

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE SPECIAL LEISURE SERVICES FOUNDATION
HELD VIA ZOOM ON THE PROVIDED LINK
ON THE 15th OF OCTOBER, 2024**

Chairman Crook called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present were: Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko, and Christina Ferraro

Absent: Thomas Campone, Dennis Hanson, Jim Houser, Jay Morgan, Tom Perkins, Rafal Pintkowski, and Jonathan Salk

Also present: Tracey Crawford, President; Anne Kiwala, Superintendent of Development; Rachel Hubsch and Andrea Griffin, Superintendents of Recreation; Tom Draper, Superintendent of Marketing and Communications; Nicolae Gereaa, Superintendent of Finance, Darleen Negrillo, Superintendent of Administrative Services, Liz Thomas, Foundation Manager; Megan O'Brien, Events Coordinator; Kathy Kubica, Registrar, Cassidy Henry, Recreation Specialist, Dave Hanson and Tim March, Benjamin F. Edwards and Jessica Vasalos, Administrative Manager, as recording secretary.

Linda Ballantine arrived at 3:35 p.m.

Introduction of Guests

All guests were introduced.

Approval of Agenda for October 15, 2024

Chairman Crook called for a motion to approve the agenda for October 15, 2024, with changes to move the Investment Update immediately following the approval of the agenda. Director Oates made the motion, and Director Ballantine seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes for May 21, 2024

Chairman Crook called for a motion to approve the minutes for May 21, 2024. Director Ballantine made the motion, and Director Oates seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Correspondence

Written: None

Oral: Thank you note from Michele Paradise

SLSF Reports

Superintendent Kiwala reported FY 2024, SLSF budgeted to raise \$410,199 from events. As of the end of the third quarter, SLSF has raised over \$337,000 in event revenue. For the 2024 golf season, SLSF hosted 49 new golfers and 29 new sponsors across the foundation's 6 annual golf outings. This year's golf outings brought in over \$226,000 in revenue.

Events

Events Coordinator O'Brien reported the following:

- Palatine Hills event revenue was \$36,794.75 and the net was \$25,787.91 with 136 golfers. Being out on the course was a beautiful day with 38 new golfers in attendance. Next year, we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary!
- For the third year, Bridges event revenue was \$24,602.80, and the net was \$16,029.29! Being out on the course was a beautiful day, with 55 new golfers in attendance.
- Buffalo Grove event revenue was \$51,433, and the net was \$38,438.38 with 135 golfers. This is the most outing that has ever been raised, with 26 new golfers!
- Moretti's event revenue was \$44,161.05, and the net was \$37,536.53, with 133 golfers. It was a beautiful day to be out on the course, and with 52 new golfers in attendance, this was the most successful year!
- Women's Golf Outing event revenue was \$34,421.54 and the net was \$24,506.59 with 118 golfers and 20 caddies. It was a beautiful day to be out on the course with 35 new golfers and 10 new caddies in attendance.
- Arlington Heights event revenue was \$34,671.73 and the net was \$28,606.85 with 103 golfers. This year's Duffer was Greg Padovani, a Veteran and past Arlington Heights Village Trustee. Being out on the course was a beautiful day with 30 new golfers in attendance.

Sponsors

Foundation Manager Thomas thanked everyone for sponsorship in 2024. SLSF has secured over \$160,000 in sponsorship, more than a 100% increase since 2022. This

year, two new presenting sponsors were secured, including Berg Engineering Consultants and Nicholas and Associates.

Events

Superintendent Kiwala reported that several organizations and businesses hosted fundraising events for SLSF. As staff continue to build community relationships, recognition for SLSF is increasing, and companies are reaching out to SLSF to support our mission.

- Ride for Autism Chicago – Over 100 motorcycle riders attended this annual event on September 15th to support SLSF and enjoy a ride, raffles, buffet, live music, and more. Thank you to Anthony and his wife, Jen, for volunteering at the event. Anticipated donations from this event were \$22,000.
- Halloween Costume Ball—Tomorrow, October 16th, the Arboretum of South Barrington will host a Halloween event with pizza, a costume parade, and games to benefit SLSF. This is the second event the Arboretum has held for SLSF.
- Geico Fast Pitch Award Winner - \$9,500 through employee contact
- Windy City Bulls / Bear Family Restaurants collaboration for NWSRA—Community Assist \$10/assist at every home game in the coming season will be donated to SLSF. NWSRA will be promoted at all home games (big screen time, outreach table), and NWSRA information will be included in all Windy City Bulls emails for the season, which will give NWSRA huge exposure. Check presentation at final game with 50 free tickets for NWSRA representatives and participants/families.
- Wheeling Park District Greenhouse update: Construction is almost complete. SLSF has about \$37,000 in restricted funds that we will pay this fiscal year toward the project. We are preparing to do a walkthrough with the PD to review the layout and how the technology components will work.

Grants

Superintendent Kiwala reported FY 2024, SLSF budgeted to receive \$127,500 in grant funding and is currently seeking grants for the Accessible Greenhouse and the Buffalo Grove Media Lab capital projects, in addition to the 5 pillars of support. To date, SLSF has \$111,000 in approved grant funding and \$253,000 in pending applications. It is great to see Zurich North America as a grantor again this year; new grantor is Chicago Bulls Charities, \$5,000. I am still waiting to hear back from IDOT about the bus delivery schedule. In September SLSF was awarded the first grant for the Buffalo Grove Media Lab capital project in the amount of \$50,000 and will use this to leverage additional funding in 2025.

Marketing and Public Relations

Superintendent Draper reported on the duties and responsibilities that he has been working on over the last quarter.

NWSRA Program Report

Superintendent Hubsch shared a story with the Board and highlighted the Program Report with the Board

Presidents Corner

President Crawford met with USTA to discuss making tennis courts and sport courts equitable and accessible. She attended the ATRA conference, which truly feeds her soul. NWSRA is on a very tight budget. Participants and families are returning to programming, and our staff being down is putting a strain on resources. As the year begins, staff will dive into a new strategic plan. She has major concerns about paying staff what they are worth and based on the new compensation study. Staff are also finishing the SLSF development plan.

Benjamin Edwards Investment Update

Tim March and, Dave Hanson, Benjamin F. Edwards presented an overview of the current economic situation and the status of SLSF's portfolio and financial position. They presented the enclosed packet to the Board.

3rd Quarter Financial Reports

Superintendent Kiwala reported that the financial reports are in the packet for review and also stated reviewed the 3rd quarter report and reminded the Board that at this point the Foundation should be at 75% of the budget. There is a variation of 10% plus or minus. An explanation of those variations can be found in the quarterly report.

Other

Approval of Warrant May 2024

Chairman Crook called for a motion to approve May 2024 Warrant, in the amount of \$114,779.88. Director Oates made the motion and Director Romejko seconded the motion. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Approval of Warrant June 2024

Chairman Crook called for a motion to approve a June 2024 Warrant for \$9,393.94. Director Fahnstrom made the motion, and Director Charlesworth seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Approval of Warrant July 2024

Chairman Crook called for a motion to approve Warrant July 2024, for \$33,798.25. Director Morgan made the motion, and Director Oates seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Approval of Warrant August 2024

Director Crawford called for a motion to approve a Warrant in August 2024 for \$43,646.48. Director Romejko made the motion, and Director Fahnstrom seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Approval of Warrant September 2024

Director Crook called for a motion to approve Warrant September 2024 in the amount of \$38,209.90. Director Fahnstrom made the motion, and Director Ballantine seconded it. Upon roll being called, the vote was as follows:

AYA: Linda Ballantine, Amy Charlesworth, Al Crook, Bret Fahnstrom, Anthony Gattuso, Terri Oates, Erika Strojinc, Kevin Romejko and Christina Ferraro

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Old Business

None

New Business

Celebrate Ability Gala

Superintendent Kiwala reminded the Board that the Gala is this Friday starting at 6:30 pm. She also informed the Board that the Impact Auction will support accessible transportation.

NWSRA Grant

Superintendent Kiwala reviewed the grid explaining the second installment of the NWSRA grant with the Board and the pillars that this grant funds.

Holiday Luncheon

Megan O'Brien, Events Coordinator reminded the Board that the Holiday luncheon will be held at Chandler's Steak House on December 11, 2024, beginning with cocktails at 11:30 am. The invitation is in the packet. She also asked the Board to send RSVPs with invited guests to her team.

Conflict of Interest

Superintendent Kiwala and President Crawford reported to the Board that Jessica will be sending out the Conflict of Interest & Annual Statement and will need the Board to sign and return it to her by the next Board meeting. This will be sent out via DocuSign.

Other

None

Information/Action Items

2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Chairman Crook reviewed the 2025 Board Meeting dates with the Board. The Hybrid Board meeting offering will continue in 2025.

Board Member Comments

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Crook called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:33 p.m. Director Oates and Director Fahnstrom seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

President