

SOUTH EAST ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held
November 18, 2025, 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:

Clarendon Hills Park District	Katie Gock
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
Westmont Park District*	Bob Fleck
Village of Willowbrook	Dustin Kleefisch
Woodridge Park District	Jenny Knitter

Executive Director	Matt Corso
Superintendent	Karen Lesniak
Marketing Coordinator	Laura Pulido
Recording Secretary	Morgan Mason

Absent:

Village of Brookfield	Stevie Ferrari
Village of Indian Head Park	Amy Eckert
Village of Western Springs	Nancy Flores

Visitors:

Recreation Coordinator	Arynn Mathieu
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Public Comment and Correspondence:

Introduction of Recreation Coordinator Arynn Mathieu

Matt Corso introduced Arynn Mathieu, the newly hired Recreation Coordinator overseeing athletics programming. Arynn gave a brief introduction and noted that she is excited to be at SEASPAR and meet all of the athletes.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Jenny Knitter moved to approve the Minutes from the October 21, 2025, Board Meeting; List of Disbursements in the amount of \$100,464.61; the Bank Reconciliation ending October 31, 2025; the Income Statement from October 2025; and Current Investments for October 2025 as presented. Dan Garvy seconded the motion.

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

Voting Nay: None

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

Motion Carried

Recreation Report:

In Dawn Krawiec's absence, Matt Corso added to her report that November 21 would be the regional competition for SEASPAR athletes in Special Olympics' newest sport, Cornhole.

Matt also added that on Saturday, December 6, SEASPAR would be hosting a swim meet at The CORE in Lemont from 9 a.m. until noon. He thanked Louise for sharing the space for the meet, which would host several area SRAs.

Matt also noted that Special Olympics Illinois State Bowling would be the same day, December 6, and one athlete would be competing from SEASPAR.

Administrative Services Report:

Karen Lesniak noted from her report that Open Enrollment would be closing on November 21, and eleven staff had completed the process with five remaining. She noted that an AFLAC representative met with staff and enrolled two new staff in their coverage.

Karen also noted that the PDRMA Risk Management Review was completed, and SEASPAR's representative stated that SEASPAR was in the best standing out of the 33 agencies she works with. Karen had her final close-out call with the representative and SEASPAR passed all of the requirements of the review. They also determined SEASPAR's Smart Goal for 2026.

Marketing Report:

Laura Pulido added to her report that the winter/spring program guide is at the printer, and she hopes everyone has fun when they see the 50th anniversary theme.

Executive Director's Report:

Matt Corso noted from his report that the final Sips for SEASPAR event of the year would be held on December 10. He planned to send a flyer to Board members to share.

Matt added to his report that the staff holiday luncheon would be on Friday, December 19 at 1:15 p.m. at Cadence.

Matt noted from his report that elections for the Executive Board would be held in January, and anyone interested in a position should reach out to Bill McAdam or Matt.

Matt noted from his report that Board members should watch for their Believe & Achieve Recognition Banquet invitations in December. The event is January 14.

Matt added to his report that 2026 is SEASPAR's 50th anniversary, and Board members will receive commemorative polo shirts.

Matt noted from his report that the December Board meeting is typically cancelled, and a social is held in its place. He would send an invitation to the social after consulting with the Board President about the cancellation.

Unfinished Business:

Update on Classification of EAGLES Site Director Positions

Matt Corso reported that SEASPAR wanted to provide health insurance to its four EAGLES site directors, and after consulting with legal counsel, determined that they should actually be

reclassified as full-time staff. They will remain non-exempt, hourly staff, and the biggest expense will be the health insurance. The estimates included in the 2026 budget were for full family coverage, but not all of the staff may select that option. The justification for the change is that the EAGLES program is half of SEASPAR's registration income and program expense, and the site directors are critical positions for the program to run. The added benefits will ideally improve retention and enable SEASPAR to more quickly fill open positions, such as the Brookfield position which has been open for months. Discussion ensued regarding a health insurance opt-out, which SEASPAR provides at \$750 per quarter.

New Business:

FY2026 SEASPAR Board of Directors Meeting Dates

Matt Corso noted that two of the meeting dates in 2026 were adjusted from their normal dates. Matt stated that he would send out calendar invites for the meetings.

Approval of Resolution #2025-02 Amending the Joint Agreement of SEASPAR

Matt Corso noted that in addition to using the previous year's EAVs when calculating member contributions, legal counsel had recommended changing the second member contribution installment due date to December to accommodate the Cook County communities who may have delayed tax revenue. He noted that SEASPAR could also send both invoices in May for those members who may want to pay the second invoice early. Matt stated that the process of changing the Joint Agreement takes a couple of months, with the need for it to be ratified by two-thirds of the member entities' Boards. Matt stated that he would send a resolution and verbiage for a memo to each Board member. He asked Board members to send him copies of the approved resolutions or at least notify him when they pass.

Louise Egofski moved to approve Resolution #2025-02 amending the Joint Agreement of SEASPAR. Jenny Knitter seconded the motion.

Voting Aye: Lemont, Woodridge, Clarendon Hills, Darien, La Grange, La Grange Park, Lisle, Willowbrook, Downers Grove
Voting Nay: None
Absent, Not Voting: Brookfield, Indian Head Park, Western Springs, Westmont
Motion Carried

Member Entity Projects and Events:

Dan Garvy reported that the Lisle Park District is considering a referendum for a recreation center in November 2026. Feedback so far has been positive, and the District will spend the next year performing community engagement.

Jessica Cannaday reported that the Community Park District of La Grange Park is beginning work on their new recreation center.

Jenny Bechtold reported that a ribbon cutting for Spring Park was recently held.

Jenny Knitter reported that the Woodridge Park District is performing work funded by an OSLAD grant at Jubilee Point Park, including a three-story tower in the playground.

*Bob Fleck entered the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Bill McAdam reported that the Downers Grove Park District has purchased a three-story tower for the playground at McCollum Park.

Katie Gock reported that the Clarendon Hills Park District would be opening its renovated pool in the summer of 2026.

Adjournment

Jenny Knitter moved to adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting of November 18, 2025, at 3:32 p.m. Dustin Fleefisch seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Garvy", is written over a horizontal line.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Morgan Mason", is written over a horizontal line.

Morgan Mason, Recording Secretary