

MINUTES

The Election of Officers Board Meeting of the Kewanee Park District Board of Commissioners was held at the Baker Park 19th Hole Restaurant, Thursday May 7, 2020.

PRESENT: President Jim Powell, Jim Heberer, Jacque Verscha, Andrew Verstraete, Steve Brackett, Director Brian Johnson, and Secretary Christy Jackson-Ehnle

ABSENT: None

President Jim Powell called the meeting to order.

The Annual Election of Officers will be held on Thursday May 7, 2020 at 3:30pm. There are several things that I need to be discussed or at least thought about until our next meeting on May 21, 2020. As far as I know everyone will be here.

- 1.) Open Business – It says we deal with open business, if we have any, before the election of officers. Here are some things that I feel need to be addressed. I am wondering if anyone is ready to make a decision on or discuss the possibilities of having baseball/softball, the pool open, fishing rodeo, day camps and special needs camp, youth golf lessons and league, all that pretty much start in June.
- 2.) Chautauqua Park driveway - I have heard back for the Henry Highway Department about repaving the drive at Chautauqua Park. Their estimate to us is \$7,100.00.
- 3.) School Scholarships – There are several scholarships from Wethersfield high school and only one from Kewanee High School. They are enclosed.
- 4.) Election of Officers – Every one of these items must be addressed as I am finishing my last year of a 3- year contract. We will then proceed with new positions of the board.

1.) Director Johnson asked about making decisions on the possibilities of having baseball/softball, the pool open, fishing rodeo, day camps, special needs camp, youth golf lessons and league. Andrew Verstraete said with Pritzker's new five step phase it kind of eliminates that for us, they're talking about not going to school until January December maybe a little sooner depending how the numbers roll maybe fall late fall or closer to winter. Jim Heberer said he was talking to JR about Pritzker's press conference, maybe we will be deciding at the next meeting about the pool and not spending the money to fix it this year

if we're not going to be able to use it. Jim Powell asked so we do not want to fix it until next year. Director Johnson said he and JR talked about the pool why fix it now and let it sit through the winter. Brian said he had talked to Pete from Acco about being put 1st on the list to fix the pool next year and he said absolutely. Jim Heberer motioned to have Acco fix the pool next spring 2021. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Jim Powell said we are just going to have to cancel everything, all our playdays are being cancelled. Director Johnson said that he agrees but Sharon DeSmit has talked to Abilities Plus and they still want to do something for the Special Needs Camp and has a grant that will pay for everything including Sharon. Sharon would make bags with crafts & food and take to their house and give the bags to their parents to work on at home. Andrew Verstraete motioned to let Sharon drop off craft & food bags for the Special Needs Kids. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Director Johnson mentioned that Christy refunded or rescheduled the Shelter Rentals & Pagoda Rentals for May, and she will have to refund the sports that were already paid. Jim Powell mentioned that we need a motion to cancel baseball/softball, soccer, pool, fishing rodeo, day camp, youth golf lessons & youth league. Jim Powell mentioned that even if we wait until the end of the month until the next meeting, nothing is going to change. Andrew Verstraete said with baseball you are going to have kids that will be in the same dugout sharing bats, helmets touching each other, and with the liability this would be in our best interest to cancel. Jim Heberer motioned to cancel the baseball/softball, fishing rodeo, day camp other than special needs camp, swimming pool, youth golf lessons and youth golf league. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Jim Heberer ask if the driving range and the putting range are still closed, Jim Powell said yes. Director Johnson said we will have to wait for our Governor's approval to open. Jim Heberer asked Director Johnson if we will get a refund from the sports insurance that was paid for this season. Director Johnson said yes. Jim Heberer made a motion that Director Johnson contact our insurance company to get a refund for the activities. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

2.) Jim Heberer went to Chautauqua seen JR and seen where the drive was marked off and was concerned about the culvert and water freezing. Director Johnson said that he asks for the asphalt to be 2' deep so that estimate included

more materials. Director Johnson said he could go 1" or 1 ½". Andrew said if your going to do it, do it right. Jim Powel said that it better than having to replace in 5 years. Jim Heberer motioned to have the Henry Highway Department repave the drive at Chautauqua. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

3.) E.E. Baker Scholarship Award: The Board discussed the applicants for the scholarship, and each voted on their candidate. The Board agreed to select Cristofer F. Fernandez Palos from Kewanee High School and Isaiah Franklin as this year's winner for the 2020 E.E. Baker Scholarship Award for \$500.00 each to attend Black Hawk College. Andrew Verstraete motioned for the scholarships to go to Christofer F. Fernandez Palos and Isaiah Franklin. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson got online looking for furniture for outside and inside the 19th Hole Restaurant and said there is about a million different choices, he is going to need the commissioner's opinion before we get down to buying anything. Jim Heberer ask what type of surface, size of tables, the shape how many will we need. Jim Powell ask that before everyone adjourns let's go outside and look at the fence and see what we want to do and give some direction. Steve Brackett suggested that when you have a large crowd to have tables that you can move to join for groups and able to clean around. Director Johnson agreed and said that we have groups of 12 or more all the time especially on Saturday & Sunday mornings. Jim Heberer suggested tables with centers in them that can be extended. Steve Brackett mentioned that the 1st installment of property taxes is extended until June 17th, we are going to have that same issue as last year worrying about getting the tax money, we are probably in better state this year because of the way things are. Jim Powell mentioned that since we are not going to have the fishing derby this year, he would like to spend up to \$5,000 for the park district to put new fish in Windmont and when the fish come in put up no fishing signs for a week. Without restocking there will not be any fish for next year. Jim Heberer asked Brian if there are any restrictions, he said there is always a sign posted 4 fish per day per person by the front gate and signs posted for a month after the fishing derby that only 16 and under can fish. Jim Heberer asked Brian if he used the same fishery and Brian said that Logan Hollow Fishery has called twice already asking if we needed to restock for the fishing Derby, at that time he could not answer it until after tonight's meeting. Jim Heberer motioned to spend up to \$5,000.00 to have Windmont restocked with fish. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed. Brian asked if they want to shut down fishing for a week and post signs 16 and

under fishing only for the month of June like they always do.

Jim Powell said that he would like to see those that paid for a private cart, until the end of the month, not have to purchase a park district cart. He does not think they should have to pay extra when they already paid for a cart. Director Johnson said that if they paid for a private cart and with Governor Pritzker guidelines, they cannot use their own cart they have to use one of our carts. Brian said another paid private cart owner paid the extra \$100.00 for the year to use our cart since Gov Pritzker said we must use our carts. It would be better to use one of our carts for the rest of the year and leave theirs sit, and like Jim Powell said they paid for their cart and cannot use it. It is like catch 22 because we are doing what the governor tells us to do. Jim Powell said that this season ticket was purchased before COVID-19 and that if he purchased his season ticket now then he should pay the \$400.00 for our cart, but he did not. Jim Heberer suggested to refund him his \$300.00 that he paid. Jim Heberer asked how often he golfs. Jim Powell said 2-3 times a week and Jim Heberer said at \$13.00 for a cart for 18 holes he would have a \$100 quick. Jim Heberer asked how many others are in the same boat. Jim Powell said that he felt this way because if he would have waited, I would agree but bought his season ticket before the COVID-19 guidelines.

Jim Heberer ask Director Johnson where he got the bid from for Windmont, he said Interstate Fencing, Troy Woller. Jim Heberer ask about people working on the golf course. Brian said that Dan ask him about the rehires and unemployment affecting their hours, he told Dan to have them ask unemployment how much they can make without losing benefits and try to work with them to keep their hours down. Jim Heberer was just asking about the hours he did not think about unemployment. Jim Powell said with limited hours they are going to get to a point where they are going to have hire more employees if needed to get the mowing done, it will work out the same. Jim Heberer mentioned the green shed, Jim Powell asked redo it or eliminate it. Jim Heberer motioned to eliminate the green shed. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Jim Heberer said by the skateboard park at Northeast if you pull up to the main drive and look at the banks there, that they are eroded. He talked to JR and he thought it might need dirt and grass mass. Jim Heberer asked Brian to get together with JR and come up with a price range to fix it. Jim Heberer ask that at the next meeting he would like the dollar amount of funds in the E.E. Baker account. Jim Heberer also asked Director Johnson about President and Vice

President in case your gone, or who to get of hold of. It is in the policy book, but we never adopted it. The Director's team President, Vice President, Jr, Dan & Christy and all the functions if something needed to be done, then they can collectively make decisions. Jim Powell said we can have Director Johnson to put that on the May 21st agenda. Jim Heberer was asking about putting money from the G.O. account into the general account. Director Johnson said that we had to move some money to the general account, and we might have to move some of the recreational money. Jim Heberer said that maybe next month we can come up with everything that we really want to do. He would like to get the fence done at Windmont. Steve Brackett said we like new projects and to get them done all at one time, maybe we could do some this year and not spend all that money at one time. He also said that we could have a short season and get some of our revenue back.

4.) President Powell calls for nomination for the Director of Parks position. Jim Powell motioned to hire Brian Johnson for another year. Steve Bracket asked about Brian's 3-year contract that he just finished and ask if we have an original. Director Johnson that he had asked for one and there never has been one written. Director Johnson said 3 years ago when Al Salisbury left, they gave him a 3-year contract to retain him. Andrew Verstraete seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

President turns chair over to Director Johnson.

Director Johnson called for nominations for President of the Board for 2020. Jim Powel motions to nominate Andrew Verstraete as the President of the Board for 2020. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes. Congratulations President Andrew Verstraete!

Director Johnson called for nominations for Vice-President of the Board for 2020. Andrew Verstraete motioned to elect Jim Heberer as Vice-President. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson called for nominations for Secretary of the Board for 2020. Andrew Verstraete motioned to elect Christy Jackson-Ehnle as Secretary. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson called for nominations for Park District Attorney for the Board for 2020. Jim Powell moved to appoint Justin Raver, Barash & Everett as Park District Attorneys. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Director Johnson called for nominations for Park District Financial Advisor for the Board for 2020. It was discussed that Mark Russell retired totally or if he will still want to be the Financial Adviser for the Park. Jim Powell asked Director Johnson to find out for the next meeting. Steve Brackett ask Brian if he has contacted Mark Russell lately. Brian said he has not needed to contact him lately, but if he needs an equipment lease, he contacts Mark for the loan. Andrew Verstraete motioned to table the nomination until the May 21st meeting. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson called for nominations for E.E. Baker Trust Financial Advisor for the Board for 2020. Jim Heberer motioned to retain Clark Blair as the E.E. Baker Trust Financial Advisor. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson called for a motion to leave or change the Committees for 2020. Jim Powell moved to keep the Committees the same. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes.

Director Johnson called for a motion to leave or change authorized signatures on all People's Bank Accounts for 2020. No changes made on authorized signatures on all People's National Bank Accounts for 2020. Account remains the same for 2020.

Director Johnson then called for a motion to return to the regular meeting and turn the meeting over to elected President Andrew Verstraete. Steve Brackett made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passes. Congratulation Andrew Verstraete!

With nothing further to discuss Andrew Verstraete moved to adjourn the meeting with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passes.