. These kids come from all surrounding communities, and Mike Padavick from SD 218 is going to provide Lori with numbers and the communities involved. Lori will be able to see how many kids are SWSRA residents and which communities we can target.

L. PARK DISTRICT USA

Marge Cozzone told the board that the original creator of the registration software we have been using for the last few years is no longer involved full time. However, he and one of his partners are trying to continue providing support for the software on an hourly fee basis. It does not appear that there will be any further updates added, since the original company is, basically, out of business. Last fall when our annual maintenance contract came due, Marge had some suspicion and only sent them half of the fee. Although we will need to research other potential software in the future, this park district software, which was adapted to some degree for an SRA, is currently meeting our needs.

M. POLICY MANUAL REVIEWED BY ATTORNEY

Our policy manual was recently reviewed by Steve Bloomberg's office. PDRMA requires that this be done every three years. The corporate counsel recommended that we combine our part-time and full-time manual into one complete manual. Lori is reviewing the changes and will present them to the Board in March.

Director Leonard made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Report; seconded by Director Gleason. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None.

CORRESPONDENCE - Marge Cozzone gave Director Suhs a survey that was sent to him by Design Perspectives, but not delivered and returned to SWSRA. Director Suhs said that Summit Park District doesn't use their post office box anymore. Director Dazzo from Blue Island said that they don't use their post office box either. (She didn't recall receiving her board report for February.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. RECREATION - No report.

B. FINANCE

1. Approval of Bills & Payroll

Motion made by Director Gleason to approve bills for the month of January, 2007 in the amount of \$13,158.35. Motion was seconded by Director DeBella. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. Motion carried, 6—0. Payroll was previously approved under the Treasurer's Report.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS – Lori said that approximately 35 responses had been returned from the survey. Next month Tod Stanton from Design Perspectives will give a report on this. We will also have some visitors who will be receiving awards and the budget on the agenda. Lori asked that the board please read over the budget and give her a call with any questions.

Executive Director Chesna said that she is going to have to get over to Posen Park District. We can't get a hold of them, and they are far behind on their member district payments. Lori was asked about Director Ochoa, but said that she hasn't talked to her either. Lori will follow up on this.

NEW BUSINESS –Director Leonard said that he would like Lori to come and talk to his board. He said that he has successfully warded off questions from one of his alderman who keeps coming back wanting numbers. He thinks he can abate some of those taxes. He is challenging on other issues as well. Mike said he will set something up with Lori—maybe in April.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director DeBella to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Gleason. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.