

**GATEWAY SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**  
**10/17/24**

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Jim Pacanowski called the Gateway Special Recreation Association Board of Directors Meeting to order at 3:00 pm on 10/17/2024 at the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, 1450 Forest Gate Road in Oak Brook, Illinois. A Quorum was present.

*Roll Call:* Board Members present:

Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge, Michele Sullivan, Countryside, Mike Hayes, Hinsdale, Mike Contreras, Oak Brook, Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale, Kathy Kasprzak, Westchester, Jeremy Fila, York Center (Arrived Late)

*Absent:* Sarah Lagesse, Elmhurst

*Ray Graham Staff:* Ryan Massengill, RGA

*Guests:* Catherine Campos, RGA, and Amber Norman, RGA

- II. **Approval of October 17, 2024, Agenda:** A motion was made by Mike Hayes, Hinsdale to approve the October 17, 2024, agenda and seconded by Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale. *On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*
- III. **Open Forum: None**
- IV. **Board Member Comments:** Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale stated that he needed to add the audit to next month's meeting. Also, with iParks Insurance, there is a \$500 safety grant that the board can submit for reimbursement, or a safety item used for Gateway. Please keep this in mind.
- V. **Communications: None**
- VI. **Approval of September 12, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Mike Hayes, Hinsdale to approve the September 12, 2024, meeting minutes and seconded by Michele Sullivan, Countryside. *On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*
- VII. **Approval of October 17, 2024, Treasure's Report:** A motion was made by Mike Contreras, Oak Brook to approve the October 17, 2024, treasurer's report and seconded by Michele Sullivan, Countryside. *On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*
- VIII. **Reports**
- A. RGA Monthly Report –
  - B. Amber Norman, RGA started by talking about finances. She handed out a worksheet of 24 vs 25 Fiscal Year. Amber highlighted line items throughout the budget. Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale asked from an insurance point of view, he verified when we purchase a vehicle it is purchased through Gateway, and if we are leasing it who insures it? The staff is going to verify this. Ryan Massengill, RGA asked the board how often they would like to see Amber come to the meeting to report. Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge stated quarterly would be fine.
  - C. Ryan Massengill, RGA stated that we are expanding to 5 basketball teams. The York HS transition has opted to not participate so those players are coming to us to play. Elevate program has grown by 2 since the last meeting, we are up to 9 individuals. Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge asked if these are existing or new participants in Elevate. 7 of the 9 are existing participants. 2 are brand new to Gateway. Vehicles are doing well. We will be fine, and we won't be without a vehicle as we make a transition. We have 3 art and 2 swim sessions for leisure education. Ryan Massengill shared the art concept with the board.

The board reviewed the different concepts and shared their comments with Ryan. Ryan will take the comments to the marketing team to update, and the board will review them at the next meeting. Program highlights were apple picking, a homecoming event with Nedsra, Chicago Red Stars, and a Chicago Fire game, and we hosted a volleyball tournament at Oak Brook Park District. Elevate has been going well and Ryan highlighted some of the activities they are doing. Peter is doing a great job organizing this program.

- D. Catherine Campos, RGA talked about the goals and action plans. Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge stated that the board should review this document and there is no need to go through it line by line. If there is a section they would like to highlight, they should. If board members have questions bring them up. Ryan Massengill, RGA stated that she wanted to highlight the outreach that is happening with RGA and Gateway. Reaching out to other organizations and being part of networking events to reach out to more participants. Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale asked if everyone turned in their marketing request from the last meeting. Ryan Massengill stated everyone has.

**IX. Old Business:**

- A. None

**X. New Business:**

- A. Discuss the Potential of New Agency Recruitment - Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge reviewed the memo that was in the packet about what are the strengths and weaknesses of Gateway SRA. Board members discussed the document. Members discussed whether we should look at those who are already in an SRA or if we should focus on those communities that aren't in an SRA. The board decided that we should identify the organizations within a 10-mile radius that are not part of an SRA. If a neighboring organization approaches a board member, that is a different story.
- B. Draw a 15-mile radius from Hanson Center - We are shifting this to the next meeting. The board is going to bring a 10-mile radius from the Hanson Center to review what are the potential organizations to recruit.

**XI. Adjournment:** Jeremy Fila, York Center made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Hayes, Hinsdale. A motion passed on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:43 pm.