



SSSRA

South Suburban Special Recreation Association

Board of Directors Meeting | SSSRA, 19910 80th Avenue, Tinley Park
Thursday, April 23, 2026 | 9:00 am

Minutes

I. Call To Order / Roll Call

Adams called South Suburban Special Recreation Association's Board of Directors meeting for April 23, 2026, to order at 9:01 am.

Members Present:

LeRoy Barnes, Country Club Hills Park District
Kevin Green, Country Club Hills Park District
Christopher Cole, Hazel Crest Park District
Mike Gianatasio, Homewood-Flossmoor Park District
Lisa Hill, Matteson Recreational Division
Kirstin Dahm, Oak Forest Park District
Jesus Vargas, Olympia Fields Park District
Kevin Adams, Park Forest Department of Recreation, Parks & Community Health
Ashley Turner, Richton Park Parks & Recreation Department
Meghan Fenlon, Tinley Park-Park District

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Lisa Drzewiecki, SSSRA Executive Director
Heather Specht, Superintendent of Recreation
Sarah Sizemore, Superintendent of Finance
Shannon Haggerty, Administrative Assistant

II. Approval of Agenda

Gianatasio made the Motion to approve the Agenda. Vargas seconded the Motion. The Agenda was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes – March 26, 2026

Barnes made the Motion to approve the regular Minutes for March. Cole seconded the Motion. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Correspondence

None

V. Public Comment

None



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VI. Community Announcements

Barnes introduced the Country Club Hills Parks and Recreation Department's new Director, Kevin Green.

Gianatasio announced his last day at Homewood-Flossmoor Park District would be Wednesday, April 29. He accepted a position at Downers Grove Park District.

Fenlon announced that Tinley Park-Park District will be moving ahead with their sensory room and estimates an opening around July 1.

Fenlon also gave an update on the property at 183rd and Harlem. Everything is abated as of now. Three buildings have come down recently, and the next will be the large hospital building.

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. New Business

A. 2026-2027 Proposed Budget – Enclosure – Action Item

The proposed budget has an increase of \$92,654 compared to the current fiscal year budget. There is a seven percent increase in administrative expenses and a four percent increase in program expenses. The budget committee recommended supporting middle management additional education opportunities, resulting in a slight increase. Fundraising expenses related to the annual golf outing were removed since the return on investment was low for that fundraiser. The only capital purchase planned for the next fiscal year is a new administrative building sign that will replace the current sign.

The budget reflects a negative \$25,512 to be used from the fund balance. The estimated fund balance as of May 31, 2027 should be \$415,142.

Barnes made the Motion to approve the 2026-2027 proposed budget. Fenlon seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Country Club Hills - Yes
Hazel Crest - Yes
Homewood-Flossmoor - Yes
Matteson - Yes
Oak Forest - Yes
Olympia Fields - Yes
Park Forest - Yes
Richton Park - Yes
Tinley Park - Yes



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VIII. New Business (continued)

- B. Resolution NO: 2026-02
- C. Resolution NO: 2026-03
- D. Resolution NO: 2026-04
- E. Resolution NO: 2026-05

Gianatasio made the Motion to approve Resolutions B, C, D and E. Fenlon seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Country Club Hills - Yes
Hazel Crest - Yes
Homewood-Flossmoor - Yes
Matteson - Yes
Oak Forest - Yes
Olympia Fields - Yes
Park Forest - Yes
Richton Park - Yes
Tinley Park - Yes

IX. Staff Report

A. Program

1. Quarterly Outreach Report – January, February, March 2026

Specht highlighted outreach events that staff attended throughout member communities. SSSRA is interested in attending additional events and asked the board to let staff know of any opportunities in their areas.

2. Winter 2026 Inclusion Services

SSSRA supported a total of 23 participants through Inclusion, including, but not limited to, swim lessons, spring break camp, basketball, karate, and special events.

3. Stingrays – Special Olympics Basketball State Tournament

Stingrays 2 traveled to Illinois State University the weekend of March 14 to compete. The team earned third place.

4. Stingrays – Special Olympics Powerlifting

SSSRA Powerlifting athletes competed in the Special Olympics Illinois Region B, C, and E tournament the weekend of March 28. Nine athletes earned gold medals, qualifying them for Summer Games in June.



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IX. Staff Report

A. Program (continued)

5. Summer Inclusion Training Opportunity – Enclosure

Inclusion trainings are available for park district staff through SSSRA's Inclusion Manager, Juanita Williams.

6. SSSRA First Aid Training – Enclosure

First Aid Trainings are available for park district staff through SSSRA's Operations Manager, Laura Pubins.

7. SSSRA Performing Arts Show – Enclosure

SSSRA Chorus and SSSRA Theater will perform on Monday, May 4 at Freedom Hall in Park Forest. Performances include *A Taste of Broadway* and *The Toy Store*.

8. May Special Events – Enclosure

May special events include the annual Family Banquet on May 13.

IX. Staff Report

B. Administrative

1. Staff Professional Involvement, Activities and Training – March 2026

Drzewiecki highlighted the professional involvement of SSSRA staff, including trainings for ADA compliance.

2. Welcome Administrative Assistant

Drzewiecki introduced Shannon Haggerty, SSSRA's new Administrative Assistant.

3. Ricky's Ride Trivia Night

\$6,170 was raised for SSSRA's Scholarship Program at this fundraiser. Thank you to Oak Forest Park District for hosting and sponsoring this event. 103 guests attended.

4. Brand Guidelines – Enclosure

5. Executive Director Evaluation – Enclosure



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X. Financial Report

A. Claims List

1. March 2026

Gianatasio made the Motion to approve the Claims List for March 2026 as presented. Cole seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

B. Financial Statement

1. March 2026

Fenlon made the Motion to approve the Financial Statement for March 2026 as presented. Gianatasio seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

XI. Adjournment

Cole made the Motion to conclude the Board of Directors Meeting at 9:21 am. Turner seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2026