

**West Suburban Special Recreation Association**

January 8, 2019

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held at: WSSRA Office

2915 Maple St, Franklin Park 60131

**MINUTES**

I. Chairman Joe Modrich called the **meeting to order** at 4:07pm those present included:

Mike Sletten, River Forest Park District  
Katherine Porreca, Park District of Oak Park  
Jackie Iovinelli, Park District of Forest Park  
Joe Modrich, Park District of Franklin Park  
Mark Sladek, North Berwyn Park District  
Al Schmidt, Village of Elmwood Park  
Anna Wegrecki, Village of Harwood Heights

Larry Banks, Clyde Park District  
Dennis Raleigh, Hawthorne Park District  
Jeff Janda, Berwyn Park District  
Mark DeSalvo, Norridge Park District  
Ron Malchiodi, Village of Riverside  
Teresa Mrozik, Village of North Riverside

**Others in Attendance:**

WSSRA staff: Bob Foster, Annie Hart, Marianne Birko

II. Janda/Sletten **moved to approve the agenda**. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. A. Janda/DeSalvo **moved to approve the December 11, 2018 Regular Board Meeting minutes**. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

B. DeSalvo/Sletten **moved to defer the approval of the December 11, 2018 Closed Board Meeting minutes to March 2019**. The motion was approved.

IV. A. DeSalvo/Janda **moved to accept the December 2018 Financial Report**. The motion was approved.

B. DeSalvo/Sletten **moved to authorize payroll, prepaid disbursements #38545 and ending with check #38573, and authorizes payment of December 2018 payroll and disbursements debit charges and cash transfers totaling \$151,892.11 and authorizes payment of January 2019 disbursements #38574 and ending with check #38593 disbursements debit charges and cash transfers totaling \$30,813.66 pending the availability of funds**. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

V. **Public Comment** –No public present.

VI. **Under the Foundation Report Birko reported,**

This year, WSSRF's Holiday Solicitation features some of the Foundation members' children. Donations are still coming in. So far, the "Giving Tuesday" raised \$1,100 & Holiday Solicitation has raised \$7,230 for a total of approximately \$8,330. Such a wonderful gift to the Foundation and Association. The Foundation did not host the Blackhawks Party this year but did host Bernie's party on December 22 run by our new millennial board members. They successfully raised \$600 there first time out. Coming Up is the Working Together Benefit Concert at the Wire concert venue in Berwyn. This event is sponsored by the Pinnacle Yacht Foundation aimed to support WSSRF, Opportunity Knocks, PACTT, and Momenta. All of the profits will be split evenly amongst the four agencies. It will take place on Friday, January 25 from 7:30 – 11:00pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance/\$25 at the door. Please help us get the word out by putting up the banner and posters at your facilities. It will surely be a fun night for all! The Foundation's Bowl-a-thon is planned for Saturday March 23 from 12:30 – 3:00pm. Carol Milburn of Oak Park and Christine Nakatsuka of Elmwood Park are chairing the event held at Circle Bowl in Forest Park. The Foundation Board will begin 2019 conducting their Annual meeting establishing their goals and budget for the year on January 16 to celebrate their 2018 successes and finalize plans for 2019 events. The Foundation Board of Directors thanks all of you for your continued support.

VII. **Under Committee Reports**

A. **Nominations Committee Report-** Jeff Janda, past Chairman, shared the 2019 nominations committee's selections for 2019, Joe Modrich will continue as the Board Chairman and Mark Sladek as the, Vice Chairman. DeSalvo/Banks motioned to approve. **Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.**

VIII. **Unfinished Business**

A. **No Unfinished business**

IX. **Under New Business:**

A. **Acceptance of Partner Appointments-** DeSalvo/Janda motioned to approve partner appointments as presented. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

B. **Election and Appointment of Officers-** Missed on agenda defer to March 2019

C. **Approval of Committee Appointments for 2019-** DeSalvo/Janda motioned to accept Committee Appointments as presented. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

D. **Approval of Committee Tasks for 2019-** DeSalvo/Raleigh motioned to approve Committee Tasks as presented. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

E. **Renewal of Safety Policy Statement-** Janda/DeSalvo motioned to reconfirm the Associations commitment to safety by accepting the Associations Safety Policy Statement. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

F. **Approval of Electronic Check Signature Procedures Resolution 2019-01-** Raleigh requested staff update the auditor. Raleigh/Wegrecki motioned to approve Resolution 2019-01 Authorizing a facsimile electronic signature in replacement of the Board Chairman's signature as outlined in Resolution 2019-01. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

G. **Approval of Russell P. Cannizzo & Company Accounting Services-** Janda/Banks motioned to continue using accounting services provided by Russell P. Cannizzo & Company Accounting services. Roll call vote showed 13 yes votes. The motion was approved.

H. **IAPD Membership Renewal-** Janda/Mrozik motioned for WSSRA to renew its membership with IAPD due the ongoing benefits to WSSRA. Roll call vote showed 11 yes votes, Sletten Abstained, DeSalvo voted No. The motion was approved.

X. **Under Correspondence-** No comments

XI. **Under Board Reports –** Raleigh reported the Hawthorne Park District's Spring soccer registration has begun. They are currently replacing a roof on one of their buildings and the main hall rentals are going very well! **Porreca reported the Park District of Oak Park** is being recognized by IPRA for the **Exceptional Workplace Award**. PDOP has added solar to Conservatory and a water harvesting system at the end of the year. Also, PDOP had added an additional 150 kWh at RCRC for a total of 250 kWh and 24 panels (approximately 10 kWh) at 218 Madison. PDOP is now generating enough power from solar to support 40 homes. PDOP hosted winter break camps at the rink and through general recreation on all school days out. This was very well received by the community. Three PDOP Board Members will be awarded with IAPD Master Board Certification at conference this month. The other two members have already been awarded with this recognition. Three Board Members and 30 staff will be attending IPRA/IAPD Conference this year. Youth basketball, hockey and figure skating as well as swim lessons and gymnastics are underway for the winter season. There are four candidates running for three seats on the Park District Board. **Wegrecki reported the Village of Harwood Heights** hosted their Open House for their new facility and it was a great success. She thanked WSSRA staff Birko & Hart for being in attendance. Their Grand Opening will be on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. They are currently selling facility memberships. All are very excited about their new facility! **Sletten reported the River Forest Park District** has begun formal discussions of the collaborative 20-million-dollar facility. The feasibility study includes a 1,200 sq. space for WSSRA. They have 3 persons running for two positions. **Iovinelli reported the Park District of Forest Park** received the IPRA outstanding facility award for the Roos building. One of their board members is also receiving the Master Board

member award. They recently hired from within for Recreation Supervisor position and offered the Business Manager position as well. Staff are getting ready for their Daddy Daughter dance. They opted out of the outdoor ice rink this winter. They have 2 board members running unopposed. In the Village there are 2 Mayoral candidates, and 8 persons running for 4 Trustee positions. **Janda reported the Berwyn Park District** bids are due January 21 for the Proksa Park bathrooms. They hired Colleen for the new Early Childhood position and they have 3 uncontested board seats for the upcoming elections. **Banks reported the Clyde Park District's** holiday activities were very busy and went very well. Sign up for soccer has begun. Happy New Year all! **DeSalvo reported for the Norridge Park District's** winter programs are up and running. They hosted their Fitness Center Open House on January 6<sup>th</sup> and had great participation. Two commissioners are leaving the board and running for the Village board. **Schmidt reported for the Village of Elmwood Park** hosted a collaborative lifeguard training with Triton College. Schmidt recruited 30 to sign up, 20 showed and 15 guards were certified. A lot of effort to continue to be successful in running the pool safely. All else is going smoothly. **Sladek reported the North Berwyn Park District's** board member Anne Macken is receiving the Piper Award by the Berwyn Development Cooperation on January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Wire. Sladek running uncontested for his 20th year as well as Jim Kerns. **Malchiodi reported for the Village of Riverside's** online registration system is going smoothly. They are opting out of the outdoor ice rink this winter due to the warmer weather. Their School days off were successful and their basketball season is underway. **Mrozik reported the Village of North Riverside** has 40 teams starting their basketball season. A bit lower than last year. They are starting their Beauty & the Beast production. Try-outs and rehearsals beginning January 30<sup>th</sup> and the show starting end of April beginning of May. **Modrich reported the Park District of Franklin Park** hosted their annual Special Needs ice competition the first weekend in January which includes sled hockey and figure skating. Modrich shared his concerns about the pending legalization of Marijuana. He shared that he has been lobbying IAPD and PDRMA to take a stance on the negative impact of the Legalization of Marijuana. He believes the Parks and Recreation Profession is not ready for the challenges that will be brought as a result to this legislation. He believes this could happen very quickly with the transition of the new governor. Although many say it is going to solve the major debt issues of the State of Illinois, he believes it will not. This will impact all of our kids, schools and WSSRA in a very negative way.

XII. **Executive Director's Report-** Birko Reported

- A. **Board Responsibilities and Expectations** – Annually the Board of Directors and Alternates are asked to commit their support to the Association by signing the Board Responsibilities & Expectations sheet enclosed in the packet.
- B. **Staff attends IPRA Annual Conference** -WSSRA Full Time staff will attend the IPRA Annual conference on January 24-26. Staff will attend both pre-conference and conference workshops.
- C. **WSSRA Co-hosts Legislative Breakfast with Berwyn Park District** – Jeff Janda and the Berwyn Park District will co-host the Legislative breakfast with WSSRA this year on Friday, February 22 from 10:30 - noon at the Proksa Park in Berwyn A formal invite will be sent via e-mail to local Legislators. Please extend this invitation to your board members and RSVP your attendance to Birko.
- D. **Special Events to Attend in 2019** – WSSRA welcomes the WSSRA Board to join us for any of the 2019 events. Attached is a list of events to attend for 2019. Select one or more and see if you can get one or more board members to join you. Please plan to be in attendance our kick- off Recognition Banquet on Saturday, February 9 from 6:00 - 9pm at the Centre at North Park in Franklin Park.
- E. **Winter/Spring 2019 Program Schedule** –The calendar of winter-spring programs is attached in the case you would like to visit. Please be sure to call and confirm the location and time of the program as changes do take place
- F. **Staff Report: Hart reported:**
  1. **Programs:** Winter/Spring Registration is underway. Programs begin January 28<sup>th</sup>. Recreation staff are beginning to work on detailed program plans for the upcoming seasons. This upcoming season we are excited to add a musical theatre program called ShowBiz Kids with the support of Alyssa Wilkens from Dynamic Lynks. We have also added a Winter session of Ice Skating at Ridgeland Commons with the help of PDOP and Kayla Fauria.
  2. **Day Camp Registration is open:** the lottery deadline is Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Manager, Carlos Marroquin, is starting the process of securing sights for our 9 camps. WSSRA will be hosting a Day Camp Registration Night on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 5p-7p at Proksa Park in Berwyn.

3. **Recreation Staff:** 9 staff are getting ready for the 2019 IPRA/IAPD conference.

4. **Special Events:** WSSRA is hosting its annual Recognition Banquet on February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Center at North Park. Please come and celebrate another fabulous year.

G. **Staff Report: Foster reported:**

1. **Transition-** Annie and I have met several times as part of the transition of her taking over my position. We are trying to do as much as we can now, taking into consideration she will be on FMLA February through part of April.

2. **Safety-**Staff were given a presentation on Slips, Trips and Falls at the December All Team Meeting.

J. **No Other**

XIII. Janda/DeSalvo **moved to adjourn** the meeting at 4:53pm. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Birko  
Executive Director  
mb/ Jan19 minutes