# SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held April 11, 2023, at the SEASPAR Office 4500 Belmont Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Call to Order: Bill McAdam called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Village of Brookfield Darien Park District

Downers Grove Park District Park District of La Grange Lemont Park District Lisle Park District

Village of Western Springs Westmont Park District Woodridge Park District

Executive Director Superintendent Superintendent Recording Secretary

Absent:

Clarendon Hills Park District

Village of Indian Head Park Community Park District of La Grange Park

Visitors:

Inclusion Manager

Luke Gundersen Stephanie Gurgone

Bill McAdam
Jenny Bechtold
Louise Egofske
Dan Garvy
Aleks Briedis
Bob Fleck
Mike Adams

Matt Corso Dawn Krawiec Karen Lesniak Morgan Mason

Valerie Louthan Rita Farrell Mayer Jessica Cannaday

Bethany Pastrana

# **Public Comment and Correspondence:**

# Presentation by Inclusion Manager Bethany Pastrana, CTRS

Dawn Krawiec introduced Bethany Pastrana, CTRS, SEASPAR's Inclusion Manager. Bethany provided a brief history of inclusion services, including needs and barriers. She reported that in the last seven months, 186 services were provided for 305 requests, with 5% involving training, 11% visuals, 14% observations, and 70% involving the assignment of an Inclusion Aide. Bethany discussed the inclusion model and how both programmatic recommendations and individual supports are provided. She noted milestones of the last seven months, including the growth of the inclusion team to include the Recreation Specialist. Looking ahead, the team will include Inclusion Assistants for the summer season. Future plans for member entities include website audits, a post-summer meeting with each entity, modeling the floating inclusion specialist pilot program at the Community Park District of La Grange Park, and integrating inclusion into the onboarding of new staff. Improvements are also continuing in SEASPAR's internal processes.

Matt Corso noted that Bethany has also taken over management of the SEASPAR Aktion Club, and the group is doing more than ever.

Minutes: April 11, 2023 SEASPAR

Page 2

Bob Fleck inquired about the prospects for summer staffing. Bethany reported that staffing is still a work in progress, and asked that member entities who turn away staff due to over-staffing or hour overages refer those staff to SEASPAR. Dawn Krawiec also noted that the two Inclusion Assistants will be providing more support for members during the summer.

# **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Mike Adams moved to approve the Minutes from the March 21, 2023, Board Meeting; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$60,168.09; the Bank Reconciliation ending March 31, 2023; the Income Statement from March 2023; and Current Investments for March 2023 as presented. Bob Fleck seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Woodridge, Westmont, Brookfield, Darien, La Grange, Lemont, Lisle,

Western Springs, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, La Grange Park

Motion Carried Unanimously

### Recreation Report:

Dawn Krawiec noted from her report that Molly Downing is leaving SEASPAR and her contributions to the agency have been appreciated. The administrative team is working quickly to fill the Recreation Coordinator position and prepare for summer. Dawn also noted that each recreation manager is meeting with the HR Manager each week to discuss part-time staff needs.

# **Administrative Services Report:**

Karen Lesniak noted from her report that PDRMA's quarterly webinar with legal counsel has been a valuable addition to her ongoing training. Karen also noted that the lobby renovation project is in progress, with some signage and painting complete.

## Marketing Report:

Morgan Mason had nothing to add to her report.

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

Matt Corso added to his report that SEASPAR received over \$31,000 in ARPA funds from DuPage County to compensate for IT upgrades and additional cleanings required by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Matt Corso added to his report that the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has reached out to SEASPAR for input as accessibility has been identified as a goal in the agency's new strategic plan. Matt provided references to consultants but will also provide guidance as needed.

Matt Corso added to his report that summer program guides have been delivered and should be on display at member entities' facilities.

Matt Corso added to his report that a Bowling Tournament will be hosted on Saturday, April 15 at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont.

Matt Corso added to his report that an Ability Awareness event is scheduled for a school in Western Springs.

Minutes: April 11, 2023 SEASPAR

Page 3

Matt Corso noted from his report that RSVPs are due for the Believe and Achieve Recognition Banquet on April 28. The event will be moved to January in 2024 and held in that month annually moving forward.

Matt Corso added to his report that the Village of Willowbrook approved acceptance of SEASPAR's Joint Agreement, receiving the full support of Village Trustees as well as the current SRA participants. SEASPAR's Joint Agreement will be changed at the next Board meeting.

Matt Corso added to his report that summer hiring signs are available and thanked anyone who could display them at member entity facilities.

Matt Corso added to his report that he would be at IUEDP at Indiana University the following week.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

None.

#### **New Business:**

# **Executive Session Minutes and Recordings**

Mike Adams moved to publicly release the Executive Session Board meeting minutes held on March 21, 2023, and to authorize the destruction of the regular Board meeting recordings dated March 16, 2021, April 20, 2021, May 18, 2021, June 15, 2021, July 20, 2021, and the Executive Session Board meeting recording dated June 15, 2021. Bob Fleck seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Woodridge, Westmont, Brookfield, Darien, La Grange, Lemont, Lisle,

Western Springs, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, La Grange Park

Motion Carried Unanimously

## **Member Entity Projects and Events:**

Board members discussed progress on current projects.

## **Adjournment to Executive Session:**

At 3:37 p.m., Aleks Briedis moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of April 11, 2023, to Executive Session under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act for the discussion of the employment, compensation, and performance of the Executive Director. Louise Egofske seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Western Springs, Lemont, Brookfield, Darien, La Grange, Lisle,

Westmont, Woodridge, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, La Grange Park

Motion Carried Unanimously

## Reconvene in Public Session:

The regularly scheduled SEASPAR Board Meeting of April 11, 2023, reconvened in public session at 3:50 p.m.

Minutes: April 11, 2023 SEASPAR

Page 4

# **Action Following Executive Session:**

Dan Garvy moved to take the action discussed in Executive Session. Louise Egofske seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Lisle, Lemont, Brookfield, Darien, La Grange, Western Springs,

Westmont, Woodridge, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, La Grange Park

Motion Carried Unanimously

# Adjournment:

Bob Fleck moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting of April 11, 2023, at 3:51 p.m. Luke Gundersen seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Westmont, Brookfield, Darien, La Grange, Lemont, Lisle, Western

Springs, Woodridge, Downers Grove

Voting Nay: None

Absent, Not Voting: Clarendon Hills, Indian Head Park, La Grange Park

Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Garvy, Secretary South East Association for

Special Parks And Recreation

Morgan Mason, Recording Secretary