

**WESTERN DUPAGE SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 8, 2024 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Lynn McAteer **called the meeting to order** at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Arrowhead Golf Course, 26W151 Butterfield Rd, Wheaton

**ROLL CALL:** Those participating:

|                               |                |                            |              |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Bloomingtondale Park District | Lonna Converso | Warrenville Park District  | Tim Reinbold |
| Carol Stream Park District    | Sue Rini       | West Chicago Park District | Gina Radun   |
| Glen Ellyn Park District      | Dave Thommes   | Wheaton Park District      | Mike Benard  |
| Naperville Park District      | Brad Wilson    | Winfield Park District     | Tom Bower    |
| Roselle Park District         | Lynn McAteer   |                            |              |

A quorum was established.

WDSRA Staff also present: Executive Director Dan Leahy, Superintendents Natalie Principe, Tammy Kerrins, Lea Jackman and Jorie Meyer, Human Resources Manager Lisa Santoria, Executive Assistant Ann Kennedy

**II. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS** – Two interns from the Wheaton Park District were present, Andrew Derwent and Lizzy Lewinski. Also Present was Donna Siciliano, Executive Assistant at Wheaton Park District.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2024
- B. Treasurer’s Report – April, May and June 2024
- C. Disbursement Reports – May and June 2024
- D. Tax Contribution Payment Report – July 31, 2024

Benard/Wilson **moved to approve the Consent Agenda**. The motion passed with a voice vote.

**V. MEMBER DISTRICT UPDATES**

Cosley Zoo is having its 50<sup>th</sup> year Gala on September 7. They will also be recognizing departing Zoo Director Sue Wahlgren.

**VI. DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

The theme is Out & About. Leahy has spent the last few weeks visiting the programs at the districts, attending Play Days at the Sensory Garden, and shadowing inclusion. It was great interacting with the young staff and participants. He had the pleasure of caddying for a Special Olympics athlete at Bartlett Hills. He will also be attending the Lakers Soccer Collaboration at Glen Ellyn.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Member Assessment Request 2025** – Benard/Wilson moved to **approve the final Member Assessment Request for Budget Year 2025-2026** as presented. The motion passed with a roll call vote.

|     |                               |                |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Yes | Bloomingtondale Park District | Lonna Converso |
| Yes | Carol Stream Park District    | Sue Rini       |
| Yes | Glen Ellyn Park District      | Dave Thommes   |
| Yes | Naperville Park District      | Brad Wilson    |
| Yes | Roselle Park District         | Lynn McAteer   |
| Yes | Warrenville Park District     | Tim Reinbold   |

|     |                            |             |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------|
| Yes | West Chicago Park District | Gina Radun  |
| Yes | Wheaton Park District      | Mike Benard |
| Yes | Winfield Park District     | Tom Bower   |

**B. Technology Security Recommendations** – A memo was distributed outlining technology security recommendations and status as to progress. Board members should reach out to Eckelberry with questions and may share with their staff as appropriate.

**C. Other:** There was no other Old Business to come before the Board.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Member Excess Inclusion Fund Refunds** – The Wheaton Park District is eligible for a refund and has elected to have the funds roll over into their reserve held by WDSRA.

**B. Approval of West Chicago Special Recreation Budget for 2024-2025** – Reinbold/Rini moved to **approve the 24-25 budget for use of SRA funds by the West Chicago Park District.** The motion passed with a roll call vote.

|     |                            |                |
|-----|----------------------------|----------------|
| Yes | Bloomington Park District  | Lonna Converso |
| Yes | Carol Stream Park District | Sue Rini       |
| Yes | Glen Ellyn Park District   | Dave Thommes   |
| Yes | Naperville Park District   | Brad Wilson    |
| Yes | Roselle Park District      | Lynn McAteer   |
| Yes | Warrenville Park District  | Tim Reinbold   |
| Yes | West Chicago Park District | Gina Radun     |
| Yes | Wheaton Park District      | Mike Benard    |
| Yes | Winfield Park District     | Tom Bower      |

**C. Approval of WJE Repair Proposal** – Benard/Bowers moved to **approve the WJE Repair Proposal at a cost to WDSRA not to exceed \$60,000.** The motion passed with a roll call vote.

|     |                            |                |
|-----|----------------------------|----------------|
| Yes | Bloomington Park District  | Lonna Converso |
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| Yes | Naperville Park District   | Brad Wilson    |
| Yes | Roselle Park District      | Lynn McAteer   |
| Yes | Warrenville Park District  | Tim Reinbold   |
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PDRMA will cover the cost of slab injection and under pinning of 2 columns at a total cost of \$113,300. The engineer is recommending the under pinning of 3 columns at a total cost of \$130,000. The out-of-pocket cost to WDSRA may only be \$17,000.

**D. Other** – There was no other New Business to come before the Board.

**IX. STAFF REPORTS**

- **Recreation** – Superintendent Jorie Meyer reported:
  - Day Camps ended last Friday. Feedback from parents and staff has been very positive.
  - Special Olympics Summer Games were June 7 and 8 at Illinois State University. WDSRA won 8 golds, 6 silvers, 6 bronze and 7 ribbons.
  - NCT17 covered the youth flag football team.
  - The 2023/2024 report for inclusion and programming is available in the packet. Numbers for registration and unique participants continue to grow.
  - A 1 on 1 trial at Fort Hill Rec & Roll has been very successful. We will see if it can work at other sites. The family is covering the expense of the aid.
  - Program supervisor position has been open since early summer and the staff has done a great job of covering.
  - Family Fest will be September 8 at the Grand Pavilion in Naperville, a free event from 1-4. Over 400 parents and kids have registered.
- **Inclusion and Risk Management** – Superintendent Tammy Kerrins reported:
  - Spring inclusion statistics and 23/24 year statistics are included in the packet. Both show a 20% increase.
  - Summer Inclusion programs are still finishing up. It was an amazing summer. Survey will go out next week. Thank you to the park district staff for providing amazing experiences for kids with special needs.
  - Continuous improvement meetings, discussing what went well and what didn't.
  - Fall has started up with before and after care and preschool requests. Current staff has been contacted for availability and targeted ads have gone out.
  - Inclusion is expanding so fast that it is not sustainable. A reorganization is being considered to meet the needs of park districts and residents but take care of full-time staff. The open position has been re-advertised.
- **Communications and Development** – Superintendent Lea Jackman reported:
  - The Golf Outing netted \$64,000 with the expansion plus a \$10,000 donation from a benefactor.
  - Kristy Henson will be back from maternity leave part-time starting August 20.
  - The Camps Catalog, which was launched last year, this year generated nearly \$7,000. We will try it again next year and then re-evaluate it.
  - Scholarship Endowment: The Fitzgerald Family, whose idea launched the Endowment, has so far raised over \$60,000. The 100 Women Who Care – Medinah contributed over \$45,000 with another \$5,000 expected.
  - The Annual Appeal will kick off in November. The Scott and Trish Karll Giving Fund will again provide the match.
  - The Grant program has been very robust (listing in the packet). The Family Fest is being underwritten by the City of Naperville. Social media has been highlighting the grants and what has been funded.
  - The Scholarship Endowment has \$150,000 at the DuPage Foundation and \$50,000 in a Wintrust Max Safe account. The Foundation Finance Committee will be recommending that the surplus funds from FY24 be transferred into the Endowment Fund. The goal is to have the fund at \$750,000 by the end of 2026. The interest generated will be used to fund scholarships.

Benard asked if the FT Cares grant for the water main break will be used to offset the funds voted on earlier in the meeting.

- X. Adjournment:** Benard/Wilson moved that the Board adjourn at 3:38 pm. Motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan Leahy".

Dan Leahy, Board Secretary