

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER
ALSIP, IL 60803

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING June 11, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

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

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

LORI CHESNA	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARGE COZZONE	BUSINESS MANAGER

ABSENT

POSEN PARK DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE
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ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA:

M. Sponsorship of Team Sports

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD –

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2008

Motion made by Director Gleason to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on May 14, 2008. Motion was seconded by Director DeBella. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director Leonard. Director Gleason questioned the balance of the First Midwest account which was higher than usual. Lori explained that a transfer to IPDLAF had already been made to reduce this amount. Director Gleason made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$243,485.16 plus the three certificates of deposit. The motion was seconded by Director Huber. Roll was called with all directors voting yes. The motion carried, 7—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Director Chesna reported that the annual Spring Formal took place on May 2nd. It was well publicized and successful. May Flowers, the Railcats vs. Jackhammers game and Petland's Pet Therapy were all well attended. We have 37 people registered for the Concert in the Park. A lot of programs are filled. We have some that are on a wait list. We are excited about our attendance.

B. EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Executive Director Chesna announced that Nancy DiGangi has been named Employee of the Month. Nancy has been with us since 2000, and she has really stepped up to the plate by being Day Camp Site Director this year.

C. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MARKETING EMPLOYEE: KELLY ANN MAJOR

Lori said that she decided to wait until next month to bring Kelly to the board meeting. She is currently answering phones and being trained. She is doing flyers, and Lori gave her an eight week time line. She is going to start on our Buzz newsletter for day camp. She will probably need a new computer and additional software.

D. PART-TIME RECREATION SPECIALIST POSITION UPDATE

We have hired a lady named Obdulia Hermosillo (Lula). This position was originally going to be 25 hours, but we have offered her 16 hours a week. Lula stated she has difficulty writing English—she speaks English, but has difficulty writing. We called Steve Kleinman to run our concerns by him. He said that if we feel she is right for the job, by all means hire her. We can register her for classes to enrich her skills. Director Dziallo mentioned the conversion program which we are aware of and will utilize.

E. RESOLUTION TO EXPLORE ADMISSION OF WORTH PARK DISTRICT (see attached)

The Director of the Worth Park District, Carlo Capalbo, has expressed an interest in joining SWSRA. He may want Lori to attend the July board meeting and speak to his board. Lori contacted our attorney, and he came up with this resolution, but Lori doesn't think the board requires this. There is nothing written about this. Director Gleason asked if each individual home board has to approve their admission. Director Huber said that we may need to revisit those rules again.

F. VILLAGE OF ROBBINS

Lori advised that Robbins' residents have been asking about joining again. Lori called Maurice Nesbeth, the Park Board Commissioner, and he asked for our information again.

G. DAY CAMP UPDATE AS OF JUNE 2, 2008

Lori reported that we have 34 clients registered in regular day camp and 8 clients registered in the new "Get Up & Go" camp. We have a wait list at this time. We have hired 22 staff, and we have received a request for an inclusion aide for Palos Heights. It is hard to find an inclusion aide to work for 45 minutes. Erin and all of the staff have done a fantastic job. Director Suhs asked how many were on the waiting list and why it was that we can't accommodate them? Is it because of staff? Lori answered yes. We can't take them last minute because we adhere to a strict staff-to-participant ratio.

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H. LPGO GOLF OUTING (see flyer attached)

Lori reminded the board that the golf outing was coming up, and that we can always use prizes or something as giveaways. This will be the 16th year for the LPGO.

I. PALOS HEIGHTS ACCESS AUDIT OF CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS SWIMMING POOL

Mike Leonard hired John McGovern's group to conduct an audit of their pool. It was pretty short notice for SWSRA to contact the families and get them there. However, we were able to get three or four to participate. Director Leonard explained that they wanted the results to be here in June so they could have everything ready for their OSLAD grant. Director Leonard decided to go with RAC. Lori said that our families appreciated getting involved and having a chance to express themselves.

J. ELIM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Elim contacted Director Huber to do a community service project. They wanted to have activities for their "aged out" group. Director Huber set up a meeting with Dawn from Elim and Lori. They had projects to clean up parks, etc., but their downtime is August. It was suggested how great it would be if SWSRA could start up a four week Autism Camp from August 4th to August 29th. The problem is that our day camp staff goes back to college. We are going to see if we can hire their staff if we can find a facility.

If there are other park districts in the area that want rooms cleaned, walls washed, etc., they could handle it. This group needs supervision and they provide it. They are clients who might have behavior problems. Tuesdays or Fridays for two hours is when they are available.

K. HAWAII UPDATE

The trip is booked with a minimum deposit because we were able to get a group rate. We are going to have to increase our credit card limit to cover all the expense. We only have a \$10,000 limit, but we need a higher one. Lori expressed that she doesn't like having her name on the credit card. The board discussed how SWSRA could get around this.

L. PDRMA

We were told that we would need an emergency plan for every facility that the Get Up & Go Camp was to visit, but that was because he thought that we were going to be at each agency for a week. Director Gleason thinks that SWSRA should have their own emergency plan.

M. SPONSORSHIP OF TEAM SPORTS

Lori was approached by her volleyball team and asked if SWSRA could get shirts for them. Director Leonard said that anything they sponsor is "in kind," but maybe if it is in our advertising budget. Director Suhs said the problem with that is that if you're sponsoring one team, someone else will say "Why not our team?" After more discussion, it was decided that they should pay for their own shirt. Lori can tell them that the board said "no."

The Board decided that they would not approve the resolution prepared by Tressler, Soderstrom, Maloney & Priess. It was agreed that the board will review the by-laws and look at steps on how to get these things done.

Director Leonard introduced Bridget Davis from Illinois State University who is an intern for Palos Heights this summer. The board, in turn, introduced themselves individually to her.

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

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

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 May, 2008 in the amount of \$14,926.61. Motion was seconded by Director Sandusky. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion passed 7—0.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS -

NEW BUSINESS –

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director Huber to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director DeBella. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

Austin Sandusky, Corporate Secretary