

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
NORTHWEST SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
HELD AT PARK CENTRAL;
3000 CENTRAL ROAD, ROLLING MEADOWS, IL
ON THE 29th OF JANUARY, 2025, at 10:30 am**

Chairman Talsma called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

Administrative Manager Vasalos took roll call. The following members of the Board were present: Carrie Fullerton, Arlington Heights Park District; Keviin Romejko, Barlett Park District; Erika Strojinc, Buffalo Grove Park District; Ben Curcio, Elk Grove Park District; Steve Bessett, Hanover Park Park District; Craig Talsma, Hoffman Estates Park District; Jim Jarog, Mount Prospect Park District; Ben Rea, Palatine Park District; Christina Ferraro, Prospect Heights Park District; Bret Fahnstrom, River Trails Park District; Nick Troy, Rolling Meadows Park District; Tony LaFrenere, Schaumburg Park District; Jay Morgan, South Barrington Park District; Jeff Janda, Streamwood Park District; and Jan Buchs, Wheeling Park District

Absent: Robert Dowling and Diane Hilgers

Also present: Anne Kiwala, Superintendent of Development; Tom Draper, Superintendent of Marketing and Communications; Andrea Griffin and Rachel Hubsch, Superintendents of Recreation; Nicolae Gereaa, Superintendent of Finance; Michael Manos, Intern; Jenay Harrington, Recreation Specialist; Liz Thomas, Foundation Manager; Steve Adams, Attorney and Jessica Vasalos, Administrative Manager as recording secretary

Introduction of Guests

Rachel Hubsch introduced Michael Manos and Jenay Harrington. Chairman Talsma read the proclamation for Liz Thomas.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the agenda dated January 29, 2025. Director LaFrenere made the motion and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion to approve the agenda dated January 29, 2025. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Talsma called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of January 29, 2025, with the omission of item 5A. Minutes. This item was moved to New Business for review. Director LaFrenere made the motion and Director Janda seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda dated January 29, 2025. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Kevin Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessett, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda and Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Correspondence

None

Staff Reports

Superintendent Hubsch outlined several recreation programs as well as the ITRS basketball tournament. She also mentioned that one of our participants is going to World Games for snowshoeing.

2024 Year-End Statistics

Superintendents Griffin and Draper passed out the park district-specific handouts and briefly outlined the information contained in the packet.

Marketing and PR

Superintendent Draper reported to the Board that his team has been very busy putting together videos for the Gold Medal Fashion Show. He highlighted that Superintendent Griffin received an award at the IPRA Conference. The winter/spring brochure is out and is sparking many registrations. Superintendents Draper and Kiwala attended the Storytellers Conference in November. He gave kudos to Erika and her team at Buffalo Grove for their outstanding support through the construction of the programming space and media lab.

SLSF

Superintendent Kiwala reported on the wrap-up report that is in the packet and highlighted the revenues and expenses from the events that were hosted in FY2024 as well as sponsorships and new grants awarded in FY2024.

Old Business

None

New Business

NWSRA Financial Reports

Superintendent Gereia and Chairman Talsma reviewed the financial reports and reported to the Board that there were a few questions regarding the reports. However, Chairman Talsma was ok with approving the reports. Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Director Romejko made the motion and Director Fullerton seconded the motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Upon roll being called the vote was as follows:

AYA: Carrie Fullerton, Kevin Romejko, Erika Strojinc, Ben Curcio, Steve Bessett, Craig Talsma, Jim Jarog, Ben Rea, Christina Ferraro, Bret Fahnstrom, Nick Troy, Tony LaFrenere, Jay Morgan, Jeff Janda and Jan Buchs

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Other

Item 5A. Minutes

Chairman Talsma reviewed the minutes from the December and November Board meetings from 2024 and directed staff to make a few minor corrections to the minutes. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Director Rea made the motion and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Upon voice vote the motion passed.

Informational/Action Items

2025 Goals

Superintendent Hubsch reviewed the 2025 Goals, including the continuation of unachieved 2024 Goals. She also reminded the Board that the new goals will be developed during the strategic planning that is scheduled for 2025. She asked for a motion to approve the goals as presented. Director LaFrenere made the motion, and Director Janda seconded the motion to approve the goals as presented. Upon voice vote, the motion passed.

Mission Vision and Values

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the Mission Vision and Values as presented with the removal of "exist". Director Fahnstrom made the motion and Director Janda seconded the motion to approve the mission, vision, and values statements as presented and corrected. Upon voice vote, the motion was carried.

Other

None

Closed Session

Chairman Talsma moved to enter a closed session to discuss Personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). Director LaFrenere made the motion and Director Janda seconded the motion to enter into closed session at 11:20 am.

Action as a result of Closed Session

Chairman Talsma asked for a motion to approve the Separation Agreements of the former Superintendent of Administrative Services and Executive Director.

Adjournment

After no further business, Chairman Talsma called for a motion to adjourn. Director LaFrenere made the motion and Director Romejko seconded the motion to adjourn the January 29, 2025 meeting at 12:45 p.m. Upon voice vote the meeting was adjourned.



Secretary / Interim Executive Director