

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

Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting
held March 18, 2008, in Downers Grove, Illinois

Call to Order: Jerry Yoksoulian called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present:	Village of Brookfield	Rick Ginex
	Clarendon Hills Park District	Steve Thomas
	Darien Park District/Treasurer	Stephanie Gurgone
	Community Park District of LaGrange Park	Ron Lorenzo
	Village of Western Springs	Ray Jasica
	Westmont Park District	Ron Gunter
	*Woodridge Park District	Mike Adams
	Downers Grove Park District	Jerry Yoksoulian
	Director	Susan Friend
	*Superintendent	Catherine A. Morava
	*Assistant Superintendent	Matthew Corso
	*SEASPAR Recording Secretary	Georgia Weber
Absent:	Village of Indian Head Park	Joan Pieri
	Park District of LaGrange	Dean Bissias
	Lisle Park District	Dan Garvy
Visitors:	*Thumbuddy Special	Mary Ellen Connelly
	*Thumbuddy Special	John Connelly
	*Thumbuddy Special	Noreen LeClair
	*IPRA	Mike Selep
	*IPRA	Matt Barber
	*SEASPAR Recreation Specialist	Dayell Muchowicz

Open Forum and Correspondence:

Susan Friend introduced Mary Ellen Connelly from Thumbuddy Special.

Mary Ellen Connelly reported that she was part of a group of volunteers that formed Thumbuddy Special fourteen years ago to raise money for children with disabilities to attend after school programs, obtain modified equipment, wheelchairs, or purchase glasses or other needed items that they could not afford. The group has grown considerably. Thumbuddy Special will donate \$5,000 to SEASPAR for scholarships in 2008 and plans to sponsor a program where their benefactors can meet our participants.

*Mike Adams entered the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Susan Friend reported that SEASPAR's day campers who received scholarships from Thumbuddy Special would send them thank you letters. Susan Friend reported that Thumbuddy Special has donated more than \$10,000 to date in day camp scholarships.

Susan Friend presented the IAPD/IPRA Community Service Award to Mary Ellen Connelly and thanked her for her exceptional support of SEASPAR.

Mary Ellen Connelly introduced her mother, Noreen LeClair, and her husband, John Connelly. Mary Ellen Connelly reported that Thumbuddy Special is excited that they can increase their donations to SEASPAR.

*Mary Ellen Connelly, Noreen LeClair, and John Connelly exited the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Matt Corso reported that SEASPAR requires that its recreation employees have certification of either CPRP (Certified Park and Recreation Professional) or CTRS (Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist). They must pass a certified examination and maintain sanctioned educational units on a regular basis.

Matt Corso reported that Dayell Muchowicz, SEASPAR Recreation Specialist, recently passed the exam to obtain certification through IPRA as a Certified Park and Recreation Professional.

Mike Selep, Professional Services Director at IPRA, presented Dayell Muchowicz with CPRP certification recognizing her successful completion of the certification process. Matt Barber, research intern, participated in the presentation.

*Dayell Muchowicz, Mike Selep, and Matt Barber exited the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Mike Adams moved to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled February 19, 2008, SEASPAR Board Meeting; the Bank Reconciliation for February 2008, and Cash Disbursements for March 2008 in the amount of **\$33,357.71** as presented. Stephanie Gurgone seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Indian Head Park, LaGrange, Lisle

Motion Carried Unanimously

Recreation Reports:

Susan Friend reported that Cathy Morava would attend the Board meeting as soon as possible. Cathy Morava was filling in at a program for a full-time recreation staff who was absent today.

Matt Corso reviewed his written report. Matthew Corso reported that the SEASPAR Slammers Blue basketball team attended the State Special Olympics Basketball Tournament on March 15 and won a bronze medal.

Matt Corso reported that SEASPAR has joined with JBSRA to create a Special Olympics Soccer Team that meets on Wednesdays. The home field for the SEASPAR/JBSRA Stars is Prairie Trails in Bolingbrook.

Matt Corso reported that SEASPAR has been asked to publicize the LaGrange Little League's

Challenger Baseball to our participants.

Matt Corso reported that the Eighth Annual SEASPAR Walk And Roll-A-Thon is on Sunday, May 18, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Ebersold Park, 6000 Main Street in Downers Grove. In case of inclement weather, the event is held at the Downers Grove Park District Recreation Center. The funds collected will go toward the purchase of a new SEASPAR vehicle.

Matt Corso reported that Max and Erma's restaurant at 2020 West 75th Street in Woodridge is holding a fundraiser for SEASPAR on Thursday, April 17. Twenty percent of purchases made with special coupons goes to the SEASPAR Booster Club. Coupons are available to all Board members.

Director's Report:

Susan Friend reported that SEASPAR received the "Community Contribution" Downers Grove Chamber of Commerce and Downers Grove National Bank Chamber Choice Awards on March 12, 2008.

Susan Friend reported the DuPage County Directors will be invited to a legislative breakfast on April 21, 2008, at Arrowhead Golf Course.

Susan Friend reported that she is attending the March 20, 2008, Lisle Park District Board meeting.

Susan Friend reported that she and Cathy Morava attended the Downers Grove Foundation's "Bon Bons and Bubbly" fundraiser on February 27, 2008. The Grove Foundation is very supportive of SEASPAR.

Unfinished Business:

Susan Friend reported that she attended the Downers Grove Board of Park Commissioners meeting on February 26 to discuss the SEASPAR Joint Agreement update. Discussion ensued.

After discussion, the Board directed the Executive Director to write a letter to the Downers Grove Park Board to indicate that they had reconsidered the deletion of the amendment relating to the overall rate of assessment. After review of the rationale for the change, the relationship between this amendment and the amendment changing the overall rate of assessment to the statutory limit, and with the otherwise unanimous support of the other ten entities, the Board did not change its opinion on deleting the amendment.

At this time, the SEASPAR Board considers this item passed and does not believe that this amendment should be sent back to the other members for reconsideration.

*Cathy Morava entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

New Business:

Susan Friend reviewed the proposed SEASPAR Budget for FY2008-2009. Discussion ensued.

Susan Friend reviewed information regarding SEASPAR's health insurance program and provided information about health insurance through PDRMA. Discussion ensued.

Susan Friend was directed to pursue a change in medical insurance coverage.

Cathy Morava reported that additional programs are being planned for seniors. The Stroke Support Group is currently continuing its monthly meetings at area restaurants on the second Wednesday of each month. The group does not meet in January or February due to the weather. Vacation Celebration will be held during spring break in Clarendon Hills and in LaGrange.

Adjournment to Executive Session:

Ron Gunter moved to adjourn to Executive Session under Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act for the discussion of personnel at 4:32 p.m. Ray Jasica seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Indian Head Park, LaGrange, Lisle

Motion Carried Unanimously

*Catherine Morava, Matthew Corso, and Georgia Weber exited the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

The regularly scheduled March 18, 2008, SEASPAR Board Meeting reconvened in public session at 5:23 p.m.

Final Adjournment:

Having no further business to discuss, Mike Adams moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled March 18, 2008, SEASPAR Board meeting at 5:24 p.m. Ron Lorenzo seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Indian Head Park, LaGrange, Lisle

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Pieri, Secretary
South East Association for
Special Parks And Recreation

Georgia Weber, Recording Secretary