

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER
ALSIP, IL 60803

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING October 10, 2007
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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 10:06 a.m. by Director Gleason. The meeting was held at the Posen Park District, Posen, Illinois

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANNETTE HUBER
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	MIKE LEONARD
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

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

ABSENT

POSEN PARK DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	DOMINIC COGAN
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA

ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Executive Director Chesna added the following:

- M. IAPD CERTIFICATION
- N. PALOS BANK MARATHON

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

Motion made by Director Leonard to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on September 12, 2007. 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 Huber. Director Gleason made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$118,311.97. Director Huber seconded the motion. A question arose regarding the Jeffrey Hickman versus the Paul Sandberg Scholarship Fund. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion carried, 5—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. **SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**
Executive Director Chesna reported that the only event that took place in September was the Chicago White Sox Game which was well attended.
- B. **EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**
Executive Director Chesna announced that Mary McMahon was named employee of the month. Mary is still in high school but is very mature and has been quite helpful. She is the sister of one of our participants and also knows sign language.
- C. **PACE UPDATE**
Executive Director Chesna advised the PACE is no longer going to let us purchase the vehicle for \$1. They also want us to sign a new lease agreement which we do not want to do. Other agencies feel the same way. Lori said that she asked Tom Groenger if they were going to continue the maintenance agreement once it is expired. Director Gleason said they would want you to use their vendors. The new lease agreement states that it supercedes the older one. It also states that you have to put 1000 miles a month on the vehicle and/or 170 trips per month per vehicle. Also, you can't transport anyone under the age of 8, and you must be in compliance with the drug program and training (60 minutes for every driver). The new agreement is approximately 50 pages long and the old one is 5 pages. Director asked if they can amend an agreement after it has expired? Director Gleason said that she talked to Peter Murphy and Steve Kleinman. There are nine other agencies who are in the same boat that we are in. Lori said that NEDSRA and SSSRA hounded PACE every week until they got their titles. Dan Shimmel from Buffalo Grove is going to get a list of everyone who has a vehicle with PACE through the Freedom of Information Act. Director Leonard thinks that this is going to be an easier fight than we think. He will talk to his attorney about it even though he is not a PDRMA member. Director Gleason sent all of the stuff to Steve Kleinman yesterday.
- Director Leonard said that NRPA certification is being taken over by them nationally. Regarding the PACE bail-out, if they can't keep their own vehicles on the street, why would they pay for our maintenance and our drug tests? Lori said that she is going to ignore the letter; and if they take the vehicles, they take the vehicles.
- D. **CONTRACTUAL BUS SERVICES**
Marge Cozzone reported on
- E. **COOK COUNTY TAX BILLS**
The board discussed what impact this is having on member districts. Director Leonard wants Lori to come to his Palos Heights board meeting to discuss SWSRA.
- F. **BROWN COUNTY TRIP**
Erin Lynch and Ryan Cortez are taking this trip on October 12th, although Lori will be on stand-by since Erin currently has the flu.
- G. **HAWAIIAN VACATION 2008**
Erin is checking into the Hawaiian vacation and whether the participants would be able to afford this. We would skip the summer trip and see if they would be able to go in the fall of 2008. Marge is going this November, and it is a good time to go since it is less expensive.

H. NEW BUS

Our new handicapped lift bus will be coming in October. We plan to have a small reception to honor Senator Maloney for his help in obtaining the funding for this bus.

I. 5-YEAR PLAN

Executive Director Chesna distributed copies of the finalized plan along with a CD for the board to review. Lori pointed out one thing that was added at the end that Tod did discuss with her. It says “develop and implement an internal grant and aide program.” Lori will survey other SRAs to see if they offer a grant program to their member districts. For instance, if a member district wanted to have a new playground, SWSRA could be approached to work on that project doing a 50/50 grant. The districts would have an incentive on getting some of this back. Lori said that Marge had asked if we would have to be a foundation to give out grants. Director Suhs gave an example of Summit wanting to build a playground—something over and above what would normally be done—then they could come to SWSRA and ask for \$10,000. Lori agreed and added that the amount over the above the .02 could also be used. The board discussed building something like a miracle field if SWSRA would be willing to put up \$50,000, for example, we would ask to have this matched. Director Dziallo asked if we would contact the Sox or Cubs. Lori said that we would but we would also need the location to build this on. Putting one out in Summit or Justice might be appealing to them to do this. It might not be money that the district would donate, it might be land. Director Leonard thinks a miracle field would be great, but asked where they want to locate those fields. If they only want one in a region, then let’s not spin our wheels. Director Huber said that you should be able to look on line for this. If it is like the NFL, they have identified four areas or you would not qualify. Director Leonard said that we should start with the Sox—that’s what Lemont did, but they had residents with connections.

J. AUDIT

Knutte & Associates has presented a draft of the audit for our review. The final audit will be presented in November, but they will not be sending anyone to the meeting unless we request it.

K. IRS UPDATE

Lori passed around a copy of advice from the IRS adjusting SWSRA’s account in the amount of \$22,023. They originally wanted payment for taxes in this amount, but later reversed it. Marge sent copies of everything to Knutte & Associates after she got this cleared up.

L. MARKETING

SWSRA had a booth at the Senior Fair in Alsip, and we will also have a booth at the Family Health, Wellness & Resource Fair at Bremen High School. Lori ordered a banner through the Alsip Chamber of Commerce that will be hanging on the street at the Apollo Center with the SWSRA logo. Lori also joined the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce. We are still trying to get the word out about SWSRA.

M. IAPD

Lori said that we will need four people as delegates and one alternate. This would mean most of the board members. Director Leonard said to put him down as an alternate.

N. PALOS BANK HALF MARATHON

Director Leonard said that this is proposed to take place on May 4, 2008. There are 25 people registered already. Director Leonard thinks that they are putting the cart before the horse. We have a chairman and a co-chairman and they have been working on this for two years. Director Leonard convinced them that this a big deal and they have hired Chicago Special Events. Now we have a budget and a timeline for

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this, but we need a charity. The primary charity is Prostate Cancer Research. Director Leonard said they are considering SWSRA and possibly SSSRA who would get anywhere from \$500 to \$5000. The superintendent has headed up the volunteers and the dinner the night before. Lori said that she was approached about helping with volunteers. She advised that the night before is SWSRA's Spring Formal which is our biggest event of the year. Director Leonard said that he thinks this marathon will take place, but they still need to get approval for the route from the State. Director Huber asked what the requirement is for volunteers--would SWSRA have to provide so many? Director Leonard said that it would not have to be a specific number. He will tell them if SWSRA is on board and added that if we don't bring in SSSRA, it would be more funds for SWSRA. Director Leonard recommended a dollar amount that the charities would benefit from this event.

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

ATTORNEY'S REPORT –

With regard to the PACE situation, Lori told the board that our attorney said not to sign anything right now.

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 October, 2007 in the amount of \$14,415.11. Motion was seconded by Director Huber. Director Suhs asked a question pertaining to the Certificates of Deposit. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. Motion carried, 5—0.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS

Lori asked the board to review the 5-Year Plan and be ready to discuss it at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director Leonard to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Huber. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

Mike Leonard, Corporate Secretary