

South  Suburban
Park & Recreation
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2022
Heritage Bluffs Golf Course Channahon, 11:00am

Call to Order – 11:05am

Introductions - Members said their name and the agency they are from.

President's Report – Welcome and thanks for coming out to our first meeting and social.

President Elect Report – Thank you for voting for me and your confidence in me. I look forward to a great year.

Past President Report – Thank you for coming out this month. Thank you to Channahon Park District for hosting. Later when we get to Committee reports, you will hear from the Committee chairs that will tell you about the committees. Those that are not involved in committees reach out to the Committee chairs and get involved. The Association does a lot of good and it will benefit your job and your district. Lastly, sometime before Nationals I will send out the Annual report to everyone via email and post it on the website.

Secretary's Report – It is great to see everyone. I will be working on a newsletter to send out by the end of the month, so if you would like to add anything please email it to me by September 15. Also, I will be updating the website and adding Committee meeting dates, agendas, and minutes, so please send those to me to get that information posted. The minutes from the May meeting have been posted.

Motion to approve the May General meeting minutes: Erin Cortilet from the Tinley Park Park District, Second: Rebecca Perkaus from the Alsip Park District.

Motion carries

Treasurer's Report – I will go over the Treasurer's report from May until now.

May: as of May 1, 2022 the beginning balance was \$15,715.86/ending balance was \$10,216.92.

June: as of June 1, 2022 the beginning balance was \$10,216.92/ending balance was \$11,093.12

July: as of July 1, 2022 the beginning balance was \$11,093.12/ending balance was \$13,135.87

August: as of August 1, 2022 the beginning balance was \$13,135.87*/ending balance was \$17,239.84**

*We had a total deposit for the month in the amount of \$6,650.07 that included membership, money from Day Camp Workshop, and money for this meeting.

**Debits totaled \$2,546.10 and that included the Board orientation meeting, gift cards for the social, gift cards for Early Childhood workshop speakers, Constant Contact, November workshop, and deposit for NRPA social.

Wilson Family Scholarship Fund: There are three different treasurer's reports. The second one is the Wilson Family Fund savings account. This savings account will hold \$1,000 for the Wilson Family Award that will go out to Young Professional of the year in the amount of \$500. And the other account is the Wilson Family Fund CD, so that is the bulk payment that was transferred over last year from John Wilson. The amount that is in there will stay in there and collect money.

Olga: Any questions on the Treasurer's report? We will file that report for audit.

Committee Reports

- **Athletics (Keith Blomberg)** – Keith gave an overview of the Committee and topics discussed. We meet the third Monday of the month at 11am, via Zoom. I will send an email out an email next week with our meeting topics. If you are interested in joining, let me know.
- **Awards (Rachel Bauer & Kristine Wahlgren)** – I chair with Kristine Wahlgren from Romeoville and Annie Harmon from Romeoville is also on our committee. Rachel gave an overview of the Committee and what they do. We meet as needed.
- **Day Camp/Teens (Meghan Fenlon)** – Absent/no report
- **Diversity (Keith Wallace & Nikki Gotsch)** – Diversity meets every month after the General meeting. Nikki gave an overview of the Committee and topics discussed.
- **Early Childhood (Karen Cooper & Kelly Matson)** – We hosted our first Early Childhood Workshop and had 82 people registered. We meet the third Thursday of every month from September through May. Kelly gave an overview of the Committee and topics discussed. Please reach out if you would like to join us.
- **Facilities (Cate Coyle & Joe Smith)** – Cate is the Facility chair and Joe is the co-chair. Our first meeting will be September 28 at 3pm via Zoom and we will discuss staff recruitment, training, and retaining staff. Joe gave an overview of the Committee. If you signed up for the committee you will receive an email about the meeting. If you are interested in joining, let Cate or I know.
- **Legislative (Hollice Clark & Greg Lewis)** - We meet the first Monday of the month, unless a holidays falls then we move it back. Hollice gave an overview of the Committee and welcomed the group to join in. Our next meeting is September 12 at Dellwood Park Community Center in Lockport. Lunch is included, so please RSVP.
- **Membership/Publicity (Jason Braglia & Beth Nagel)** – We currently have 206 members. Last year at this point we had 209 members so we are on track.
- **Professional Development (Olga Viano & Beth Nagel)** – Our next meeting is October 13 at the Oak Lawn Community Pavilion. The presentation for that meeting will be for 0.1 CEUs. It is going to be “Help Yourself: A Recreation Supervisor’s Guide to Marketing”. You do not need to be a marketing person. It will give you tips on how to market your programs and how to write better program descriptions.
- **School Age (Rebecca Perkaus)** – Rebecca gave an overview of the Committee and topics discussed. Our first meeting will be September 23at 1pm via Zoom. We meet the third or fourth Friday of the month. If interested in joining, please reach out.
- **Social (Lauren Koszola & Nikki Gotsch)** – Lauren is the chair and Nikki is the co-chair. Lauren gave an overview of the Committee. If anyone is interested in joining please let me know.
- **Special Events (Eric Sloyan)** – We meet the second Tuesday of every month via Zoom. Eric gave an overview of the Committee. If anyone is interested in joining please let me know.
- **Sponsorship/Marketing (Amy Maher)** – Amy gave an overview of the Committee and topics discussed. Our next meeting will be September 20.
- **Student (Delaney Harty & Marie Piotrowski)** – Marie gave an overview of the Committee. Our next meeting is September 15 at 2pm via Zoom. We will discuss how to reach out to students and how to get them involved. We have a large student meeting in February that has been held via Zoom the past couple of years and we are hoping to go back to in person this year. If you would like to join us, you can talk to Delaney or myself.

Old Business - None

New Business

- Budget 2022-23 – The proposed budget was sent via email, so hopefully everyone had a chance to review that.
Olga: Any questions or concerns? None. One thing to add, we did put in for each committee to be able to host a lunch at their facility or go out to lunch as an appreciation for being on a committee. Motion to approve the 2022-2023 Budget: Keith Blomberg New Lenox Park District, Second: Laurie Murray Pleasant Dale Park District.
Motion carries
- By Laws & Operations Manual – This was also sent out via email. The only change in the By Laws is what was voted on last year which was the change to the budget year. In the Operations Manual, we are proposing to disband the Membership & Publicity Committee. This will be voted on at the October meeting. If you look through the Operations Manual, there are some parts that are in green text and on the side it says those used to be the Membership Committee. The tasks that were under that committee were split up to different portions of the Board. Basically the Membership/Publicity Committee became the Treasurer over the past few years and that was a lot for the Treasurer, so we split those up. Again, we are proposing to disband the Membership & Publicity Committee and it will be voted on at October's meeting. Does anyone have any questions? None
- Strategic Plan Update – There was a survey that was sent out with the email that will close on September 21. There was a link that was sent out with all of these documents. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey to help develop our new strategic plan. Tom Hartwig: The survey went out to everyone that was a member last year and this year. We paired it down and took out some questions that don't make sense, so it takes two minutes to fill out. We need that feedback to create the strategic plan. As soon as we get all of the information down, the committee will meet and work on the strategic plan. The Association as a whole will see that and that will be our guide for the next three years. It is important that we get that feedback. If you have any questions, reach out to me.
- Parks Maintenance Committee – Kevin Miller: Chris Finn with the Bolingbrook Park District and Ryan Veldman with the Tinley Park District are proposing to bring back the Park Maintenance Committee so they are going to begin doing roundtable Zoom discussions in October. In order to form this committee, they need to meet six times and meet certain criteria. After that, they will submit a formal application to the Board. If you are interested I can have Chris send an email out to the Association with Chris and Ryan's contact info.
- NRPA Social – The Conference social will be at the Ainsworth in Phoenix on Wednesday, September 21 from 8-10pm. The Evite went out yesterday. As of this morning, there are 11 spots left. Everyone that RSVPs will receive two drink tokens.
- November Workshop – We have a workshop on November 17 with two different sessions; and morning and afternoon. You can register for one or both. Lunch is not included. The presenter is Michael Brandwein. He is a national speaker and has presented at both NRPA and the IPRA conference and all over the country. The workshop titles are L.A.S.E.R.B.E.A.M.: Using More Powerful & Positive Communication to Supervise & Lead People to Best Performance (8:30-11:30am) and Why Don't You Behave: The Brandwein Key System Solution to Handling Negative Behavior in Young People While Teaching Positive Choices (1:00-4:00pm). Both workshops will be at the Palos Heights Parks & Rec Department. We applied for the IPRF Scholarship to be reimbursed for the speaker fee. We are waiting on one more board member to vote on it and then we will send out the information to the membership. If we are approved for the scholarship that will lower the fee we charge for

the workshop. Once we know, we will send all of the information to the members.

- Apparel Order – If you became a full-member, you receive a t-shirt included in your membership. I sent an email to the Board and the committee chairs on some slogans for the t-shirt. The winner is “The World is Your Playground” and the t-shirt color is Graphite Heather. It will be available for purchase for those that are not full members. Also available for purchase to all members will be a navy blue windbreaker and a forest green ¼ zip pullover. Apparel orders will be due by October 1st and we will hopefully have those by the November meeting.

Split the Pot – Winners announced

Announcements –

- Rachel Bauer: IPRA’s Facility Management Workshop is September 30 in Wheeling, but you can also take it virtually. You should have received an email from Jason with the information on it. IPRA also sent out information. There are several of us here that are involved in that committee so we would love to see a good Southside representation.
- Marie Piotrowski: I am still in the process of starting the Adult/Senior Committee. We are meeting on September 21 at noon in Flossmoor at Wiley’s Grill. RSVP by Friday, September 16. This will be meeting number four. We talk about programing, senior events, and trips. If you are interested, please let me know.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting: Kara Jelderks, Mokena Park District, Second: Lauren Koszola, Palos Heights Parks & Rec Department

Meeting adjourned: 11:42am