

**SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION FOR  
SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION**

Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting  
held May 19, 2009, in Downers Grove, Illinois

**Call to Order:** Dan Garvy called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Village of Brookfield	Rick Ginex
	Clarendon Hills Park District	Steve Thomas
	Darien Park District/Treasurer	Stephanie Gurgone
	Downers Grove Park District	Janet Barr
	Village of Indian Head Park	Joan Pieri
	Park District of LaGrange	Dean Bissias
	Community Park District of LaGrange Park	Dean Carrara
	Village of Western Springs	Tracy Alden
	Westmont Park District	Ron Gunter
	Woodridge Park District	Mike Adams
	Lisle Park District	Dan Garvy
	Director	Susan Friend
	Superintendent	Catherine A. Morava
	Assistant Superintendent	Matthew Corso
	Coordinator	Lisa Rasin
	SEASPAR Recording Secretary	Georgia Weber
Absent:	None	
Visitors:	*PDRMA	Tim Lenac
	*SWSRA	Lori Chesna
	*SWSRA	Denise Iwinski

**Open Forum and Correspondence:**

Dan Garvy introduced Janet Barr, newly appointed Downers Grove Park District representative to the SEASPAR Board.

Dan Garvy introduced Tim Lenac, PDRMA Risk Management Consultant.

Tim Lenac presented a plaque to Cathy Morava recognizing SEASPAR of its Excellent – Level A Loss Control Program Review for 2008 and a framed accreditation certificate. SEASPAR will not need a Loss Control Review until 2011. Tim Lenac also presented SEASPAR with a plaque for achieving the Highest Overall Score in the 2008 PDRMA Loss Control Review for its score of 99.54%. Tim Lenac thanked the Board of directors, Susan Friend, and Cathy Morava for their support of PDRMA and for having done an excellent job since he began with PDRMA in 2003.

\*Tim Lenac exited the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

Matt Corso introduced Lori Chesna, Director, and Denise Iwiniki, Marketing and PR Coordinator, of SWSRA in Alsip. Lori Chesna thanked SEASPAR for participating in the

Southwest Half Marathon on May 3, 2009. Lori Chesna presented Matt Corso with a check for SEASPAR's portion of the proceeds of the Southwest Half Marathon for SEASPAR's scholarship fund.

\*Lori Chesna and Denise Iwinski exited the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Susan Friend reviewed correspondence from the Tivoli Theatre in Downers Grove regarding the May 29, 2009, Buddy and Beyond Concert and newspaper coverage concerning the event.

Dan Garvy reported that he would attend a Buddy and Beyond Concert every year. Dan Garvy remarked that seeing the SEASPAR staff at the concert was inspiring and their energy was uncanny.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Dean Bissias moved to approve the minutes of Executive Session and the regularly scheduled April 21, 2009, Board Meeting and Cash Disbursements for May in the amount \$46,925.53 as presented. Mike Adams seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: LaGrange, Woodridge, Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Darien,  
Downers Grove, Indian Head Park, LaGrange Park, Western Springs,  
Westmont, Lisle

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Recreation Reports:**

Cathy Morava reported that she recently attended a presentation by Canine Assistants, at Ultra Foods in Downers Grove, of a canine assistance dog to a SEASPAR participant who is non-verbal. The dog will help alert the family if the child is in need or of potential danger to the child. The participant became comfortable with animals as a result of SEASPAR's Rainbow Therapy Dogs program.

Matt Corso reported that a canine assistance dog may be obtained for the EAGLES program.

Cathy Morava reported that she and Jim Cassidy attended a reception for "Paralympic Chairs for Champions" sponsored by Hartford Insurance at the Palmer House in Chicago on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, and the presentation of the chairs at Daly Plaza on Thursday, May 7, 2009. Cathy Morava reported that Jim Cassidy is currently researching and planning programs for individuals with physical disabilities. SEASPAR will use the chairs at these programs.

Cathy Morava reported that Brian Houzenga is currently planning for the June 4, 2009, Summer Inclusion Orientation in addition to concluding the season's leisure education programs. Leisure Education evaluations are in the process of being sent this season.

Cathy Morava reported that the fall brochure is being finalized to meet the May 20, 2009, target date.

Matt Corso reported that the SEASPAR soccer team competed at the Area One Spring Games on May 2, 2009, in Machesney Park. The team came in second place. Nine athletes competed at the NEISO Bocce Tournament in South Elgin on May 2, 2009. Three athletes qualified for Summer State Games by earning at least one gold medal.

Matt Corso reported that SEASPAR netted \$1,028 at the Bronswood plant sales held May 6, and May 13, 2009.

Matt Corso reported that 154 people attended the May 14, 2009, Sports Banquet held at Cornerstone Banquets in Darien. David Svitak of Downers Grove was named SEASPAR Athlete of the Year, and bowling champion Diandra Asbaty was the guest speaker. Matt Corso thanked Stephanie Gurgone and Steve Thomas for attending the event.

### **Fund Development**

Lisa Rasin thanked all who attended and/or sold tickets to the Buddy and Beyond Concert held May 29, 2009. The theatre was filled to its capacity of 1,000 seats. After expenses, more than \$19,000 has been raised. Lisa Rasin stated that there is a strong desire to present this concert again next year.

Susan Friend reported that revenue from participating Downers Grove restaurants is still arriving.

Susan Friend thanked Lisa Rasin for her efforts in this fundraiser.

Lisa Rasin reported that the annual SEASPAR Walk And-Roll-A-Thon is being held at Ebersold Park in Downers Grove on Sunday, May 17, 2009.

Lisa Rasin reported that the annual Golf Classic is planned for July 10, 2009.

Lisa Rasin is pursuing grant possibilities for SEASPAR.

### **Director's Report:**

Susan Friend congratulated the Downers Grove Park District for being a finalist in the Gold Medal Competition.

Susan friend reported that the new registration software is being implemented.

Susan Friend reported that SEASPAR's blue minivan was involved in an accident on May 13, 2009. The four participants and the driver were not injured. The driver of the other vehicle was at fault and was ticketed.

Susan Friend reported that SEASPAR is holding a Parent Workshop sponsored by MetLife on May 20, 2009.

Susan Friend reported that Serena's Song will be at the Lisle Eyes to the Skies Festival on July 2 through 4, 2009. Serena's Song is being sponsored by SEASPAR and the new Eyes to the Skies Committee.

Susan Friend reported that the Therapeutic Section of IPRA has recently completed a DVD project. One portion of the project was to inform the viewer about special recreation associations and the second segment tells about inclusion services.

Susan Friend asked if member entities had received information about a new process for conducting criminal background checks on job applicants and employees. The new process, facilitated by the Illinois State Police, is done in response to the National Child Protection/Volunteers for Children Act. The SEASPAR staff learned about it through a workshop at COD. Information from the workshop was shared with PDRMA for follow up. SEASPAR is awaiting their research and direction.

Susan Friend reported that Accessibility Audits are underway and agreements are being put together. Separate agreements between the individual entity and SEASPAR as agent are being prepared. Rick Tarulis will contact the attorney for each member entity as he prepares the documents.

**Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Dan Garvy reported a request for a new meeting time for SEASPAR Board meetings. Discussion ensued. It was suggested that we keep meetings moving along swiftly.

Mike Adams moved to have SEASPAR regularly scheduled monthly Board meetings begin at 3:30 p.m. Tracy Alden seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Woodridge, Western Springs, Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Darien,  
Downers Grove, Indian Head Park, LaGrange, LaGrange Park,  
Westmont, Lisle

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Susan Friend reported that she is looking for more resources through which SEASPAR could invest. One resource is the Illinois Park District Liquid Asset Fund Plus.

Susan Friend recommended a resolution to join the Illinois Park District Liquid Asset Fund Plus. Discussion ensued.

Stephanie Gurgone moved that SEASPAR approve the participation of the association in the Illinois Park District Liquid Asset Fund+ and that appropriate signatures be affixed to the resolution provided. Dean Carrara seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Darien, LaGrange Park, Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Downers Grove,  
Indian Head Park, LaGrange, Western Springs, Westmont, Woodridge,  
Lisle

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Cathy Morava reminded the Board that they are invited to the SEASPAR Summer Kick-Off Party on Saturday, June 6, 2009, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Ty Warner Park, 801 Blackhawk Drive in Westmont. In case of inclement weather, the Kick-Off will be held at the Westmont Park District Fitness Center. Cathy Morava informed the Board that Connie's Pizza and Culver's Ice Cream will be served, and entertainment will include the musical group the Surfers, a moonwalk, and a magician. Please RSVP to the SEASPAR office.

**Member Entity Projects and Events**

Mike Adams stated that Cypress Cove's major expansion includes adding a full pool with a permanent access ramp, a playground addition, and separate entrances.

Mike Adams reported on the dedication of Forest Glen Park. Mike Adams stated that there are about 100 children in the park every day.

Janet Barr reported that the Downers Grove Park District has entered into intergovernmental agreements with the village for storm water control at three parks.

The Board discussed financial issues during the current economic decline for participation and rising costs for park districts and recreation departments.

Stephanie Gurgone discussed insurance matters.

**Adjournment:**

Dean Bissias moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled May 19, 2009, SEASPAR Board meeting at 4:34 p.m. Joan Pieri seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: LaGrange, Indian Head Park, Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Darien,  
Downers Grove, LaGrange Park, Western Springs, Westmont, Woodridge,  
Lisle

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Joan Pieri, Secretary

South East Association for  
Special Parks And Recreation