



Quarterly Business Meeting Minutes January 12, 2012 • Devils Lake, ND

Members Present: Brandy Chaffee, president; Wayne Beyer, president elect; Dave Leker, past president; Arik Spencer, secretary/treasurer; Ron Merritt, legislative chair; RaNae Ball, professional development chair; Craig Bjur, student representative; Greg Smith, membership chair; Tammy Fogle, communications chair; Jessica Riepl; Terry Wallace; Roger Gress; Kevin Klipfel; Sam Larson-Frobog; Paula Redmann; Dennis Nybo; Jeremy Ludlum; Jake Solberg; Dave Frueh; Mike Amundson; Cole Higlin; Bryce Bachman; Steve Fuegeman; Nick Arola; Jeff Heisler; Tim Kuntz; and Dana Schaar, executive director.

The meeting was called to order at 8:38 a.m.

The minutes from the Sept. 22, 2011, meeting were approved as presented (Beyer, Redmann MSC).

Spencer reviewed the financial statements. NDRPA has \$95,191.03 cash on hand in its checking/savings/conference accounts. The website expense is over budget due to redesign related to the new logo, but the additional expenses are offset because no unrelated business income tax is due this year. The financials were approved as presented (Spencer, Leker MSC).

Board, Committee and Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report

Schaar provided a written report on activities since the September annual meeting. She reminded everyone the next *FOCUS* deadline is Feb. 15. Schaar thanked the ND Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) and ND Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF) for sponsoring the 10th annual Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) course and making scholarships available; the CPSI registration deadline is March 13. NDIRF is also providing 24 scholarships for members to attend the HR conference April 25-26 in Bismarck; the registration deadline is March 1. Finally, Schaar reported Clearwater Communications has been awarded the contract to assist NDPRD with development of the 2013-2017 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), and she asked for everyone's assistance in completing the provider survey that is part of the data collection process.

President Elect's Report

Beyer reported the fall quarterly meeting will be held Sept. 18-19 in Wahpeton. It will not be a full conference but will include the awards banquet and education sessions.

Past President's Report

Leker shared that materials on concussions are available from the National High School Activities Association. It was determined it is not necessary to develop concussion training specifically for NDRPA members as many materials are already available online. An article will be included in the next issue of *FOCUS* and links will be posted on the website.

Communications Report

Fogle provided a written report. She encouraged everyone to use the new video, which is posted on the NDRPA website. She also distributed shirts with the new logo to those who ordered one.

Legislative Report

Schaar reported on the Legislative Committee's discussion of Measure 2, the ballot measure to eliminate property taxes. NDRPA will join the Keep it Local ND Coalition that is opposed to Measure 2 and also adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, initiated constitutional measure number 2 calls for the elimination of property taxes and the replacement of lost revenues through legislative appropriation; and
Whereas, the current system of property taxation provides for some local control over the type and scope of local services provided; and
Whereas, funding these services through legislative appropriation will have a negative impact on local control and local services;
Now, therefore, be it resolved that the North Dakota Recreation & Park Association opposes initiated constitutional measure number 2 and similar efforts to eliminate property taxes and reduce local control over the provision of local services. (Merritt, Kuntz MSC)

Schaar reported there has not been much interim activity yet, but she will keep the membership informed of studies that impact member agencies.

Spencer discussed the state community grant program, which received funding for the 2009-2011 biennium but not the 2011-2013 biennium. Merritt and Schaar will set up a meeting with NDPRD to discuss future funding.

Professional Development Report

Ball provided a written report. The committee has tabled plans to develop a concussion management program for park districts due to the availability of online materials. She encouraged members to suggest training topics to the committee.

Membership Chair

Smith reported membership renewals are going well and encouraged everyone to submit their dues by the Jan. 31 deadline.

Awards Chair

Ludlum reported Awards Chair Darin Krueger asked members to "don't wait, nominate."

Student Representative Report

Bjur said he plans to meet with students at UND and NDSU in March and April to encourage participation in the Midwest conference and also submission of scholarship applications.

Conference Report

Arola reported plans are well underway for the Midwest conference scheduled for April 29-May 1 in Grand Forks. The NDRPA quarterly business meeting will be held the morning of May 2.

Conference Selection

Schaar stated the 2015 NRPA Congress is scheduled for Sept. 15-17 in Las Vegas, so the NDRPA conference will be held in early October that year.

Hall of Fame Report

Beyer reported the deadline for Hall of Fame nominations is the July quarterly meeting. He also encouraged nominations for the NDRPA Fellow Award, which is usually attained before nomination to the Hall of Fame.

Scholarship Report

Kuntz reported there will be one \$1,000 scholarship awarded this year, and the deadline has been moved up to April 1.

Forestry Council Representative Report

Leker encouraged submissions for forestry grants for the spring and fall rounds.

ACIR Report

Schaar reported there are no studies being undertaken by ACIR that are likely to impact park districts, except any studies related to disaster planning and relief.

Old Business

Schaar shared a calendar of upcoming events that will be surveyed for the Economic Contribution Study. She also reported data collection for winter adult and youth leagues will take place in February. State park and facility intercepts will start up again in April, and more effort is needed to collect facility surveys, particularly at campgrounds and golf courses. Participation numbers and budget data will be collected this summer. Schaar recognized the work of all participating members and encouraged everyone to stay on top of the project so we have good data for NDSU to use in determining state and local public parks and recreation economic impact.

Klipfel discussed the concern with significantly increased fees from the Red Cross for its Learn to Swim program, using the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District as an example with fees increasing from \$850 to \$15,000 annually. Klipfel committed to setting up a meeting with Red Cross at the Midwest conference in hopes of negotiating a statewide rate plan that raises the fees over a three-five year period.

Chaffee shared the executive committee's discussion about whether or not NDRPA should sign the Midwest conference MOU, including factors such as low participation from non-host states, financial implications, and the changed training landscape. NDRPA will wait until after the Midwest conference in Grand Forks to make a decision on signing the MOU.

New Business

The 2011-2012 annual report was approved as presented (Spencer, Gross MSC). Schaar noted the joint conference hosted by Bismarck Parks and Recreation District was very successful, which was part of the reason for the increased revenue and expenses, along with the economic contribution study.

The Form 990-EZ, 990-T and state income tax return were approved as presented (Leker, Klipfel MSC).

The conference MOU and financial policies were approved as presented (Nybo, Ball MSC).

Strategic planning will be held in February in Harvey. An invitation to participate will be extended to all board members and agency directors.

Other

Beyer recognized Kuntz's new role in representing the Midwest region for national Babe Ruth Baseball.

Everyone thanked Wallace for hosting the quarterly meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m. (Gress, Ludlum MSC).