#  MINUTES

The Monthly Board meeting of the Kewanee Park District Board of Commissioners was held at the Baker Park Office, Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT: Commissioners Mike Nichols, Al Salisbury, Jim Powell and Jacque Verscha. Also present was Brian Johnson, Director, Michelle Anderson, Secretary and Andrew Verstraete, Park District Commissioner Candidate

ABSENT: President Jim Heberer

Vice-President Jim Powell called the regular Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The minutes of the January 2017 Regular Board meeting were reviewed and discussed. Mike Nichols moved to accept all minutes as written. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

 The January 2017 Financial Statement was then reviewed and discussed. Mike Nichols moved to accept the January 2017 Financial Statement. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed. The January/February 2017 Bills for Approval were also reviewed and discussed. Jacque Verscha moved to approve the bills for January/February 2017. Mike Nichols seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Ordinance No. 335 – Annual Appropriation Ordinance was presented to the Board. With no changes made, Mike Nichols moved to call for publication and final approval at the regular Board Meeting on March 16, 2017. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes. Ordinance No. 335 will be on display at the Kewanee Park District Office for public viewing. Notice will be placed in the Kewanee Star Courier no more than 21 days and no less than 7 days prior to the March meeting.

 OPEN BUSINESS: No open business to discuss.

DIRECTOR JOHNSON’S REPORT: Director Johnson began his report by informing the Board that the Pizza Hut signs have been removed from the Big Diamond at Northeast Park upon the Board’s request after not renewing a contract between the Kewanee Park District and Pizza Hut. The Board then suggested that new signs be installed on the dugouts at the Big Diamond with wording that included Kewanee Park District and Northeast Park. Director Johnson also informed the Board that the additional ornamental fencing approved has been installed to the south end of Northeast Park along Highway 78. The Grand Entrance pillars have had the winter blanket removed but they still need to be bricked which with be done when the weather breaks for Spring. Commissioner Salisbury inquired as to the status of Gutschlag Electric’s progress on projects started at Northeast Park. Commissioner Salisbury suggested that if Gutschlag Electric does not start finishing up projects, that Director Johnson seek out a company who can. Director Johnson then confirmed that the 20 foot flag pole and the memorial tree for Northeast Park have been ordered.

The next item in Director Johnson’s report was to discuss the Public Bid opening for 20 new golf carts with 20 used carts to be traded in. Director Johnson received bids from M&M Golf Cars and Harris Golf. M&M Golf Cars submitted a bid that included $85,500 for the 20 new electronic start carts with a trade in value of $28,400 for 20 used carts bringing the final bid to $57,100. Harris Golf submitted a bid that included $82,900 for 20 new carborated start golf carts with a trade in value of $16,850 for 20 used carts bringing the final bid to $66,050. The Board discussed the need for new carts at this time versus new maintenance equipment requested by Dan Erickson and JR Salisbury. Commissioner Powell reminded the Board that during the January Board Meeting it was decided that the new equipment could wait which prompted the Public Bid. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Salisbury moved to accept the bid from M&M Golf Cars. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Director Johnson next confirmed that the 2017 Child’s Best Friend Award winners, Ken Nelson and Brad Cessna, had been notified and invited to the Commissioner’s dinner after the Election of Officer’s meeting in May.

Director Johnson thanked Michelle Anderson for her part in the Kewanee Park District receiving a refund for the Workman’s Compensation Policy.

Director Johnson updated the Board on the remodeling being done at the 19th Hole Restaurant. The floor is near completion in the main dining area and the ceiling tile runners have been painted. The Board asked Director Johnson to proceed with upgrading the floors in the men’s and women’s bathrooms if there is enough material left over.

Director Johnson informed the Board that the dedication rock to be placed at Northeast Park has been purchased from Lackey Monument and asked if any commissioners had an idea of what they would like the dedication plaque to say. Commissioners Nichols, Verscha and Powell all presented similar suggestions but no final decision was made and the issue was tabled until President Heberer could be present at the March meeting.

Director Johnson informed the Board that Great Dane has agreed to pay the entire cost of the new Soccer Scoreboard at Northeast Park. The Board expressed their gratitude for Great Dane’s continued generosity.

Director Johnson confirmed that the Kewanee Park District has been approved by the State of Illinois to offer gaming machines at the ProShop. Director Johnson will next contact the company that supplies and services the machines to determine the next step in the process.

Director Johnson included in his packet examples of the new registration forms for Baseball and Soccer and is currently working on the Baker Park Golf Course Calendar to include playdays, KHS Golf meets and KHS Cross Country meets.

Director Johnson then revisited the need for parking blocks at the new parking lot in Northeast Park. The Board would need to purchase 75 parking blocks if all parking spots (including the middle) were to receive one. Director Johnson inquired as to whether the Board would like to just put parking blocks around the perimeter of the parking lot. The Board agreed to table the purchase after a brief discussion. Commissioner Salisbury did suggest purchasing signs for the parking lot that stated the Kewanee Park District is not responsible for damage by parking in the lot. The possibility for a foul ball from the Big Diamond does exist in the parking lot.

Director Johnson informed the Board that he has scheduled a travel baseball team coach’s meeting for Sunday Feb 19th to discuss scheduling diamonds, games, tournaments and pricing. There are currently 15 travel baseball/softball teams in Kewanee.

Director Johnson presented the Board with a concern he received from a citizen who lives near Northeast Park. The citizen is concerned that 11th Street runs through Northeast Park and would like to see the entrance from 11th Street to Northeast Park become inaccessible. The Board believes the entrance to the park is Kewanee Park District property and therefor governed by the Board. Director Johnson said he will discuss this concern with the City Manager of Kewanee, Gary Bradley for clarification.

With nothing further in his report to discuss, Director Johnson turned the meeting back over to Vice-President Powell. Commissioner Powell then asked for any other comments or concerns from the commissioners. Commissioners Nichols and Verscha had none. Commissioner Salisbury stated again his support to find a new electrical company if Gutschlag Electric does not start finishing projects already started at Northeast Park. Commissioner Salisbury also inquired as to the status of the approved sidewalk to be installed along Highway 78. Director Johnson informed him that he is waiting on approval for a permit from IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation). Commissioner Powell inquired if contact has been made with Friends of the Pool members to discuss some needed equipment at the Oasis Family Aquatic Center. Director Johnson referred to a packet he delivered to all Friends of the Pool members back in December and said President John Miskinis has not yet called to set up a meeting. The Board informed Director Johnson that when a meeting is had, he should inform the Friends of the Pool that the Board is not willing to split everything 50/50 as the Friends of the Pool was established to support the Oasis Family Aquatic Center and the Park District has other expenses to be concerned with. Director Johnson was then presented with the question of whether the Baseball Boosters account is still active and wondered about the balance. The Board believes that the account is no longer being utilized and should be closed due to the fact the Kewanee Park District has purchased all items associated with baseball/softball and t-ball for the past couple of years.

With nothing further to discuss, Vice-President Powell entertained a motion to adjourn. Jacque Verscha moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Nichols seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.