



SSSRA

South Suburban Special Recreation Association

Board of Directors Meeting | SSSRA, 19910 80th Avenue, Tinley Park
Thursday, February 26, 2026 | 9:00 am

Minutes

I. Call To Order / Roll Call

Adams called South Suburban Special Recreation Association's Board of Directors meeting for February 26, 2026, to order at 9:00 am.

Members Present

LeRoy Barnes, Jr., Country Club Hills Park District
Christopher Cole, Hazel Crest 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
Alexandria Ruffin, Richton Park Parks & Recreation Department
Meghan Fenlon, Tinley Park-Park District

Members Absent

Mike Gianatasio, Homewood-Flossmoor Park District

Others Present

Lisa Drzewiecki, SSSRA Executive Director
Sarah Sizemore, Superintendent of Finance
Heather Specht, Superintendent of Recreation
Anna Broccolo, Marketing and Development Manager
Anthony Cervini, Sikich (via Zoom)
Carolina Salazar, AccessiTREE (via Zoom)
Damian Engel, AccessiTREE (via Zoom)

II. Approval of Agenda

Fenlon made the Motion to approve the Agenda. Hill seconded the Motion. The Agenda was approved unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2026

Hill made the Motion to approve the regular Minutes for January. Barnes seconded the Motion. The Minutes were approved unanimously.



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IV. Correspondence

Drzewiecki presented a thank you letter to the Knights of Columbus for their donation of \$1,900. SSSRA staff participated in their annual Tootsie Roll Drive, and the donation came from participation in that event.

Drzewiecki presented a thank you letter to the Andrew Foundation for their continued support of SSSRA. Their \$10,000 grant will be used to re-purpose two SSSRA buses, including mechanical and exterior work.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Community Announcements

Tinley Park-Park District was approached by one of their board members regarding putting a sensory room in their facility. Amazing Sensory Designs presented two proposals for two different spaces. Fenlon is waiting for approval of the project, and if approved, the park district will finalize details.

Oak Forest Park District received the OSLAD Grant this year, and will be renovating Don Gorman Park and Fieldhouse. Renovations include the playground, updating the footprint, adding a picnic shelter, walking path around the park, splash pad and rain garden. They are also planning to add inclusive aspects to the playground.

VII. Unfinished Business

None



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VIII. New Business

A. Presentation and Approval of 2024-2025 Audit

Anthony Cervini from Sikich presented the 2025 Audit of SSSRA, highlighting the executive summary, net position, revenues and expenses. The audit received a clean, unmodified opinion. The statement of net position includes current assets of just under \$452,000. SSSRA has an unrestricted net position of \$143,000.

Dahm made the Motion to approve the Audit. Barnes seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

B. Presentation and Approval of Website Design Proposal for Web Accessibility

Carolina Salazar and Damian Engel from AccessiTREE presented their proposal for making SSSRA's website more accessible. AccessiTREE plans to develop templates, pages and functional components to conform with WCAG 21. AA criteria. They will also provide staff training and guidelines.

Broccolo and Drzewiecki presented the challenges faced with completing the project in house. They let the board know that after meeting with several companies, AccessiTREE offered the most comprehensive and confident proposal.

Fenlon made the Motion to approve AccessiTREE's proposal. Cole seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Country Club Hills - Yes
Hazel Crest - Yes
Homewood-Flossmoor - Absent
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)

C. Non-Resident Fees

Drzewiecki proposed increasing non-resident fees to 50% higher than resident fees. Non-resident fees used to be 4 times the resident fee. The board had previously adjusted the fee to 35% higher in 2022.

Hill made the Motion to approve the non-resident fee increase. Dahm seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

IX. Staff Report

A. Program

1. Specht shared that SSSRA had three basketball teams that were scheduled to participate in the Region E Tournament, but the tournament was canceled due to weather. Stingrays 2 was selected to participate at the State Tournament via a lottery drawing. Thank you to our coaches, volunteers, and Matteson for the gym space.
2. Specht shared that SSSRA's Athletic Banquet was held on January 15 at Wiley's Grill in Flossmoor. Approximately 70 people attended, including athletes, Unified Partners, coaches and family members. Gianatasio from Homewood-Flossmoor Park District attended, as well as SSSRA full-time staff.

3. 2026 Program Fees

Specht shared that SSSRA would continue to cover 66% of direct expenses for weekly programs, including part-time staff, transportation, admission, food, recreation supplies and clothing. SSSRA would cover 100% of special event expenses for admission and food, and 66% of all other special event expenses.

4. March Special Event Enclosure

Specht highlighted upcoming March special events.



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IX. Staff Report (continued)

B. Administrative

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

Drzewiecki shared that all full-time staff completed CPR and First Aid Training, conducted by Laura Pubins, Operations Manager.

2. Inclusion Expenses

Drzewiecki requested that all inclusion expenses from 2025 be submitted by April 10.

3. Budget Estimates for 2026-2027

Drzewiecki shared that the Budget Committee would review the entire proposed budget on March 16 at the SSSRA office.

4. Ricky's Ride Trivia Night Enclosure

Drzewiecki shared a flyer for Ricky's Ride Trivia Night. This fundraiser is scheduled for March 28 at Oak Forest Park District.

X. Financial Report

A. Claims List

1. January 2026

Barnes made the Motion to approve the Claims List for January 2026 as presented. Vargas seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously.

B. Financial Statement

1. January 2026

Dahm made the Motion to approve the Financial Statement for January 2026 as presented. Barnes seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously.



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XII. Adjournment

Cole made the Motion to conclude the Board of Directors Meeting at 9:57 am.
Hill seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 26, 2026