

# SPAC

## Minutes of the Sauganash Park Advisory Council Meeting Thursday, September 17, 2009

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**Present:**

Mary Rodriguez, *President*  
Connie Dare, *Vice President*  
MaryAnne Newman, *Secretary*  
Vicki Panoutsos, *Treasurer*

Michelle H. Baldwin,  
*Sauganash Park Supervisor*

Don Kilbort

Elaine Fitzgerald, *representing*  
*'Sauganash Community Association'* and  
*"Sauganash Elementary Local School Council"*

**Excused Absences:**

Elizabeth McManus, *IT Coordinator*  
MaryBeth Jirgel

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### I. Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 PM.  
CPD Volunteer Status was approved for Vicki and Mary.

### II. Review and Approve May Minutes

Gary Chico is the Chicago Park District Commissioner. His title was incorrect in the May minutes.

Connie Dare motioned to accept the May 28, 2009 SPAC minutes as amended.  
Vicki Panoutsos seconded. Motion passed.

### III. Budget Hearing

Michelle Baldwin reports that the meeting was mostly positive. The average taxes from homeowners is 223.33 per household per year and it needs to be stretched quite thin to cover park programs and maintenance. The final budget is not approved.

### IV. Updates

#### a. Sauganash Neighbors for a New Playground

There is a design meeting with Michael Lange, Sauganash Park playground Project Manager next Wednesday, September 23rd, 7:00 at the park.

#### b. Other Partnerships and/or Representatives

##### Fundraising request

Don Kibort, reported the following:

Don would like the SPAC to consider taking on fundraising for a new grand piano. He explained that the current piano is very old and that it gets much more use than we might imagine. He would like to come to our next meeting prepared to make a short presentation on piano replacement requirements and the costs involved. His initial rough estimate was in the neighborhood of \$15,000.00

## **SCA**

Elaine Fitzgerald, SCA board member, reported the following:

The Fourth of July parade and festivities went quite well. There was quite a bit of work involved in getting a liquor license for the event, but the expense was minimal.

SCA was fined for two vehicles that were parked on the lawn against Park District rules during the event.

## **Sauganash Women's Club**

Michelle H. Baldwin, Sauganash Park Supervisor, reported the following:

The Women's Club CPD Partnership approval is still "in the process." They will not be allowed to distribute taffy apples at Halloween this year per the CPD. They may donate some Christmas decorations instead. A suggestion was made to pass on the possibility of donating to a Piano fund.

## **c. Treasurer's Report**

\$63.00 earned from selling concessions at the September Movie night was given to Elizabeth McManus for the SPAC website by Vicki Panoutsos. Mary Rodriguez has another 24.00 to pass on to Elizabeth. We believe this will cover the website expenses for the first year.

## **d. Website update**

Elizabeth McManus submitted the following report via email:

I've been looking into a software program to design our website! I will start the process by designing the web page. Have Mary email me any text info to include. Next step will be to upload it to the internet for all to see. That to me is the biggest challenge, but with some effort I should figure it out.

## **e. Supervisor's Update**

Michelle H. Baldwin, Sauganash Park Supervisor, reported the following:

### **Summer 2009**

The day camp served 170 kids. Surveys reported very positive feedback.

The play camp served 30 kids. Everyone loves Mr. J.

### **Fall 2009**

The music classes, theater classes and 'dinner with Santa' are filled.

Michelle's Volleyball class filled immediately also.

Not much interest so far in the Senior Club. Michelle says she will put some marketing out.

The Halloween Party is on Friday, October 30th from 4-5:30. Mary Rodriguez suggested contacting QAS since their upper graders were looking for community service hours.

The park will be closed Columbus Day, Veterans' Day. City furlough days will be the Thursday and Friday of Thanksgiving (and possibly that whole weekend), as well as Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and possibly the 26 of December.

### **Workout Room**

The workout room is still closed due to flood damage. The CPD is 'working on it.'

### **Open Gym**

On Friday September 18th, Michelle will put together a room usage schedule for the various park facilities so that the possibility of open gym time, etc on school holidays can be investigated. Parental supervision and a CPD staff member or approved volunteer presence would also be required.

### **Green Roof**

Michelle is pursuing the possibility of putting a green roof over the boiler room and bathrooms at the park. No other Chicago park has a green roof at this time so the administration is quite interested in the idea.

### **Proposed Donations**

The SCA & SPCA have both proposed donating fitness equipment to Sauganash park in their partnership agreements. As the fitness room is now closed with no estimated reopening date, perhaps this money could be routed toward a new piano.

## **V. Upcoming events**

### **Family Nights**

Family nights in the winter session will be sponsored by the SPAC and therefore be free again.

### **Farmers Market**

Michelle will look into the possibility and requirements of holding a farmer's market at Sauganash Park. One is currently held in Independence Park, and many other non-park district locations.

The meeting ended at 8:47 PM.

**Next SPAC meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at Sauganash Park**

# SPAC Action List

Things to address ASAP or before the next SPAC meeting.

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**Elizabeth McManus** Elizabeth has the money for a website and will start the process by designing the web page.

Elizabeth will develop a mailing list as part of the SPAC website. All emails sent by the SPAC will contain a notice at the bottom of the email detailing how to unsubscribe from the list.

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**Mary Rodriguez** Elizabeth McManus asked that Mary email her any text information to include on the SPAC website.

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**Mary Rodriguez** Mary will forward the contact information for the person in charge of setting up upper grade community service hours at QAS. The park could use these children as volunteers for the Halloween event.

## Future Action List

Things on the radar, but we are not ready to move on them yet.

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**Michelle Baldwin** Michelle will send out an email to her list of all of the people that sign-up for Sauganash Park classes detailing how to subscribe to the SPAC email list.

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**Mary Rodriguez/TBD** The Sauganash Community Association and the ESAA will be asked to send an email to their lists detailing how to subscribe to the SPAC email list.

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