



## **Program Advisory Committee (PAC) Agenda**

Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 10:00 am  
FVSRA Multi Purpose Room  
2121 West Indian Trail, Aurora, IL 60560

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

There were 13 PAC Parent/Professional Members present and 12 FVSRA Staff. Each member introduced themselves and stated how they are involved with FVSRA.

### **II. New Resident/Non-Resident Policy**

Due to the growing waiting lists and the and the growing number of Non-Resident individuals which FVSRA serves the Association has put a new policy into place. The new policy reads as follows:

*Residents will be given priority registration when registering for programs. A Resident is an individuals who livse within the boundaries of the Fox Valley, St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia, Oswegoland, Sugar Grove Park Districts and the Village of South Elgin Parks and Recreation Department.*

*A non-resident is considered an individual who lives outside of the participating Member Agencies' boundaries. Non-residents will be required to pay non-resident fees when registering for programs. The registration process for non-residents will start on Thursday, May 28.*

*Any questions regarding the non-resident policy should be directed to Carolyn Nagle at 630.907.1114.*

- The group emphasized the registration deadline on Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> for residents. This deadline gives FVSRA staff enough time before programs to make decisions whether the program will go, get cancelled, need recruitment, or need expansion.
- Non-Residents will be entered following the May 22<sup>nd</sup> deadline, basically giving residents priority in programs.
  - o Discussion from families included:
    - Would FVSRA consider a lottery system?
    - Would we consider non-residents paying one lump sum to cover resident's taxes allowing non-residents to buy-in to put them at the resident rate?
    - What if a person is trying to sell a home in a non-resident community? Could they sign a good faith agreement like the school district allows when a family can prove that they are moving into a

- resident community? This way the family during a time frame could pay the resident rate.
  - Could the participant and/or family pay a non-resident fee the first time and then as a returning participant get a 20% reduction?
  - Can a family do volunteer hours or service hours to make the family at a resident status?
- There will be a postcard delivered to homes informing families of the new Non-Resident policy.

## **I. Newsletter – Star Gazer**

- All members were given a copy of the first newsletter.
  - o Suggestions from members
    - Interview participants to see their values and what they get out of programs.
    - Spotlight on a program
      - Specify what the program goals are and what participants achieved in the program.
    - Publish the date of the next newsletter and brochure release date in the next issue.
    - Publish a Wish List that would include Items needed for specific programs and services, volunteers, etc. in each issue.

## **III. FVSRA Programs and Services : Summer Camp Updates**

- Registration Progress
  - o As of 4/14/09 – 72 campers were enrolled
- Camp after age 25?
  - o Families want to expand the age limit of camp. A process was put into place to see if those campers could be accommodated.
    - Heather will send out a letter requiring an assessment/re-assessment of the participant
    - Assessment or re-assessment will take place with either Heather Nichols or Jen Borrowman
    - FVSRA will get a copy of a current IEP or Care Plan to review goals and see if those goals can be met in camp.
- New Adult Summer Day Site
  - o To meet the current need of older campers, FVSRA will group off campers in Camp Soaring Eagles between the ages of 23 & 28. This group will have different activities planned but will be staffed and under the same “umbrella” of Camp Soaring Eagles.
- Transition Placement Letter to families
  - o A letter will be sent to families (see steps listed out under the bullet of “Camp after age 25?”
- Request for employment from campers
  - o Past campers as well as other participants have requested the opportunity to work camp with FVSRA. FVSRA is concerned about safety issues. Parents suggested doing a counselor in training program. Parents also suggested having the individuals off site doing prep work for the following day for camp (i.e. gather craft supplies, putting together packets, etc.). Parents also suggested a prep program where a pseudo camp would be set up and they would have to “pass” the program before they could work

camp. Carolyn Nagle commented that type of opportunity gets out of our mission and would be a great collaborative to do with a agency that provides job coaching.

#### **IV. Events**

- **Pork Chop and Chicken Barbeque** – Wed., April 22, 2009
- **Kiwanis Golf Outing** – Monday June 29, 2009
- **Day in the Park** – Wednesday, July 15, 2009
- **Tee Up for Downs** – Thursday, Aug 13, 2009

#### **V. Homework**

- Goals for the next several PAC Meetings:
  - Focus on the Autism Population (11% of the entire Fox Valley Population has Autism) & the High School Transition Group
  - Developing Afterschool Programs
  - Developing an Adult Summer Day Program
- Website
  - Members will come with website ideas and Hayden will set up focus group

#### **VI. Questions, Comments and/or Concerns?**

- After school programs
  - FVSRA can try to coop with current Park District programs
- Email Blasts
  - Update when brochures are delivered
  - Use for recruitment in programs that have low enrollment
- Camp for participants with Autism (Moderate-High level)/Sensory Issues/Social Disorders
- A.I.D. Weekend Camp Retreat 6/5-6/7 for participants 18 years and older
- Wanting more programs for participants that are “in betweeners” (i.e. they don’t fit in inclusion and are too high functioning for Special Recreation Association programs )

**II. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM & 7:00PM**