

**West Suburban Special Recreation Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 13, 2018 Held at: WSSRA  
MINUTES**

I. Modrich called the **meeting to order** at 4:05pm those present included:

Anna Wegrecki, Village of Harwood Heights  
Teresa Mrozik, Village of North Riverside  
Joe Modrich, Park District of Franklin Park  
Jackie Iovinelli, Park District of Forest Park  
Larry Banks, Clyde Park District

Jeff Janda, Berwyn Park District  
Al Schmidt, Village of Elmwood Park  
Karin Johns, Village of Riverside  
Dennis Raleigh, Hawthorne Park District  
Mike Sletten, River Forest Park District

**Not in attendance:**

Park District of Oak Park - Excused Absence  
Norridge Park District - Excused Absence  
North Berwyn Park District - Excused Absence

**Others in Attendance:**

WSSRA staff: Bob Foster, Annie Hart, Marianne Birko

- II. Janda/Raleigh **moved to approve the agenda.** The motion was approved.
- III. A. Janda/Sletten motioned to accept the Park District of Forest Parks Representative Jackie Iovinelli & Andrew Doss as the alternate to the WSSRA Board. Roll call vote showed 10 yes votes. The motion was approved.  
A. Janda/Banks **moved to approve the October 9, 2018 Regular Board Meeting minutes.** Roll call vote showed 10 yes votes. The motion was approved.
- IV. A. Sletten /Janda **moved to accept the October 2018 Financial Report.** Roll call vote showed unanimous approval.  
B. Sletten/Banks **moved to authorize payroll, prepaid disbursements. The board, by roll call vote, authorized payroll, prepaid #38458 and ending with check #38484 and authorizes payment of October 2018 payroll and disbursements debit charges and cash transfers totaling \$122,698.48 and authorizes payment of November 2018 payroll and disbursements #38485 and ending with check #38502 disbursements debit charges and cash transfers totaling \$17,930.94 pending the availability of funds.** Roll call vote showed 10 yes votes. The motion was approved.
- V. **Public Comment** - No public present
- VI. **Under the Foundation Report Birko reported**  
The Foundation had a very successful "Fallin For Our Stars" at the Cheney Mansion on Friday, November 2 with the Starlit Casino Night theme. This year's event is co-chaired by Margaret O'Rourke, Karen Mullarkey Kerrins, Lisa Shanahan and Beth Kaplan of Oak Park and River Forest and others like myself assisted the committee with event tasks such as securing the Live Auction items, six raffle prizes, sponsorships and getting our guests there. The evening was filled with delicious food, drink, lots of fun casino games and the Live Auction. Our guests were most generous and helped us raise nearly \$22,000 in profits. A new record for this event. The Foundation is once again grateful to the Park District of Oak Park for giving the Foundation this opportunity to host the event at the beautiful Cheney Mansion. A special thanks to board members, Andrew Doss and Mike Sletten for attending and to our Gold Sponsors Park District of Oak Park & Park District of Forest Park, Silver Sponsors, River Forest Park District for their continued support. Birko stated the Foundation is soliciting sports related items and tickets are appreciated as auction items for the upcoming Blackhawks party with a date To Be Determined. The board met November 7 to wrap up the year and make final plans for the Holiday Solicitation. She reminded the board it would be most helpful if you put up the banners that will support this fundraising effort. Please contact Marianne at the WSSRA office about any donations and pick up arrangements will be made. The Foundation Board Officers will meet in early December to plan the 2019 budget. Thank you for your continued support.
- VII. **Under Committee Reports**  
A. Modrich reported the Finance Committee agreed to cancel the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting as the 2019 budget had been finalized

B. No Other

VIII. **Unfinished Business**

A. **Approval of Approval of the 2019 recommended budget**, Birko reviewed the minor changes noting the bottom-line had not changed to the 2019 balanced budget as approved by the WSSRA Finance Committee and presented in November with a 2.1% share increase for your approval. Sletten /Janda motioned to approve the recommended 2019 budget as presented. Roll call vote showed 10 yes votes & 0 No votes. The motion passed with a supermajority as required by the WSSRA Articles.

B. No other

IX. **Under New Business:**

A. **Park District of Forest Park New Board Appointments for 2018 & 2019** Approved at item III. A. in agenda

B. No other

X. **Under Correspondence-** No comments

XI. **Under Board Reports – Mrozik reported the Village of North Riverside** wrapped up Halloween and will be hosting their big Turkey Bingo night coming up with 280 guests registered with a long wait list! WSSRA will be a part as well. They have their tree lighting and fireworks coming up on November 28th along with breakfast with Santa. They are watching their basketball registration closely as their numbers are currently down due to some competition with the Riverside/Brookfield high school doing some programming. Their Winter Fun Guide will be out in early December. **Iovinelli reported all is going well with the Park District of Forest Park.** She is meeting with a lot of contractors and affiliates. They recently had a very successful Trunk or Treat event and have a Craft Fair this weekend. The Roos Recreation Center is doing great as they continue to sell a ton of memberships and look forward to a busy season coming up. **Raleigh reported the Hawthorne Park District** is winterizing facilities. They are beginning their indoor soccer season. Morton College just ended a very successful soccer season that took them to the District finals where they lost. Raleigh noted the board has been working with the Clyde Park District Board and the merger is planned to go forward. They hope to complete the paperwork by the end of this year and have it go into effect May 1, 2019. **Janda reported the Berwyn Park District** is going to bid for the Proksa Park Bathrooms. 1500 people came out despite the rain to enjoy their All Hollow's Eve event on Oct 27th. They have 3.5 Polar Express runs coming up in December. Janda always assists WSSRA to make sure their Polar Express goes off without a hitch...They are currently working with the Berwyn PAV YMCA to do more collaborative programming and are also working on concept drawings to share with community on the development of the property across from Liberty Center. **Banks reported the Clyde Park District's** wrestling event sold an amazing 800 tickets. Their basketball, soccer and dance programs continue to do well! **Sletten reported the River Forest Park District** the Village, Township and Community Center are currently having discussions about the development of the Community Center property as a partnership. They are also currently working out the details for putting turf on the in-fields. **Schmidt reported the Village of Elmwood Park** had a very successful Halloween party with nearly 1000 persons in attendance. They also had a successful volleyball and pre-season basketball program. Their winter projects include new chlorine piping for the pool getting it ready for next spring. Wegrecki reported for the Village of Harwood Heights wishes everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving to all. She is excited to share the Village will have their Grand Opening of the new Recreation Center on Sunday, December 16 in combination with their Youth Commission Holiday Party. They will be offering a variety of class including exercise and dance classes and much more. **Johns reported the Village of Riverside** will begin their youth basketball season and is getting ready for the Holiday Stroll which is sponsored by their Chamber. WSSRA will be taking part as well. She noted the Village is very excited about their membership with WSSRA and are very pleased with the collaboration and support they have been receiving. **Modrich reported on behalf of the Park District of Franklin Park** that he knew many attended the recent Legislative Symposium and wanted to share that he was quite concerned and questioned IAPD's Leadership. He shared that he has been lobbying IAPD 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. **Schedule Annual visits-** Birko continues with her Annual visits to the partners. Below is a schedule of the partner meetings scheduled. She requested partners to schedule & confirm a date soon.

WSSRA Partner	WSSRA Annual Presentation
Park District of Oak Park	March 2018 completed
Berwyn Park District	December 18, 2018
Village of Elmwood Park	TBD
Norridge Park District	TBD
North Berwyn Park District	TBD
Village of Harwood Heights	January 2019
River Forest Park District	TBD
Clyde Park District	December 17, 2018
Park District of Forest Park	TBD
Hawthorne Park District	Possible Dec. 17, 2018
Village of North Riverside	January 2019
Village of Riverside	September 2019
Park District of Franklin Park	TBD

**B. Board Member Appointments Due by December 31, 2018**

The Amended and Restated Articles of Agreement state that each partner should make their appointments to the WSSRA Board by December 31 of each year. She noted the board will accept those appointments at our annual meeting held January 8, 2019.

**C. Executive Director's Annual Review-** Please complete the Executive Director Annual review form being sent by Joe Modrich and return to Joe by December 3. Included in the review information will be the Executive Directors goals and progress on the completion of those goals.

**D. Staff Report: Hart reported:**

1. **Programs** Fall programs are underway with one week left. Overall, enrollments are good with the cancellation of one program due to low enrollment, which in turn allowed us to add more swim lessons to Fridays. We've added an afterschool program in Norridge that has been a success. We currently are planning to add an afterschool program this winter at Komarek in North Riverside. We are hosting another parent open-house for families in Riverside on November 28<sup>th</sup> at Hauser School. WSSRA is also attending a LADSE Resource Fair on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Inclusion** Inclusion Manager, Chris Sturm has updated the partner agreement policy and getting more books ordered with the additions of Riverside and North Riverside. There are currently 45 participants in 60 programs.
3. **Special Events** WSSRA is getting ready for another Polar Express this coming December and working with the PDOP to offer a sensory sensitive Cookies with Santa event for 23 WSSRA families. In addition, WSSRA will be participating in the Village of Riverside's Holiday Stroll. WSSRA will also be hosting 12 Holiday Hullabaloo events over six days for 144 individuals during the holidays.

**E. Staff Report: Foster reported:**

1. **PDRMA** Staff attended two PDRMA Committee meetings, the Risk Management Grant Awards committee and the Loss Control Review Evaluation Committee.
2. **Transportation** WSSRA trained 2 new drivers for the busses who are currently Part Time Program Supervisors. Also, the new bus is wrapped and on the road.
3. **Health Plan** Staff have completed all the paperwork for the new Health plan transition to Blue Cross Blue Shield which begins November 1.

**F. Other** Janda shared that this evening he will be sharing a resolution about their new Buddy Ball program that was started by parents in Berwyn. He is proud of all that WSSRA does and thanked everyone for their work in getting this budget approved. Janda also mentioned Representative Hernandez had proposed HB 5975 negating the recent school district referendum that passed and has negatively impacted the community. Janda shared his concerns that this could be a dangerous precedent.

XIII. Sletten/Janda **moved to adjourn** the meeting at 4:40pm. The motion was approved.  
Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Birko  
Executive Director mb/ Nov minutes