

SOUTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
12521 SOUTH KOSTNER
ALSIP, IL 60803

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 2009

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 DeBella. The meeting was held at the Midlothian Park District, Midlothian, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were:

MIDLOTHIAN PARK DISTRICT	EVELYN GLEASON
ALSIP PARK DISTRICT	JEANNETTE HUBER
SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT	TOM SUHS
POSEN PARK DISTRICT	TJ WHITCOMB
PALOS HEIGHTS RECREATION DEPT.	MIKE LEONARD
JUSTICE PARK DISTRICT	CALI DEBELLA
WORTH PARK DISTRICT	CARLO CAPALBO
VILLAGE OF MERRIONETTE PARK	BRENDA DZIALLO
BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT	ANNIE WEST (alternate)

SWSRA STAFF PRESENT:

LORI CHESNA	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARGE COZZONE	BUSINESS MANAGER

ABSENT: None

ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA: Introductions were made all around the table, including a new alternate representative, Annie West, from Blue Island Park District and an intern, Steve Kehr, from the Alsip Park District.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2009

Motion made by Director Gleason to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on August 19, 2009. Motion was seconded by Director Capalbo. All Directors were in favor; none opposed.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Director Gleason. Director Leonard made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with a combined ending balance of \$127,535.63 plus two certificates of deposit in the amounts of \$247,000 and \$100,000. The motion was seconded by Director Whitcomb. Director DeBella pointed out that the deposits hadn't been included in the Scholarship Fund balance resulting in an increase to the combined balance total. Director Leonard and Director Whitcomb amended the amount of their motion to \$127,974.19. Roll was called with all directors voting yes. The motion carried, 9—0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. **SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

Executive Director Chesna reported that the Parent's Support Group is scheduled to meet on September 21st and the Adapted Sports Open House will take place on September 26th. Fall programs will be starting on September 21st, but enrollment seems to be down. Lori added that due to the economy things are getting tighter out there, and some of the participants in group homes have had their budgets cut. We are trying to look at ways that we can increase our scholarship funding, yet keep the cost of the programs lower. Erin and Ryan are trying to come in with cheaper programs.

B. **EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

Lori Chesna announced that Marge Cozzone has been named Employee of the Month for September. Marge is my right arm and has stepped up to the plate on many occasions. She is mindful of expenses and recently disputed a bill which resulted in saving SWSRA hundreds of dollars. Her dedication is noticed.

C. **WORTH BUILDING**

The work is almost finished—the floors are done, the walls are being painted and the furniture will be here in 4 more weeks. Lori is getting quotes on tables and chairs. The phone system is being installed next week at the SWSRA office. We should be ready to move in early October. The exterior signs have been ordered. Director Capalbo has been great about everything. We may host the part time staff & volunteer party at the Worth building this year. We can't serve alcohol there which is probably a good thing. The full-time staff will be the servers for this dinner.

D. **WE CARE 4 KIDS PROGRAM**

Lori reported that this took a harsh nosedive. The Crestwood major vetoed the idea. Jim Duggan was very disappointed. Joe Talluta from Whittier School said that they would love to have a chance at the program in Blue Island. It would be free to all of the residents at that school. They would donate the facility and provide teachers. SWSRA would interview the teachers and pick the best qualified. It would be open to the support staff as well. He thinks we would get upwards to 50 kids in the program. On the 22nd, there will be an open house that we will attend so that any parents who are interested can ask us questions. Lori sent a letter to the Crestwood mayor saying that she would be happy to come out and present SWSRA, but she hasn't heard anything from him.

E. **TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE**

The Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive will take place on Friday, September 18th and Saturday, September 19th. We would appreciate any help we can get, so if anyone is interested in volunteering, please let us know. The more people who come out for SWSRA, the larger percentage of the overall funds we will receive.

F. **VACATION**

Lori will be on vacation from September 21st through September 25th. Marge Cozzone will be Acting Director in her absence.

G. **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ON SALE**

Once again this year, SWSRA will be selling Entertainment Books. We will sell them for \$20, and they will be available for purchase at Alsip Park District, Palos Heights Recreation Facility or Midlothian Park District. These make great gifts, so spread the word.

H. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS—UPCOMING EVENTS**

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Candlelight Bowl: Lori is planning to ask each member district to prepare a gift basket for this event. Lori will advise each district by email what their theme will be, but TJ and Brenda can just bring a single gift. Lori hopes that everyone will be able to attend this event.

All board members will be invited to the Staff/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner that will take place on Friday, January 8th. We tentatively plan to host this event at the new Worth facility.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT - None.

CORRESPONDENCE -- None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. RECREATION - No report.

B. FINANCE

1. Approval of Bills & Payroll

Motion made by Director Huber to approve bills for the month of August, 2009 in the amount of \$22,647.82. Motion was seconded by Director Whitcomb. Director Whitcomb inquired about the amounts paid to . Roll was called with all Directors voting yes. The motion passed 9 —0.

C. PLANNING & POLICY – No report.

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS - No report.

OLD BUSINESS –None.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Huber said that Chuck Szoke had told her about a project that DePaul University is offering involving strategic planning. Alsip Park District applied, and they received it. However, they cannot make the commitment at this time and referred SWSRA.

Director Leonard made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Director Whitcomb, and all Board members were in favor: none opposed.

Director DeBella made a motion to return to the normal order of business at 10:33 a.m. The motion was seconded by Director Capalbo. All Board members were in favor; none opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Huber to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Director Leonard. All Directors were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Marge Cozzone, Corresponding Secretary

Jeannette Huber, Corporate Secretary