



General Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2023 @ 11:00am

The Oaks Rec & Fitness Center - Mokena Community Park District

Call to Order – 11:09am

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

President's Report – Thank you for coming out today! Thank you to the Mokena Park District for hosting and to the Legislative Committee for presenting today.

President Elect Report – Welcome to Mokena and if you would like to do a tour after the meeting let me know.

Past President Report – Thank you for coming out today! Thank you to Chicago Southland Visitor's Bureau and Sparkles Entertainment for sponsoring.

Secretary's Report – The February meeting minutes are posted on the website.

Motion to approve the February General meeting minutes: Brenna Bowers from the Mokena Park District. Second: Lauren Koszola from Palos Heights Parks & Recreation Department. Motion carries

Treasurer's Report – For our main checking account the beginning balance as of February 1 was \$24,037.10. Deposits for the month totaled \$540.44 and that included meeting and membership fees. Our debits for the month totaled \$1,763.68 and that was for conference social entertainment, February General meeting, booth for Parks Day, as well as CEUs for today's meeting. The ending balance as of February 28 was \$22,813.86. For the Wilson Family Fund savings account, as of February 1 the beginning/ending balance was \$1,500.08. For the Wilson Family Scholarship Fund CD, the beginning balance was \$10,789.62. We did not have and deposits/debits this month, so our ending balance was \$10,789.62. The Treasurer's report has been filed for audit.

Committee Reports

- **Adult/Senior Committee** (Marie Piotrowski Lemont & Devin Frendreis Homewood-Flossmoor) – Absent/no report.
- **Athletics** (Skyler Ramberger Mokena) – Met on February 27 and discussed conference and new vendors for athletics. We discussed upcoming soccer leagues, registration numbers, officials and equipment. Next meeting is March 20 at 11:00am.
- **Awards** (Rachel Bauer Mokena & Kristine Wahlgren Romeoville) – We are accepting award nominations until March 17. The criteria and instructions were emailed and are also available on the website under the Awards Committee. Looking for a Professional of the Year, Young Professional of the Year, which each come with \$500 scholarships, and milestones.
- **Day Camp/Teens** (Meghan Fenlon Tinley Park) – Day Camp met this past Tuesday and discussed staff training, training resources, camp shirts, and teen programs. Day Camp Workshop will be held in the beginning of June. We met a month ago. Our next meeting will be March 17 or the 21 and we will be working on speakers.

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- **Diversity** (Keith Wallace LWSRA & Nikki Gotsch) – Absent/no report – check website for meeting dates.
- **Early Childhood** (Kelly Matson New Lenox & Devin Fren dreis Homewood-Flossmoor) – Met February 16 and discussed conference and lack of Early Childhood sessions offered, staff training, open houses, and preschool registration. We discussed the EC Workshop and secured Oak Lawn as the location. It will be August 17 from 8am – 12pm. Trying to form a subcommittee to get that going. Next meeting is March 16.
- **Facilities** (Cate Coyle Oak Lawn & Joe Smith Palos Heights) – Met on February 22 and discussed topics available at conference. We are looking to start a SSPRPA facility tour next year. Next meeting is March 22 and we will discuss membership fees, drop in rates, and rental fees.
- **Legislative** (Hollice Clark Calumet Memorial & Greg Lewis New Lenox) – We had the Legislative Breakfast on February 17 at Tinley Park. It was a mix of staff, government officials, IAPD staff, JLC, and legislators. Each one got up and spoke on what we do with OSLAD and what we do for our community. Thank you to Tinley Park and their staff for putting it on. South Suburban was well represented. Next meeting at 10am in Crete before the General Meeting.
- **Professional Development** (Olga Viano New Lenox & Beth Nagel Frankfort) – We are working on meeting locations for next year. If you haven't hosted in a couple of years, I will be reaching out. I got some good suggestions for meeting presenters for next year, so I appreciate everyone that gave those ideas.
- **School Age** (Rebecca Perkaus Alsip & Sarah Carr Pleasant Dale) – Met on February 24 and discussed conference sessions, communication platforms we use with our staff, and spring programming. Next meeting is March 24 and we will discuss dance recitals, staff appreciation, and summer programs.
- **Social** (Lauren Koszola Palos Heights) – Working on securing a location for the May social.
- **Special Events** (Eric Sloyan Palos Heights, Brenna Bowers Mokena & Laurie Murray Pleasant Dale) – Met last month and discussed Daddy/Daughter and Mother/Son events. Next meeting is March 14 and we will discuss Easter events.
- **Sponsorship/Marketing** (Amy Maher New Lenox) – Met February 21 and discussed conference. Next meeting is March 21 and we will discuss surveys and the platforms we use. Our newest sponsor is Turf Tank.
- **Student** (Delaney Harty Oak Lawn & Marie Piotrowski Lemont) – Last month we had the student meeting at Moraine. Did not meet in February. We attended a few of the college functions at conference to try to recruit professors to see what they are looking for us. Next meeting is March 14 at 8:30am via Zoom. If you are interested in joining, we are going to discuss the future of the Student Committee.

Old Business

- Strategic Plan Update – still a work in progress.
- Board Positions Open: Secretary, Treasurer, President Elect – next month is the meeting you will give a bio on yourself. We have 0 for Secretary, 1 for Treasurer, and 2 for President Elect. If you are interested in running, let us know. We had an informational



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Zoom meeting regarding the open positions with 3 in attendance. It was a good meeting and something we will continue to do in the future.

New Business

- Old SSPRPA display board – we have an old display board that is broken and missing pieces, so we are declaring that as surplus.
Motion to declare the old display board as surplus: Hollice Clark from Calumet Memorial Park District, Second: Delaney Harty from Oak Lawn Park District.
Motion Carries
- Parks Day – we will be buying a small TV for the booth to show a loop of pictures and videos. We will be reaching out to members to submit pictures/videos for Parks Day. The theme is Partners for Healthy State. If you have any projects related to the theme that were funded by grant money that would be a good representation to show at Parks Day. Look for an email to be sent on that.

Announcements

- Gina Hassett: I am the chair of the A & F (Administration and Finance) section with IPRA. Within the A & F section, there are a number of special interests groups. Those are an IT group, registration, business and more. If you are interested in being part of one of those groups, reach out to me. This Friday following the Board meeting, there is a DEI though the registration lens. Anyone can attend the A & F meeting as well as the special interests groups.
- Chris Finn: The Parks & Natural Resource group has had 5 meetings and our 6th will be in April. At that time we will be able to present our goals, objectives, and proposal to the Board to bring the Parks & Natural Resource group to South Suburban. We met on March 1 and discussed goals, objectives, topics for our seminar in May. On May 10 we will have a baseball/softball seminar. Location TBD. Next meeting April 5 at the Midlothian Park District.
- Olga Viano: SSPRPA is an affiliate with IPRA and we have started doing quarterly meetings. There are 5 affiliate groups. The goal is to find better ways to service membership, collaborate and possibly do something at social. We just had our first introductory meeting.

Sponsors: Sparkles Entertainment and Chicago Southland Convention Visitor's Bureau presented their business to the members.

Adjournment Motion to adjourn the meeting: Bethany Lerch from New Lenox Park District, Second: Dominic Cooper from New Lenox Park District.

Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned: 11:43am