

South  Suburban  
**Park & Recreation**  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Woodruff Golf Course, Lockport Park District  
Friday, September 9, 2011 at 11:00 am  
MEETING MINUTES

**President's Report: Lee Ann Fisk** called the meeting to order at 11:09 am, and welcomed everyone to the "New Year" Instead of everyone just introducing themselves, Lee Ann explained that by starting each meeting with a "question of the month," we would get to know more about each other which would add to networking and building a greater professional relationship. The question for this month was; "What is your favorite part of Parks and Recreation?" Some of the responses were, "all the people you meet" "variety" "building relationships" "watching people enjoy what you put together" "I'm here golfing" Lee Ann then went on to introduce the Executive Board, and they answered the question of the month. Lee Ann then presented the 2011/2012 Proposed Budget for approval. Lori Chesna SWSRA, made a motion to accept, and Mary Crout, Oak Lawn Park District, seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed. The motion carried and the budget was approved. Next, Lee Ann stated that the goals from the Strategic Planning would be implemented throughout the year. Lee Ann thanked Colleen O'Connell and John Wilson for all their work and John for the binders he put together. The "Welcome Packet" one of the goals was available for all to see. This would be for new members, existing members and associate members with information on who to contact, SSPRPA's mission statement, and information on meetings and socials. Another goal, which will start in October, is to have a committee member be an "Ambassador" for new members. This person will make new members feel welcome and comfortable. We are going "Green" – less papers on the table starting in October. All information will be on the website.

**President Elect Report: Tom Hartwig Welcomed** everyone and stated he is looking forward to a great year. The Strategic Planning is moving us forward in a positive direction. He thanked all who voted for him. Tom then stated that along with Colleen O'Connell they were part of the IPRA Professional Development Team. This Leadership Academy will focus on training new professionals; people who want Director Training. Tom asked for suggestions from the membership.

**Past President's Report: Erin Lynch** thanked everyone for a great last year and was proud of what was accomplished.

**Secretary's Report:** Laurie Nissen motioned for approval of the May minutes. Meghan, Tinley Park made a motion, Marissa Cardoni, Romeoville seconded. Motion carried and minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report: Sharon Rybak** Not present. LeeAnn read the treasurer's report: \$4,867.43 beginning balance \$50.00 in disbursements for the month, ending balance of \$8,171.43.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Day Camp** – Meghan Fenlon, Tinley Park, thanked MVCC for their sponsorship and stated that the committee would begin meeting in January to start preparing for the 2012 Day Camp Workshop
- **Publicity** – Meghan Fenlon, Tinley Park, reminded all to look for their e-vite the Monday prior to meetings and to all new members to make sure to register.
- **Awards** – Lori Chesna, SWSRA announced that Jeannette and she were looking for two volunteers to "Groom" to take over Awards. She encouraged all to go on the website which would explain the process to nominate for an award. The Awards ceremony is in April.

- **Teen Committee** – Colleen Canavan, Palos Heights, announced that the first meeting would be held in Alsip on Wednesday, September 21 at 3:00 pm She also reported for Jen Williams from Aquatics that their first meeting would be in Lockport on September 22 at 2:00 pm Lee Ann interjected that Jen has been an advocate in keeping the Aquatics committee up to date on all the changes.
- **Sponsorship** – Colleen O’Connell, Romeoville, thanked our sponsors, Design Perspective and Parkreation for their tradition of sponsoring our first meeting which is usually a golf outing. Colleen then urged other Associate Members to sponsor a meeting. The benefit would be to speak about their business and have handouts and literature.
- **Programs** – Marissa Cardoni, Romeoville, thanked the Golf Course and Bob and Joe of the Social Committee. She asked that everyone fill out the “Question of the Month” sheet
- **Early Childhood** – Laurie Nissen, Alsip, Explained that the Early Childhood Committee meets once a month and shares parent handbooks, staff manuals, Preschool policies and procedures and more. Urged anyone that has not joined to please do so. The first meeting will be Thursday, September 22 at 11:00 am in Tinley Park.
- **Legislative** – Chuck Szoke, Channahon, spoke on behalf of co-chairs Evelyn Gleason from Midlothian and Jim Romanek from Mokena. The Legislative committee meets the first Monday of each month at 1:00 in Tinley Park. He reported on several bills that were signed over the Summer and explained about the VETO session in the fall. This VETO session is for emergency bills only, he talked about the IMRF, the Release of Information Act regarding children and that the General Assembly would be re-districting. The January meeting program will be Legislative and the topic will be IMRF.
- **Social** – Bob Russo, Worth, – Thanked the Golf Course and urged all to go on the website for information about the mini socials. Announced that there would be three raffles and activities for non-golfers.
- **Membership** – Jen Yuska was not presented. Lee Ann reported that we had 233 members, members were cross referenced through IPRA and those that have not joined were being reached out to.

**Old Business: New Business:** The goals from the Strategic Plan will be implemented in baby steps.

**Announcements:** SWSRA reported on their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration which will be held on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

- a. Associates of the Month:
  - i. Design Perspective, Inc. enjoys working with South Suburban and hopes to continue
  - ii. Parkreation, Inc. great idea on Welcome Packet, thanked all agencies for their support and hoped to continue

Lee Ann thanked the Associate Members. The next meeting will be October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Worth Park District, Terrace Center located at 11500 S. Beloit at 11:00 am. The program will be From Children’s Entertainment to Big Bands – Creating Competitive Pricing. A motion was made to adjourn. Mary Crout, Oak Lawn and Denise SWSRA seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurie Nissen*

Laurie Nissen, Secretary