

GATEWAY SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

November 14, 2024

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Jim Pacanowski called the Gateway Special Recreation Association Board of Directors Meeting to order at 3:00 pm on 11/14/2024 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, Sarah Lagesse, Elmhurst, Mike Hayes, Hinsdale, Kim Catris, Oak Brook, Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale, Kathy Kasprzak, Westchester, and Jeremy Fila, York Center.
Absent: None
Ray Graham Staff: Ryan Massengill
Guests: Catherine Campos, RGA, and Kim Zoeller, RGA.
- II. **Approval of November 14, 2024, Agenda:**
A motion was made by Jeremy Fila, York Center to approve the November 14, 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 created a letter for Willow Brook stating that we received their last payment and according to the agreement they are officially out of the SRA. Also if anyone is in Cook County, there is a letter to push back on the part-time pay leave amendment. If you would like to be part of this letter, please see Matt.
- V. **Communications:** Sarah Lagesse, Elmhurst, Ryan Massengill, and Peter from RGA received a letter from an agency resident to advocate for Elevate to have a permanent location. This member stated that she spoke to the mayor of a Gateway agency. The resident is going to advocate for help. Ryan stated that right now we need to advocate for more registration. We need more people rather than vehicles for Elevate. Sarah Lagesse, Elmhurst stated that on Tuesdays Elevate doesn't have somewhere to eat at Oak Brook. On Tuesdays, they meet in Oak Brook, travel to Hinsdale to eat, and then come back to Oak Brook in the afternoon. She asked if we can talk about providing a space for them to eat so they don't have to leave.
- VI. **Approval of October 17, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes:**
A motion was made by Jeremy Fila, York Center to approve the October 17, 2024, meeting minutes and seconded by Michele Sullivan, Countryside. *On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*
- VII. **Approval of November 14, 2024, Treasure's Report:**
A motion was made by Mike Hayes, Hinsdale to approve the November 14, 2024, treasure's report and seconded by Sarah Lagesse, Elmhurst. *On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*
- VIII. **Reports**
 - A. RGA Monthly Report - Ryan Massengill stated that we have 129 individuals in programs and 9 for Elevate. Vehicles are doing well. Our new vehicle is going to be picked up tomorrow. Brochures are going out with registration happening in December. Our new logo will be rolled out in this brochure. Everyone has had a positive response to the logo. We will be updating the logo across all marketing materials. We continue to do leisure education and be at community events. October highlights are our sectional bowling tournament and Frank and Ryan will be going down to state for the unified program. The Bears watch party happened during the Washington Commanders game. We have 5 basketball teams this year. Lastly, there are pictures of our Monster Mash. Mike Hayes, Hinsdale asked if we could get a copy of the new logo so that we can add it to our brochures.
 - B. Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge stated that the format is easy to read and laid out. Make sure board members are reading it and ask any questions. Catherine Campos, RGA stated that the gym and the kitchen were renovated. Ray Graham provided bonuses to all full-time staff members based on years of

service. She stated that she will continue to share any opportunities for our Gateway members. Kim Zoeller, RGA stated that she is going to provide the video from their Butterfly ball.

IX. Old Business:

- A. Discuss Potential of New Agency Recruitment - Jim Pacanowski, Burr Ridge stated that we were going to target those agencies that don't have an SRA. We looked at a 10-mile radius from the Hansen Center. We want to focus on those who don't have an SRA and come up with a plan on how to approach them. Board members went through the list of potential towns and discussed options. Bedford Park, maybe. Berkeley, potentially. Bridgeview goes to Oak Lawn. Broadview, pursue. Burbank goes to Oak Lawn. Chicago Ridge goes to Oak Lawn. Hodgkins stated they were not interested for now. Justice/Summit opted out of a SRA pre-pandemic. They could be a potential town. Maywood, probably not. McCook, yes. Palos Hill/Park, it's a far drive but potentially. Stickney, a far drive. Let's form a committee to approach some of these communities. Ask Laure Kosey if she would be part of this committee.

X. New Business:

- A. Presentation of FY 2024 Audit - Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale presented the packet for the audit. Please review and let me know if there is anything you have questions about.

- XI. Adjournment:** Jeremy Fila, York Center made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Matt Russian, Pleasant Dale. A motion passed on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:37 pm.