

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NORTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
HELD AT PARK CENTRAL
3000 CENTRAL ROAD, ROLLING MEADOWS, IL
ON THE 27th OF MARCH, 2024, at 10:30 am**

Chairman Talsma called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. Administrative Manager, Jessica Vasalos took roll call. The following members of the Board were present: Carrie Fullerton, Arlington Heights Park District; Erika Strojinc, Buffalo Grove Park District; Ben Curcio, Elk Grove Park District; Steve Bessette, Hanover Park; Craig Talsma, Hoffman Estates Park District; Jim Jarog, Mount Prospect Park District; Ben Rea, Palatine Park District; Ray Doerner, Prospect Heights Park District; Bret Fahnstrom, River Trails Park District; Kevin Romjeko, Rolling Meadows Park District; Diane Hilgers, Salt Creek Park District; Steve Burgess, Schaumburg Park District; Jeff Janda, Streamwood Park District; Jan Buchs, Wheeling Park District

Absent: Rita Fletcher, Robert Dowling, Jay Morgan

Also present: Tracey Crawford, Executive Director; Darleen Negrillo, Superintendent of Administrative Services; Tom Draper, Superintendent of Marketing and Communications; Andrea Griffin and Rachel Hubsch, Superintendents of Recreation; Anne Kiwala, Superintendent of Development; Emily Fencil from Clearbrook; Nick Eckleberry, Accounting Clerk; and Jessica Vasalos, Administrative Manager as recording secretary.

Introduction of Guests

Andrea Griffin introduced Emily Fencil from Clearbrook and Tracey Crawford introduced Nick Eckleberry.

Public Comment

Chairman Talsma asked if there was any public comment. Director Janda thanked Executive Director Crawford for coming out to Streamwood Park District to speak to his board.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the agenda dated March 27, 2024. Director Janda made the motion and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Talsma called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of March 27, 2024 with the omission of the financials from the consent agenda. The financials will be tabled until further notice. Director Romejko made the motion and Director Fullerton seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda dated March 27, 2024. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessett, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Ray Doerner, Bret Fahnstrom, Kevin Romejko, Diane Hilgers, Steve Burgess, Jeff Janda and Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Correspondence

None

Staff Reports

Superintendent Griffin reported spoke about the first sensory field trip to Mt. Prospect since COVID for five participants and seven staff.

Marketing and PR

Superintendent Draper reported on the home town visit WGN made to Hanover Park Park District. He also gave kudso to Superintendent Griffin and Inclusion Manager Gonzalez for a published article on Inclusion. Reviewed the GMFS marketing review and informed the Board that the Camp Brochure is out and the summer brochure is going to print,

SLSF

Superintendent Kiwala reported gave her report regarding the Gold Medal Fashion Show and the sponsors that have committed so far for FY2024. She also reminded the board that Golf season is upon us and the First outing will be the outing at Bridges of Popular Creek in May.

Directors Report

Executive Director Crawford informed the Board that we have hired a new Superintendent of Fiance, he starts on April 8. She thanked everyont involved in the hiring process. She informed the Board that the audit is under way, that seems to be going well. She also informed the Board that Asset Maxx will be updating the Asset list for the audit.

Old Business

SRA Governance Task Force

Director Crawford informed the Board that at this time they are treading lightly as the new legislation is hoping to include the SRA's. She informed the Board that there are many SRA's that follow Park District Code and many that do not and those SRA's are worried about their districts. One major topic is that we need to find a way to ensure that all SRA's are included when discussing things that impact the park districts. Director Talsma agreed. She reminded the board that we all wand to align with the park districts but some villages house SRA's and they do not follow the same code. Director Fullerton thanked Director Crawford for taking the lead and charge on this issue.

Clearbrook

Superintendent Griffin and Emily Fencil of Clearbrook presented to the board the history of the collaboration and explained how funds are distributed to the collaborators and how the program is structured. Superintendent Griffin asked for a motion to approve the Collaborative Agreement as presented. Director Fahnstrom made the motion and Director Janda seconded the motion to approve the Collaborative Agreement as presented. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessett, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Ray Doerner, Bret Fahnstrom, Kevin Romejko, Diane Hilgers, Steve Burgess, Jeff Janda and Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

New Business

Recognition of outing Board Member Rita Fletcher

Chairman Talsma read aloud the proclamation for Rita Fletcher

Paycheck Advance Policy

Superintendent Negrillo and Director Crawford reviewed the Paycheck Advance Policy with the board. The Board asked Tracey add in language regarding between paychecks. Director Crawford asked for a motion to send the policy to the attorney for approval. Director Burgess made the motion and Director Buchs seconded the motion to send the policy to the attorney.

Paid Leave for Workers Policy

Superintendent Negrillo presented to the Board the Paid Leave for Workers Policy. The Board requested that changes be made to clarify the 40 hours is not additional but taken from PTO and moved to the separate bucket. Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the Paid Leave for Workers Policy as presented with the changes suggested. Director Fahnstrom made the motion and Director Bessette seconded the motion to approve the Paid Leave for Workers Policy. Upon Voice Vote the motion was approved.

Informational/Action Items

District 15 Extended Camp

Superintendent Hubsch presented the new camps that NWSRA will be hosting during the summer of 2024. She was asked to include the staff costs in the program description during budget time and include what percentage of the costs and revenue are subsidies.

Closed Session

NONE

Action as a Result of Closed Session

None

Adjournment

After no further business, Chairman Talsom called for a motion to adjourn. Director Janda made the motion and Director Rea seconded the motion to adjourn the March 27, 2024 meeting at 12:05 p.m.


Secretary