

## Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Kewanee Park District Board of Commissioners was held at the Kewanee Park District Office Board Room, 1095 Cambridge Road Kewanee IL 61443 Thursday April 18, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

**Present:** President Jim Powell, Commissioners Andrew Verstraete, Jim Heberer, Jacque Verscha, Mike Nichols, Director Brian Johnson and Secretary Christy Jackson-Ehnle, Linda Dutchhaver, Sharon DeSmit, Julie Landwehr, Steve Brackett, Virginia Nelson, Amy Jackson, and Susan DeVilder

**Absent:** None

**Child's Best Friend Award:** The Kewanee Park District Board chose The Elks #724 and the Abilities Plus for the 2019 Child's Best Friend Award. Director Johnson presented them with a plaque and gave a nice speech thanking them for their time and efforts for all they do for the children in the community. The Generation swing at Northeast Park and the Transitional swing at Windmont Park was donated by them. Director Johnson said to see the children swing on the new swings is fantastic. Sharon DeSmit who works with the children at the summer camp programs gave a nice speech thanking them for their grants that allowed the children to go on field trips and provide for their crafts, activities and meals. Julie Landwehr complemented Sharon on how much the kids enjoy her Day Camps and outings. Amy Jackson also thanked Sharon, to be able to offer these camps is a benefit to the children.

President Jim Powell called the meeting to order. The minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting were reviewed and discussed. Andrew Verstraete motioned to accept the March 2019 minutes as written. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The March 2019 Financial Statements was presented. The Board reviewed and discusses the Financial Statements. Mike Nichols motioned to accept the March 2019 Financial Statements. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The March 2019 Bills for Approval were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to approve the bills for March 2019. Mike Nichols seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**Open Business:** With no open business to discuss, President Powell turned the meeting over to Director Johnson for his report.

**Director's Report:** Director Johnson began his report by thanking Mike Nichols for all his efforts and input as a Commissioner for the last 6 years, this will be his last meeting as a Commissioner. May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the Election of Officers Meeting where we will swear in Steve Brackett as the newly Elected Commissioner. Congratulations Steve! Also, congratulations to Jim Heberer who will after his next term will be the only 3<sup>rd</sup> Commissioner in the 100-year history to sit on the Kewanee Park District Board of Commissioners for a 30-year period!

**Dog Park:** Director Johnson talked to the Geneseo Park district who referred him to Karen Russell at the Geneseo Humane Society, about their dog park. She recommended a 6-foot fence instead of a 4-foot fence. Karen said the park gets used often and don't smell and they don't have odor issues. Boss Manufacturing sent a letter about their interest getting involved in the dog park. Boss Pet Products division would like to donate pet waste items and would donate the initial disposal systems and a supply of waste bags and signage. The location for the dog park is still in discussion. Jim Heberer suggested that Chautauqua Park might be a better location because it's bigger than Northeast Park. Jim Powell was concerned that the dog park wouldn't get used as much if it were at the Chautauqua Park location because more people go to the other parks. Another concern is the parking at Chautauqua. Jacque Verscha asked if the northeast location would interfere with the soccer ball program. Andrew Verstraete researched the advantages and disadvantages of having a dog park. Dog parks are a great source for socialization with other dogs and dog owners, there are health risks, aggression and territorial issues, and educating the owner on their role in the park. Who is liable for the vet bills & dog accidents? Jim Heberer suggested surveillance cameras. Also discussed was repairs, the tennis court at Windmont needs repaired. Andrew Verstraete suggested having a Pickleball court at Windmont Park. Jim Powell motioned to put a table on the dog park until further discussed. Mike Nichols seconded the motion. Four in Favor and one Nay (Jacque Verscha). Motioned Passed.

**TORO Irrigation System Insurance:** Baker Park Irrigation System insurance with TORO NSN needs renewed. Mike Nichols motioned to renew the Irrigation Insurance with Toro NSN. Andrew Verstraete seconded then motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

**Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust:** The Work Comp Audit that was done this month resulted in a credit refund of \$2,354.00.

**EE Baker Trust Update:** Barton Electric's final balance of \$44,880.00 was paid, the account balance is \$1,096,616.79. The remainder of the \$350,000.00 withdraw that was made for special projects we still owe Ratliff's \$6,492.50 of the \$22,387.50 balance leaving a \$15,895.00 balance, this money could be used for the dog park if agreed upon.

**100 Year Celebration:** June 22<sup>nd</sup> HMVCU wants to Title Sponsor a Movie in the Park. Director Johnson would like to see the movie moved from Windmont Park to Northeast Park. The \$1,000.00 left over from their sponsorship donation can help pay for the other activities for the family fun night such as a magician, balloon designer, petting zoo, & etc.... The Jerry Nell fund would also sponsor a free swim that day along with a band to play until the movie starts. Steve Bracket said that Jerry Nell would want the fund to be used for the children and it would be a good choice to use the fund to sponsor this event.

**IHMVCU:** Chelsea Mentado would like to expand on the movie in the park this year, that they had sponsored for the last 3 years in celebrating the Park's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She will ask her authorities about this and research about other possibilities.

Representative Dan Swanson contacted Director Johnson about the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and doing a Resolution honoring the Kewanee Park District in the house of Representatives for 100 years of providing recreation to the citizens of Kewanee and the surrounding area. Brian is looking forward to the resolution.

**Northeast Park Slide:** Director Johnson got a quote from Paul Gozder at Parkreation for a 5-foot slide \$4,264.00, a 6-foot slide \$4,805.00- & 8-foot slide \$9,674.00. After discussion the Board agreed to get a 5- & 6-foot slide for the smaller children to use also. Jim Heberer motioned to use the G.O. Bond Account to purchase the slides. Mike Nichols seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motioned passed.

Ron Oldeen gave Director Johnson \$5,000.00 to stock the fish for this year's fish Rodeo on Saturday June 1st. The Oldeen's have been stocking fish for the rodeo since 1986. The fish is stocked 5-6 days before the fish derby by Spirit Hollow Fish Farm.

School Scholarships have been sent to the schools all applicants will be given to the Board of Commissioners to choose a recipient for the award.

**Benches for the Baker Park Golf Course:** Director Johnson stated that some want the benches replaced and others don't want to replace or can't afford to replace the bench. The price for 10 benches is \$10,000.00 and which ones to replace and where? It could take up to 4 or 5 years to get all the benches replaced.

Eric Ellenberger and Chevrolet has supplied the Kewanee Park District's Baseball Program with a lot of good equipment and shirts at no cost to the park. He said we can also have a test drive day and make another \$25.00 per drive donation. Thank you, Eric for your generous donations!

Jim Heberer mentioned that there was a good turnout for the Friday night couples golf league and to encourage \$5.00-dollar cart rentals and needs the board approval. Andrew Verstraete motioned to approve of the \$5.00 cart rental. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Director Johnson got a quote form Terry Hand to weatherproof the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant windows. \$850.00 for Tuck Pointing, Material \$200.00 and Labor \$2,600.00 = \$3,650.00. Jim Heberer motioned to have Terry Hand to do the weatherproofing at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Andrew Verstraete talked to Dan Erickson about the Pump House; someone smashed the plastic that covered the electrical unit there. It's a 440-watt circuit that can be hazardous and needs fixed. T. Hall gave an estimate for fencing around the unit 8' height no top \$1,680.00 with a barb wire top \$2,030.00. The Board agreed on the 8' with a barb wire top and place hazard sign warnings. Jim Heberer motioned to have T. Hall put up the fence with the barb wire top. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Andrew Verstraete said Dan Erickson also suggested putting up lights at the driving range, he can get the light poles for free and Nick Dana will do the work for free. The only expense to the

park would be the wiring for the lights. Mike Nichols asked about timers for the lights, it would save on energy usage.

Jim Powell mentioned to the Board that at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting they need to go over the policy book and asked the newly elected Commissioner Steve Brackett to bring any ideas to the meeting. Jim also mentioned the truck that the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant uses for deliveries has safety issues, the window wipers don't work, and the door flies open. The truck needs looked at by a mechanic and discussed at the May16th Board meeting.

With nothing further to discuss Andrew Verstraete motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.