# SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Held October 20, 2015, at the SEASPAR Office, 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

Clarendon Hills Park District

Darien Park District

Village of Indian Head Park

Park District of LaGrange

Community Park District of LaGrange Park

Lemont Park District Lisle Park District

Village of Western Springs
\* Westmont Park District

Woodridge Park District

Executive Director Superintendent

Superintendent

Fund Development Coordinator

Marketing Coordinator Recording Secretary

Absent:

Downers Grove Park District

Visitors:

Lauterbach & Amen Recreation Coordinator Day Program Manager Administrative Manager Mary Pezdek Kelly Smith

Stephanie Gurgone Brenda O'Laughlin

Dean Bissias Aleks Briedis Louise Egofske

Dan Garvy
Ray Jasica
Bob Fleck
Mike Adams

Susan Friend Catherine Morava

Matt Corso Lisa Rasin Morgan Drdak Ann Franczyk

Bill McAdam

Jamie Wilkey

Rachel Pavesich Dawn Krawiec Carol Kocek

## **Public Comment and Correspondence:**

Dan Garvy presented Rachel Pavesich with her 5-year anniversary gift and congratulated her on all she has accomplished in such a short time.

Jamie Wilkey, from Lauterbach & Amen, provided the Board with a review of SEASPAR's FY2014-15 Annual Financial Report. She said overall, it is a very clean audit and there is nothing to report. Jamie thanked Susan Friend and her staff on doing an outstanding job in preparing for the audit.

Ray Jasica referred to page 25 of the report and asked if any employees participate in the Deferred Compensation Plan. Susan responded that most have rolled it over into IMRF. She also said some current and former employees have money in the 457 Plan, but neither SEASPAR nor the employees contribute to it.

<sup>\*</sup> Bob Fleck entered the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

Dana Herrera made a presentation covering the various areas she oversees. Concerning Inclusion, SEASPAR regularly provides aides and offers training for our member entities' staff. Before/aftercare continues to be very popular. The use of interpreters has recently occurred for participants needing this service. Dana's cited some quotes from evaluations the member entities' staff have done on our aides. They were all very positive and Dana is glad this partnership is working so well.

Teen and Adult weekly programs are being revised to incorporate health and wellness aspects. Travelling programs such as Afternoon Adventures and Saturday Night Socialites are booming, and Bears/Baseball Bonanza averages more than 20 participants each session.

Leisure Education programs are growing and now include 86 trips for 24 teachers in 15 schools. Dana is working on making these more therapeutic recreation sessions rather than our staff being just bus drivers. Dana asked the Board to let her know if there were any facilities in their communities that would be suitable for a Leisure Education class.

Kelly Smith asked if SEASPAR was still recruiting staff. Dana replied she is always looking for additional staff especially for Inclusion programs.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Dean Bissias moved to approve the Minutes from the September 22, 2015, Board Meeting; the Cash Disbursements in the amount of \$51,039.55; and the Bank Reconciliation from September 2015, as presented. Kelly Smith seconded the motion.

Voting Aye:

LaGrange, Clarendon Hills, Brookfield, Darien, Indian Head Park,

LaGrange Park, Lemont, Western Springs, Westmont, Woodridge, Lisle

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting: Downers Grove

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Recreation Reports:** 

Cathy Morava reminded the Board about the Inclusion training this Thursday in Lemont. She said representatives from all member entities had registered, and thanked Louise Egofske for hosting the event.

Cathy reported the SEASPAR staff are having lunch with the Darien Park District staff on November 10. Darien is providing the facility and SEASPAR is bringing the food.

Matt Corso said staff made an Ability Awareness presentation at St. Francis Xavier School for 65 sixth graders. This presentation is always enthusiastically enjoyed by the students from this school who regularly volunteer at many of our programs.

Matt and Shannon Tovey are conducting an abbreviated Ability Awareness on Wednesday for the Friendship Club at the LaGrange Highlands Middle School. This program pairs students with children who have special needs.

Matt reported that Dawn Krawiec was elected the Secretary for the Therapeutic Recreation section of IPRA. Dan Garvy noted this accomplishment was another feather in the SEASPAR head dress.

**Fund Development Report:** 

Lisa Rasin said the Trivia Challenge held last Friday was a success and looks like our net profit will be \$5,500. She encouraged the Board to drop by this event next year just to experience the energy in the room and see how much fun everyone has. Lisa is going to restructure the cash prizes so that more groups have a chance to win.

Lisa is considering scheduling the Blue Man Group for next year's concert at the Tivoli, and asked the Board for their opinion. There was some discussion about the performance.

### **Marketing Report:**

Morgan Drdak is working with staff on the winter/spring brochure. She mentioned that it will look quite different from what has been produced in the past.

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

Susan Friend had nothing to add to her report and said she, too, would like to invite the Board to stop in at next year's Trivia Challenge. It is a fun event that everyone should experience. Susan commended Lisa on doing such a good job.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Susan made the changes to the levy that the Board requested and the revised version had been provided. She is concerned that this leaves only \$3,500 for FY16-17. As stated in her memo, Member Contributions are SEASPAR's basic revenue source. Certain program fees cannot be increased any more. EAGLES has been a phenomenal revenue source but that is tenuous.

Ray Jasica thanked Susan for all her hard work and complimented her for doing such a fine job. Susan stated she would never have predicted that nine or ten years ago we would be in the position that we are. Considering twelve years ago we had \$0 in the bank, we've come a long way in a short amount of time.

Mike Adams moved to approve the FY16-17 Levy Budget, as presented. Ray Jasica seconded the motion.

Voting Aye:

Woodridge, Western Springs, Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Darien, Indian

Head Park, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Lemont, Westmont, Lisle

Voting Nay:

Absent, Not Voting: Downers Grove

Motion Carried Unanimously

#### **New Business:**

Susan noted the Agenda should be corrected to state the Board is voting on acceptance of the FY14-15 Audit Report. Aleks Briedis moved to approve the FY14-15 Audit Report, as presented. Kelly Smith seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. **Member Entity Projects and Events:** 

Aleks Briedis stated the Community Park District of LaGrange Park recently won the IAPD Helen Doria Arts in the Park Award, as well as an award from the LaGrange Park Chamber of Commerce.

Dean Bissias commented that the Park District of LaGrange's Endless Summerfest was voted the Best Fest in the western suburbs last summer.

Louise Egofske informed the Board that the Palos Park attempt to annex the golf courses of Gleneagles, Cog Hill, and Mid Iron, as well as a large farm parcel, has been successful. The farm may become a high-density, residential subdivision of single family homes. The school district is very concerned about how this will impact them. The Lemont Park District hopes to work out an agreement with Palos Park.

Adjournment:

Mike Adams moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled October 20, 2015, SEASPAR Board Meeting at 4:33 p.m. Dean Bissias seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ann Franczyk, Recording Secretary