

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER  
ALSIP, IL 60803

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

September 13, 2006

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 Merrionette Park, Merrionette Park, IL.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANNETTE HUBER
POSEN PARK DISTRICT	JOY OCHOA
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

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

ABSENT

BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	JACKIE DAZZO
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	OPEN

ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 2006

Motion made by Director Ochoa to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on August 9, 2006. Motion was seconded by Director Dziallo. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director Ochoa. Director Ochoa made a motion to approve the combined ending balance of \$22,699.99. The motion was seconded by Director DeBella. Question regarding the negative balance in the IPDLAF Fund. Response is that the combined ending balance represents the true balance while the other funds that are specified for bookkeeping purposes fluctuate due to internal transfers. Question regarding the maturity date on the C/Ds which all come due in November now since two of the original three have already rolled over. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion carried, 6—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. **AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS**  
Executive Director Chesna reported that
- B. **EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**  
Executive Director Chesna announced that Maureen McGreal was employee of the month.
- C. **SWSRA BLOWOUT CELEBRATION AT 115 BOURBON STREET**  
Executive Director Chesna said that Erin and Alyssa have been spending time obtaining a lot of raffle prizes and auction donations. Local businesses have been very generous and we will be able to use some of them for the Candlelight Bowl. We have about a dozen items for the silent auction including some Will Purdue gym shoes, a Germaine Dye autographed baseball, etc. We haven't sold a lot of admission tickets, but most people say they will buy them at the door. We will also be selling entertainment books at this event. Raffle tickets are due to be turned in today, so any board members who have money (or unsold tickets) should turn it in. We will be announcing which board member/full time staff sold the most tickets and they will receive a \$50 gas card.
- D. **SWSRA COOKBOOKS FOR SALE**  
Hopefully, the cookbooks will arrive just in time for the Blowout Celebration. Lori said that there were some problems with the printing and not all recipes made it into the book. SWSRA is asking all member districts to help us sell them at their agency. The cost for each book is \$10, and they will make great Christmas gifts.
- E. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CANDY DAY FUNDRAISER**  
Executive Director Chesna advised that this fundraiser is the same day as our 25<sup>th</sup> Celebration. SWSRA staff will be spending time during the day doing this. Lori asked if any agency had staff they could spare for a couple of hours to benefit SWSRA, they should contact her. PDRMA is not in favor of roadway fundraising because of the risk involved. We will have everyone read and sign that they understand these risks. We do follow all PDRMA roadway safety guidelines.
- F. **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ON SALE**  
Marge who is in charge of this fundraiser distributed some books to member districts to take back and sell to help SWSRA. We will not be selling Gold C Books this year since there's hardly any profit in them.
- G. **SWSRA EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER HOLIDAY PARTY**  
Lori discussed her plans for the holiday party on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the House of Hughes. The invitation will be sent to all part-time and full-time staff as well as the board members. The budget Lori submitted allows for full-time staff and board members to bring a guest at no charge. Part-time staff would have to pay for a guest if they choose to bring one. The best estimate is \$40 per person. Lori asked for the board's

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recommendation on this proposal. Director Gleason made a motion to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Director Ochoa. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion carried, 6—0.

Director Gleason made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Report, seconded by Director Ochoa. 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 Gleason to approve bills for the month of September, 2006 in the amount of \$23,031.55. Motion was seconded by Director Ochoa. Director Suhs questioned the "cruise expense" listed under a National City (Visa) payment. This is a SWSRA trip scheduled for November. Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. Motion carried, 6—0.

Motion made by Director Dziallo to approve payroll for the month of September, 2006, in the net amount of \$27,389.98. Motion seconded by Director Ochoa. Roll called with all Directors voting yes. Motion carried 6—0.

- C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report  
D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report

OLD BUSINESS –

Director Suhs inquired about the statement in a recent article about Laura Kane that the annual LPGO golf outing had raised \$100,000 for SWSRA. Lori replied that this was the total raised since its inception over a dozen years ago. This year, we shared the proceeds with two other charitable causes. The two individuals who organize the LPGO plan to form a foundation in the future.

Executive Director Chesna discussed updating the 5-year plan for SWSRA. Lori is talking to Jeff Braun about a new building. He did a new building for South Suburban SRA that is much larger than we would need. It is an ideal model building, and we would need something similar but smaller. There is a piece of property next door to the Apollo Center that would be perfect. It

has a home that needs to be knocked down since it is too small to accommodate us. The price is \$230,000. There was discussion on the merits of remodeling, rebuilding, etc. Director Huber said that this home has a good garage, but the home is not suitable. She originally told the owner that if they were going to sell not to make any improvements. Lori explained that SWSRA needs more storage space, and Alsip has no more room. Lori said there is another piece of property by Sear's park that has more land.

Some suggestions were given regarding the 5 year plan. Design Perspectives could do a "needs assessment." The University of St. Francis might be able to do something along these lines.

A board member questioned whether there was any progress with the Worth Park District. Lori responded that they she did send the information, but that she hasn't heard anything further. Lori will follow up with a phone call.

NEW BUSINESS – Director Dziallo questioned what the criteria are to be awarded the SWSRA scholarship. Lori said that they would apply based on their income and if they have a medical card. We do advertise this in our brochure. Director Dziallo mentioned this because one of the participants who bowled with Ron, unfortunately, can no longer afford it. This participant is in a group home. While some of our scholarship recipients are from group homes, we can't award scholarships to all group home members since they comprise the majority of our participants and our funds would be exhausted. Lori went on to say that we have lunches planned with the group home staff. We recently had one with Sertoma and had about 19 people attend. We will have another one with Blue Cap in October.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - None

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Director Gleason to adjourn the meeting; motion was seconded by Director Ochoa. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

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Cali Debella, Corporate Secretary