

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

Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Held  
November 18, 2014, at the  
Downers Grove Park District Recreation Center,  
4500 Belmont Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Call to Order:** Dan Garvy called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Village of Brookfield	Mary Pezdek
	*Clarendon Hills Park District	Kelly Smith
	Darien Park District	Stephanie Gurgone
	*Downers Grove Park District	Jay Kelly
	Village of Indian Head Park	Richard Andrews
	Park District of LaGrange	Dean Bissias
	Community Park District of LaGrange Park	Roy Cripe
	Lisle Park District	Dan Garvy
	Village of Western Springs	Ray Jasica
	Westmont Park District	Ron Gunter
	Woodridge Park District	Mike Adams
	Executive Director	Susan Friend
	Superintendent	Catherine Morava
	Superintendent	Matt Corso
	Fund Development Coordinator	Lisa Rasin
	Recording Secretary	Ann Franczyk

Absent: None

Visitors: Tri County SRA Tracy Simon  
Lemont Park District – Brian Pepich, Louise Egofski, Ryan Jastrzab,  
Carrie Dellamano, Jason Khuen, Anthony Paolini  
SEASPAR – Carol Koczek, Shannon Tovey, Dawn Krawiec, Dana Herrera,  
Kim Huggins, Greg Pavesich, Aaron Hirthe, Tammy Semmler

**Public Comment and Correspondence:**

Lemont resident Tracy Simon asked to address the Board regarding Tri County SRA. Ms. Simon expressed her displeasure with the Lemont Park District's decision to leave Tri County and join SEASPAR. Some concerns she has are the increased cost of programs, transportation issues, and her son not being able to attend programs with the friends he has made during the past eight years with Tri County.

\* Kelly Smith entered the meeting at 3:32 p.m.; Jay Kelly entered the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Ms. Simon also read a text she received from another Lemont resident, Carol Duncan. Ms. Duncan stated the Lemont Park District had not been honest with residents, and that during public meetings, not one person said their needs had not been met by Tri County. She asked the Lemont Park District to reconsider their decision and stay with Tri County SRA.

Dan Garvy thanked Ms. Simon for voicing her comments.

Dawn Krawiec, EAGLES Coordinator, made a presentation on the history of the EAGLES program. In April of 2008, focus group meetings were held with interested families. The first program began five months later in Darien. There are now three sites with 59 individuals enrolled. Dawn said the rapid growth and success of the EAGLES would not be possible without the continued support of the SEASPAR Board, and she thanked them for providing this opportunity for our participants.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Dean Bissias moved to approve the Minutes from the October 21, 2014, Board Meeting; the Cash Disbursements for October in the amount of \$59,738.36; and the Bank Reconciliation from October 2014, as presented. Ron Gunter seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting:

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Recreation Reports:**

Cathy Morava re-introduced Dana Herrera, SEASPAR's Inclusion Coordinator, to the Board.

Dan Garvy thanked Dana for all she does for the Lisle Park District, and said SEASPAR needs help in getting staff for inclusion programs. It was suggested that a copy of the job description be sent to the Board members so they could share it with staff who might be interested in part-time work. Mike Adams suggested the students who help in the special needs classrooms at Downers Grove South High School may also be looking for additional hours.

Cathy said the number of individuals using Wonders, the Multi-Sensory Room, continues to grow and a new group, SASED, visited the room just last week. This program has been nominated for the Agency Excellence Award at the January IAPD/IPRA Conference.

Matt Corso noted that the 37<sup>th</sup> annual SEAPAR/Kiwanis swim meet is this Saturday at Downers Grove North High School. This is the longest running special recreation event.

**Fund Development Report:**

Lisa Rasin reported next year's concert fundraiser will not feature the band American English. She is working on confirming the date as either March 25 or 26, and will be contacting WXRT.

The Annual Appeal will be mailed next month. Lisa was excited to say there now is a "Donate" button on the SEASPAR website.

There are going to be two golf outings in 2015. The first is May 19 at the Downers Grove Golf Course, and the second is September 11 at the Village Greens of Woodridge course.

Lisa thanked Mike Adams and the Woodridge Rotary Club for donating proceeds from their recent mini-triathlon, and Dean Bissias for his efforts to secure a fundraiser in LaGrange.

Ron Gunter inquired about the bus donated by the Lions Club. Susan replied it was a collaborative effort by five clubs – Clarendon Hills, Darien, Downers Grove, Lisle, and Westmont. The total donation was \$48,000.

Dan Garvy said in this season of giving, please don't forget SEASPAR and their Annual Appeal.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Susan Friend congratulated Kim Huggins on completing a 5K run, and Dawn Krawiec for running in the Naperville Marathon. The agency's participation in healthy habits is paying off.

Susan reminded the Board that in a year and a half, SEASPAR is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If there are any suggestions or ideas for ways to celebrate with our member park districts and villages, please let her know.

**Unfinished Business:**

Susan Friend said SEASPAR received a request last month from the Lemont Park District to join our association. Staff have done a lot of work during the past few months in order to prepare for this possibility. We feel we can be a good partner for the Lemont Park District and our discussions with them indicate that they can be a good partner with us.

A number of questions were raised by the Board and discussion ensued.

Roy Cripe moved to approve the Agreement admitting the Lemont Park District, which accepts the provisions of the SEASPAR Joint Agreement, as a member entity of the South East Association for Special Parks And Recreation, and authorized the President and Secretary to affix their signatures to the Agreement. Ray Jasica seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting:

Motion Carried Unanimously

Jay Kelly moved to approve the Resolution of the SEASPAR Board of Directors admitting the Lemont Park District to SEASPAR membership, and authorized the President and Secretary to affix their signatures to the Resolution. Mike Adams seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting:

Motion Carried Unanimously

Louise Egofski thanked the Board for accepting the Lemont Park District as a new member. She stated now that this is final, they can go to their community and provide information about transportation, fees, etc.

Brian Pepich said he looks forward to enhancing the Lemont Park District programs with all that SEASPAR has to offer.

**New Business:**

Cathy Morava stated that a bid opening for a new vehicle was held on November 10. Based on the information submitted, she recommended the Board accept the bid from Best Bus Sales in the amount of \$54,900.

Discussion ensued. Dean Bissias moved to accept the bid from Best Bus in the amount of \$54,900, for the purchase of a new 15-passenger bus. Ron Gunter seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting:

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Member Entity Projects and Events:**

Mike Adams said the Village of Woodridge approved the zoning petition for the ARC project. They should begin construction in the spring.

Dan Garvy said the Lisle Park District is working on a project that asks the public to help determine the level of subsidy each service the district provides should receive. He offered to share the results with the Board.

**Adjournment:**

Roy Cripe moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled November 18, 2014, SEASPAR Board Meeting at 4:32 p.m. Dean Bissias seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dean Bissias, Secretary  
South East Association for  
Special Parks And Recreation

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Ann Franczyk, Recording Secretary