

South  Suburban
Park & Recreation
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2022

The Alley Grill and Tap House / Thunder Bowl, 12:30pm

Call to Order – 12:39pm

Introductions - Members said their name, the agency they are from, and their favorite holiday movie.

President's Report – I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! John and Barb Wilson are mailing their annual contribution of \$500 towards the Wilson Family fund. They want to wish all SSPRPA members a joyous holiday season.

President Elect Report – I want to wish everyone happy holidays! It is not too early to start thinking about running for a Board seat – President Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary positions are up for election.

Past President Report – Happy holidays! Have a good New Year! It is not too early to nominate your colleagues for awards. We do have monetary vouchers attached to those awards for educational purposes.

Secretary's Report – Thanks everyone for coming to the social! I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The November meeting minutes are posted on the website.

Motion to approve the November General meeting minutes: Brenna Bowers from the Mokena Park District, Second: Beth Nagel from the Frankfort Park District.

Motion carries

Treasurer's Report – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We currently have 260 members. Last year we had 247 at this time. Our beginning balance as of November 1 was \$19,721.11. Deposits for the month totaled \$978.91 and that included memberships, the workshop, today's meeting, and a couple of meeting sponsors. Our debits for the month totaled \$3,788.70, which included the apparel and payment to Michael Brandwien, the speaker for the November Workshop. The ending balance as of November 30 was \$16,911.32. For the Wilson Family Fund savings account, the beginning/ending balance is the same and it is \$1,000.05. For the Wilson Family Scholarship Fund CD, it did not gain any interest this month so the beginning/ending balance is \$10,784.83.

The Treasurer's report has been filed for audit.

Committee Reports

- **Athletics** (Skyler Ramberger Mokena) – We met November 21 with eight in attendance. We have the Rocket League Tournament that will start on January 24 with eight agencies participating. Our next meeting is December 19.
- **Awards** (Rachel Bauer Mokena & Kristine Wahlgren Romeoville) – Start thinking about nominating people for awards. Information will be out soon.

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- **Day Camp/Teens** (Meghan Fenlon Tinley Park) – Absent/report submitted – The next meeting is going to be December 13 at 2pm via Zoom. The rep from Moraine Valley will be there to discuss the mentorship program.
- **Diversity** (Keith Wallace LWSRA & Nikki Gotsch) - Absent/report submitted – They met November 14 and discussed meeting topics and service project for the spring. Next meeting is December 19 at 10am via Zoom. Meetings are set for the year and available on the website. Keith says Merry Grinchmas!
- **Early Childhood** (Kelly Matson New Lenox & Teresa Chapman La Grange) – We met November 10 and there were 5 in attendance. We discussed early childhood class holiday parties, mother’s day parties, Valentines parties, holiday gifts for staff, staff meetings, sub lists, preschool enrollment and when to cut off, competing with free library classes, photographers for picture day, and snow day policies. Our next meeting is February 16.
- **Facilities** (Cate Coyle Oak Lawn & Joe Smith Palos Heights) – We met last month and discussed creative ways to promote your facilities. Our next meeting is December 21 at 3pm and we will discuss all things maintenance.
- **Legislative** (Hollice Clark Calumet Memorial & Greg Lewis New Lenox) – We will not meet this month because of the Chicagoland Executive Director’s luncheon scheduled tomorrow. We are looking at sites for the Legislative breakfast. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 9.
- **Professional Development** (Olga Viano New Lenox & Beth Nagel Frankfort) – Our speaker for January fell through, so we are working to get a speaker to come out and talk about work/life balance. We are waiting to hear back. The meeting is at the Hickory Hills Park District on January 12.
- **School Age** (Rebecca Perkaus Alsip & Sarah Carr Pleasant Dale) – I want to introduce Sarah Carr the new co-chair. We met on November 11 and discussed Thanksgiving and winter breaks, winter offerings, and school day out trip offerings. Our next meeting is January 20 to discuss conference, behavior strategies for before and after school, and safety training.
- **Social** (Lauren Koszola Palos Heights) - Thank you for coming today. We are working on our conference social. An email will be sent out to sign up for conference social volunteer shifts with 30-minute time slots. The theme is sports.
- **Special Events** (Eric Sloyan Palos Heights, Brenna Bowers Mokena & Laurie Murray Pleasant Dale) - Absent/report submitted – They met November 8 and discussed holiday events and marketing strategies for their event. The next meeting is on December 13.
- **Sponsorship/Marketing** (Amy Maher New Lenox) - Absent/report submitted – Thank you to T-Mobile for sponsoring today’s social! They did not meet in November due to conflicts. Their next meeting is December 20.
- **Student** (Delaney Harty Oak Lawn & Marie Piotrowski Lemont) – We met in November. We are having trouble getting in touch with St. Francis and Chicago State so if anyone has a connection, please let me know if you can help with that. We secured

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Moraine Valley for our February meeting location. Our next meeting is December 15.
Scholarships will be open early next year.

Old Business

- Strategic Plan Update – They are going to meet December 13 at 1pm in Oak Lawn at the Community Pavilion. If anyone is interested in joining that meeting, reach out to Tom Hartwig.
- November Workshop – Thank you to all those that attended. It was a great workshop and a lot of good take-a-ways.
- Apparel – Everyone has been contacted about their order. We have some extra shirts if you are interested in purchasing for \$15.
- Insurance - We are going to renew with the same company which is Cincinnati Insurance. There is no increase in price.

New Business

- Adult/Senior Committee – This committee has met all the criteria for forming a new committee. The Board is in favor of this new committee.
I need a motion to add the Adult/Senior Committee as part of SSPRPA: Cate Coyle for the Oak Lawn Park District, Delaney Harty from the Oak Lawn Park District.
Motion Carries

Announcements

- Chris Finn: Ryan Veldman and I have formed a Parks and Natural Resources group, so we need to go through the steps to form a committee. We have met twice. We are meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is January 4 at 11am at the Tinley Park Park District. We will discuss conference topics, trucks, equipment vendors, suppliers, and co-op purchasing.
- Beth Nagel: I recently attended the Recreation Advisory Committee meeting with Moraine Valley and Jason had sent out a question to everyone about the volunteer process. If you could send me how you do your volunteer process and I could put it together for Stacy to present to her students. She is trying to get her students to volunteer in Parks and get more involved. Please email me that information.
- Marie Piotrowski: Thank you everyone for voting our committee in. Devin Frenries with the HF Park District is my co-chair. It was a lot of work and thank you to the Board for their help. Our first official meeting/social is December 14 and it will be at Jamesons in Frankfort. If you would like to come and learn about the committee please join us.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn the meeting: Rachel Bauer from the Mokena Park District,
Second: Lauren Koszola from Palos Heights Parks & Recreation Department.

Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned: 1:15pm