

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER
ALSIP, IL 60803

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING July 9, 2008
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CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Director Suhs. The meeting was held at the Justice Park District, Justice, Illinois

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANETTE HUBER
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO (arrived later)
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	MIKE LEONARD

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

LORI CHESNA	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARGE COZZONE	BUSINESS MANAGER

ABSENT

POSEN PARK DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	AUSTIN SANDUSKY

ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD – None.

Director Suhs suspended the normal order of business due to the lack of a quorum and asked Executive Director Chesna to proceed with her report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Director Chesna reported that the Alsip Fun Fest and Fish Tales Derby took place in June. The Concert in the Park was well attended, but the Botanical Gardens was cancelled because we only had four participants.

B. EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Executive Director Chesna announced that Megan Gonzales was named Employee of the Month. Megan is the site director for day camp, and she has worked for us in the past. She also worked in the office before camp getting everything ready for camp. She will be honored on Monday.

C. DAY CAMP UPDATE

We are on break this week, but Session I went well. We have great staff this year and there hasn't been any problems. We do have one boy who was ejected from Alsip's camp and came to SWSRA. He has behavioral issues and has already been declined for school this fall. After 3 weeks of issues with this boy, our staff was getting burnt out. We suspended him from camp on field trip days as a form of behavior management. His family is cooperating.

We also had a case of ring worm which we reported to the Department of Health who told us that it is a skin-to-skin infection. Nevertheless, we had staff clean up the facility and toys, etc. We sent a note home telling parents.

We haven't had any mechanical problems with the vans. Transportation seems to be working out okay, although we've never raised our prices on the day camp transportation fees.

The Get Up & Go Camp is also going well. They will be doing a car wash the week they come back and raising money for a charity. We did end up getting 9 enrolled in this camp—some at the very last minute. A couple of the participants don't really meet the criteria of high level functioning. One is non-verbal and uses sign language.

Lori mentioned that a woman in a wheelchair complained about the drains in the pools that SWSRA uses for programs. A discussion followed on the requirements regarding drains in the pool.

D. ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND (IMRF) UPDATE

Lori had provided the board with a copy of a letter she had received from Louis Kosiba, Executive Director, of IMRF, regarding the status of agencies who have 501© 3 status. We will await the IRS decision, but in the meantime Lori would like to investigate how to form a foundation so that we are prepared when the IRS rules. Only 4 SRAs in IMRF have a 501(3)c status.. The board decided not to do anything until a decision has been made.

E. CAMP SWSRA "NEW" CAMP FOR TEENS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

Elim Christian School contacted Director Huber to create projects and jobs for clients to work. This is a group of clients with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Director Huber set up a meeting with Dawn from Elim and Lori. Since summer school and park district camps end in August, the parents were looking for something to keep them structured. SWSRA is now looking to form a 2 week autism camp with no transportation. We have had some calls, but no actual registrations at this time.

F. MARKETING POSITION (RE-OPENS)

Lori advised that she had to terminate the individual that was hired for this position after less than 2 weeks because she just wasn't a good "fit." We contacted one of the other applicants who was interested in the position. She has indicated what her terms would be regarding days and hours and salary. She is very qualified, and we are thinking about it.

G. SPECIALITY SWSRA FLYER – ENGLISH/SPANISH

It's been an experience at the office to translate things into Spanish. We are dedicating a page in the fall brochure in Spanish. Lori also plans to produce a separate flyer that is written in both English and Spanish which will feature only the programs that will be hosted in the Justice/Summit area. Lula, our new Outreach Specialist, has been assisting with the translation of this flyer. B-Allan will print this flyer and, depending on cost, we plan to have it send to all the households in Summit and Justice. Lula will be

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

working in the Summit office 2 days a week (Tuesday and Thursday) starting in September. She is currently being trained 2 days a week at the SWSRA office. We introduced Lula in the new brochure, and we are planning an open house in Summit on September 15th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

H. MARKETING ITEMS

Lori has been waiting on the new logo to order two display banners (one for Alsip and one for Summit) as well as a new table top display board, etc. Since the new logo wasn't approved until May, these items weren't included in this budget year, and will cost approximately \$2,000 over the approved amount. However, Lori said that she won't need additional approval since she will have enough money left.

I. SWSRA LPGO GOLF OUTING

Lori reminded the board that the golf outing was this Friday, July 11th, and asked if anyone had any items to donate for prizes. Director Suhs said that he does have some items if we would like to pick them up.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2008

Motion made by Director Gleason to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on June 11, 2008. Motion was seconded by Director Leonard. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director Leonard. Director Gleason made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$213,521.71 plus the three certificates of deposit. The motion was seconded by Director Dziallo. Roll was called with all directors voting yes. The motion carried, 5—0.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None.

CORRESPONDENCE – The board received a thank you letter from Nancy DiGangi for the scholarships her children were awarded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. RECREATION - No report.

B. FINANCE

1. Approval of Bills & Payroll

Motion made by Director Leonard to approve bills for the month of June, 2008 in the amount of \$16,868.69. Motion was seconded by Director Huber. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion passed 5—0.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS -

Director Gleason said that she checked our by-laws regarding new districts joining SWSRA. It is only a vote by the Executive Board to approve membership. Director Huber said that she could talk to the board at Worth. Director Gleason said that they already levy for the handicapped.

NEW BUSINESS –

The board discussed the status of the credit card that SWSRA currently uses and the options that might be available to open another credit card that would not require an individual's name as the "guarantor."

Director Leonard announced that Palos Heights has an opening for an aquatic position.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director Gleason to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Leonard. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

Austin Sandusky, Corporate Secretary