

## SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held  
June 21, 2022, at the SEASPAR Office  
4500 Belmont Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Call to Order:** Bill McAdam called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Darien Park District	Stephanie Gurgone
	Downers Grove Park District	Bill McAdam
	Park District of La Grange	Jenny Bechtold
	Community Park District of La Grange Park	Jessica Cannaday
	Lemont Park District	Louise Egofske
	Lisle Park District	Dan Garvy
	Woodridge Park District	Mike Adams
	Executive Director	Matt Corso
	Superintendent	Karen Lesniak
	Marketing Coordinator	William Cazares
	Recording Secretary	Morgan Mason
Absent:	Village of Brookfield	Stevie Ferrari
	Clarendon Hills Park District	Valerie Louthan
	Village of Indian Head Park	Rita Farrell Mayer
	Village of Western Springs	Aleks Briedis
	Westmont Park District	Bob Fleck
	Superintendent	Dawn Krawiec
Visitors:	Participant Parent*	Terri Maddox
	Intern	Averie Robertson
	Recreation Coordinator*	Matt Gorecki

**Public Comment and Correspondence:**

***Terri Maddox***

Terri Maddox introduced herself as the parent of Lindsay Maddox, a participant in SEASPAR's EAGLES Adult Day Program, and read a prepared letter. The family has moved to Countryside but is requesting that Lindsay be allowed to continue in the EAGLES program as a non-resident. Bill McAdam advised that the Board would consider the request and notify Ms. Maddox of the decision.

\*Terri Maddox exited the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

***Introduction of Intern Averie Robertson***

Matt Corso introduced SEASPAR's summer intern, Averie Robertson. Averie stated that she graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in Therapeutic Recreation and is planning to attend Midwestern University in the fall to study Occupational Therapy. She noted that she is

enjoying her internship and plans to continue working part-time for SEASPAR after its conclusion. The Board welcomed Averie.

**Program Area Presentation by Matt Gorecki, Recreation Coordinator**

Matt Corso introduced Recreation Coordinator Matt Gorecki, noting that Matt joined the SEASPAR team full-time just over two years ago but previously worked in the EAGLES program.

Matt Gorecki provided an overview of his work overseeing athletics, aquatics, and Special Olympics programming. Matt presented his 2020 program offerings and challenges, noting how programming has changed since he joined SEASPAR at the beginning of the pandemic. Matt noted that SEASPAR currently provides training in 11 of 18 Special Olympics sports, with a new Soccer Skills program joining the fall lineup. There have been 121 athletes in Special Olympics programming since last year. Matt described Rocket League, a fully inclusive virtual program that is growing while other virtual program participation is waning. Matt noted that aquatics is another major area of his position, with a full roster of participants and waitlists for swimming programs each season. He is looking to offer additional locations and offerings for the fall.

Matt presented program participation data in his area for the last three seasons. He highlighted significant accomplishments of SEASPAR Special Olympics athletes, including the Regional Softball Tournament championship, State Volleyball Tournament championship, and State Flag Football Tournament championship in 2021. State Summer Games was just held June 17-19, and 11 athletes competed in Bocce, Track & Field, Swimming, and Powerlifting, bringing home 10 gold and 3 silver medals. Matt also highlighted events hosted by SEASPAR in 2021, including the TR Section Volleyball Tournament with 6 teams and 54 athletes, as well as the SEASPAR Annual Swim Meet with 3 agencies and 48 athletes. Matt's presentation concluded with a video montage of memorable moments from the athletics area.

\*Matt Gorecki exited the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Dan Garvy moved to approve the Minutes from the May 17, 2022, Board Meeting; Minutes from the May 17, 2022, Executive Board Meeting; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$67,968.12; the Bank Reconciliation ending May 31, 2022; the Income Statement from May 2022; and Current Investments for May 2022 as presented. Mike Adams seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Lisle, Woodridge, Darien, La Grange, La Grange Park, Lemont, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Brookfield, Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, Western Springs, Westmont

Motion Carried Unanimously

**Recreation Report:**

In Dawn Krawiec's absence, Matt Corso had no additions to the Recreation Report. Mike Adams praised Dawn's management of a recent inclusion situation in Woodridge.

**Administrative Services Report:**

Karen Lesniak noted from her report that multiple orientations, trainings, and in-services have been recently held; these are critical to orienting new and returning staff during a season of high-risk activities. Staff are embracing new procedures. Karen added to her report that she

continues to manage COVID-19 case notification to participant families. She also added that the replacement vehicle for Purple Rain will be delivered June 23.

**Marketing Report:**

William Cazares thanked member entity leadership and staff for helping to spread awareness of SEASPAR's mission through advertisements in their program guides. All members will have their fall guide ads by the end of the week. William noted that tracking methods have been implemented to gauge the engagement of readers with the advertisements.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Matt Corso added to his report that SEASPAR's Inclusion Manager has left the agency, and the Superintendent of Recreation is handling inclusion requests until a new one is hired. Matt thanked the Westmont Park District staff and Bob Fleck for assisting with the Summer Kickoff event on June 12, which hosted a total of 190 people. Matt congratulated Dan Garvy on his 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Lisle Park District.

Matt noted from his report that the Village of Willowbrook has expressed a preliminary interest in joining SEASPAR. In addition, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has inquired about joining SEASPAR, although a collaborative solution or intergovernmental agreement with other SRAs may be a better option for them. Mike Adams inquired about the threshold for SEASPAR's current capacity. Matt Corso noted that each community must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, considering the number of potential participants, contribution revenue generated, and additional program space provided. The Board discussed the status of Gateway SRA and its communities. Matt will follow up with the Board if discussions regarding any of the communities interested in SEASPAR become more serious.

The Board requested additional information about the Maddox family's situation and SEASPAR's residency policy, which Matt Corso provided. The Board reached a consensus about the issue, and Matt agreed to reach out to the absent Board members to ensure they agreed with the decision. Bill McAdam directed Matt to draft correspondence to Terri Maddox.

**Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

None.

**Member Entity Projects and Events:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

Dan Garvy moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting of June 21, 2022, at 4:05 p.m. Jessica Cannaday seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Garvy, Secretary  
South East Association for  
Special Parks And Recreation



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Morgan Mason, Recording Secretary