**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 June 18, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

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

**Absent:** None

President Andrew Verstraete called the meeting to order. The minutes of the May 21, 2020 meeting were reviewed and discussed. Jim Powell motioned to accept the May 2020 minutes as written. Jim Heberer asked Brian if Taylor Way contacted him about the tree at Northeast Park, Brian said yes did yesterday he had JR meet him out there. Taylor Way looked at the cotton wood tree and inspected it and said it is about 40% dead and should come down and you have a 360 problem. Director Johnson asked what is a 360 problem he said if it falls this way it falls on a diamond and if it falls that way it falls on a diamond it’s going to hit some cars and this way it’s going to hit some people sitting in the shade. He recommended that we took that one down. Then he took JR to the front of the park by the entrance there’s a mulberry tree there that has been hit by lightning three times, still alive and has leaves on it but its leaning at an angle over the walking path. He suggested that we take that one down as well as a safety precaution. Director Johnson called and ask him to put his recommendations in writing and what would cost to take those trees down, so we have documentation for the board that Taylor Way recommended that we remove them both. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The May 2020 Financial Statements was presented. The Board reviewed and discussed the Financial Statements. Jim Heberer asked about the EE Baker Account and Brian got a statement from Clark Blair and ask Clark for a statement every month for the Board meetings. Jim Powell mentioned how much the account has went up since last month May $1,043,061.47 to June $1,081,242.04. Jim Powell motioned to accept the May 2020 Financial Statements. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The June 2020 Bills for Approval were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to approve the bills for June 2020. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The 2019 Annual Treasurer’s Report was presented to the Board for approval. Jim Heberer motioned to approve the 2019 Annual Treasurer’s Report. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

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

Director Johnson said he met with Kevin Yepsen about solar energy, He was looking at the opportunity list that the City of Kewanee had put an application for three opportunities zones but only received one of them. Kevin is watching for another program which should open 2021, which might offer some funding to help with the project and clean energy would design what we need. Jim Heberer asked if we needed to hire them to be a consultant, what building & what park? Director Johnson said that is a good question if we want to go solar what is our biggest energy user, the pool is only open 60 days what would benefit from us putting solar in? You would think that the club house and office could feed off something back here I am not sure if maintenance would be able to feed off it or not. I you see our parks I do not see much out there that we would want to put solar up for. Andrew Verstraete said hopefully the agenda would pay itself off in 5-6 years. Brian suggested that we wait until there is a program to help us and he agreed that he should ask Kevin Yepsen if we should be putting a plan together or have a consultant firm come in and say if we did it this is what we would do. Steve Brackett mentioned that you will have to figure if you want roof installation or ground installation. Jim Heberer mention that we do not have any ground around here that is safe from golf balls, it would almost have to be on a building next to it. Brian said the Kewanee School has theirs on the roof and Jim Heberer mentioned that they get the good southern exposure. Steve Brackett said we got to have that southern exposure. Jim Heberer ask Brian to run that by Kevin Yepsen.

Director Johnson talked to Mike Perva about Wi-Fi and he said we definitely have internet on the inside already and don’t need to set up a public network, but outside he had what is called an extender would make it all accessible and he could do it very reasonable and it would not require a password depending on how we set it up. You can set it up so they need a password or where they can pick it up by signal. Mike said the cost would be the Extender $80.00 & his time and cable. Jim Heberer motioned to have Mike Perva install the Wi-Fi for the 19th Hole Restaurant. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Jim Heberer was playing golf by #17 he noticed how many cars were going faster than they should and ask about speed bumps, need a set by #17 and a set for #15. They looked in the trap grounds shed and found 5 sets down there, they put 4 of the sets in baker park to slow the traffic down a little bit. Andrew Verstraete asked what would happen if I were coming by #17 and you hit my truck with a golf ball, Brian said you would have to come tell me. Brian said he has been asked before and people think that the park is liable, and the answer is no you need to get ahold of the person who hit the ball. If you cause the damage you need to pay for it not the park district, usually your homeowners’ insurance will pay for that minus a deductible. Jim Heberer even mentioned that there is a sign that says yield to golfers, Brian said even so that the golfer would be responsible. It is the same if someone’s car is hit by a baseball. Even though there is a sign posted to warn people about the golfers it is still the golfer’s fault if he hits someone or something, liability is on the person or child’s parents who hits the ball, that’s what he was told by the insurance company. There is sign on #17 saying that golfers are liable. Steve Brackett said that he was told by a lawyer he say that’s not true, the person taking the risk being in the park is responsible, but he said that, it was a long time ago like 20 years. Director Johnson said he is going to check with the park’s lawyer Justin Raver.

Jim Heberer mentioned putting a guard rail by #17 Steve Brackett noticed that and Andrew Verstraete asked where and he said by #16 green coming out by the curb going to #17 tee off around that curve there’s a drop off there and if your tires got off a little bit you could plunge down in there. Brian said you would not want something by the #16 long tee. Director Johnson said he will get a price on that and the guard rail.

Brian ask about the Friday night mixed couples league and when would they want the mid-season picnic, he need to put out flyers letting them know when it is. Jim Heberer suggested July 10th, Steve Brackett agreed that would work.

Alan Hammerick wants to schedule a game on the big field (pizza hut field) on July 4th at 4:30 and July 7th at 4:30 now you can only have 10 or less but looking forward to 50 or under, can we allow him to have games in July as long as we go into phase 4 of the governor’s plan? Jim Heberer does not see a problem if we go into phase 4, Brian sees no problem having 50 or under on the field is no problem. Andrew Verstraete agreed if it is in phase 4. Steve Brackett made a motion to have games when we go into phase 4 of the governor’s plan. Jim Heberer Seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**Director’s Report and Monthly Minutes**

The monthly meeting of the board of commissioners will be held on Thursday June 18, 2020 at 5:30pm. The annual Treasurers report will need to be passed at this meeting. A hardy congratulations to Commissioner Brackett for his Hole in One on Tuesday June 16, 2020. He said he hit a 7 iron, but I think it was a driver. Lol. As far as I know everyone will be here…

1. Bob Neirynck died on Saturday June 14th. We want to wish the family well and thank Bob for his dedicated years of service to the Windmont park lighting crew. Our sincere condolences to all who knew him. Terry called and said he wants to turn over the check book to the Kewanee Park District which has a balance of $19,000.00 in it. Bob Jacobs thinks the show can go on as normal as they have it down pat. All they need is a spokesman for the group.

**Jim Powell suggested to update the led lights that need to be. Director said that the whole electrical base that is used needs to be checked, suggested replacing the electrical and ask who has to approve that. Jim Powell mentioned that we need to ask Terry Neirynck or Bob Jacobs. Jim Heberer that we should ask them what they think about replacing the electrical. Brian thinks it would be a good idea to ask Bob what he thinks is needed now for the Windmont park lighting. The board agreed to have Director Johnson to talk to Terry Neirynck and Bob Jacobs about who they agree should be the spokesperson for the Windmont Par lighting crew.**

1. 3 on 3 Sand Volleyball Tournament is June 26, 27, and 28. I am happy to announce that is completely full. This should be a fun time for all.

**JR has been out edging the boarder and probably should add some sand in to that, so he has it raked and is getting it ready for the tournament. The 3 on 3 sand volleyball tournament will still be 10 or under Director Johnson asked if we should put a fence 30 around it to keep people back. Andrew Verstraete mentioned that he had got a call complaining about the volleyball tournament and not having baseball, he explained to her that with kids it’s a lot different that adults and they use bats and balls and sitting in a dugout and if one kid gets it and passes it along three kids get it, its not hard to figure out where it came from and if we disobey governor Priskter’s orders Brian said that we wont be covered under our insurance.**

1. Windmont Fence – I did receive a bid from Troy Waller from Interstate Fence and Terry Hall from T Hall Construction. I noticed they did not agree on the length of the fence but there is still a quite a difference in price Interstate - $32,760.00 and T Hall - $42,200.00.

**Jim Heberer asked does the bid include the gates. Brian called T Hall and Troy Waller and asked, T Hall said he was going to put the fence up to the gates, Troy Waller said the bid included 3 gates and 1 walk in gate with the fence. T Hall put in his bid for the north side fencing also and Interstate Fencing did not, if we want to put in a fence on the north side from beach street down page street to the fence T Hall had in his bid $4,230 he will take down the fence and we pull the posts and that would be on the north side. Brian ask Troy Waller if he would match T Hall’s price if we wanted a fence on the north side, $4,500 with the gates. Jim Heberer mentioned that Troy Waller’s bid will subtract $2,400 if the park tears out the old fence. Andrew Verstraete asked what account this is going to be paid from. Brian said our project G.O. fund and Andrew asked how much is in there, Christy checked and said there is $146,670 Jim Heberer made a motion to accept Interstate Fencing to remove and replace the fence at Windmont Park. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**Jim Heberer suggested asking Troy Waller about putting in a guard rail by#17 Andrew Verstraete suggested some posts and deck boards would be more attractive. Jim Heberer suggested getting with Dan Erickson and see what he thinks, maybe he has suggestions.**

1. Health Insurance – We did receive a copy of the renewal packet from United Healthcare for the year starting September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021. The monthly increase went from $9,516.00 to $10,088.30 which is a 6% increase. There is a lot of information to cover so I wanted to get it to you as early as possible.

**Jim Powell mentioned that it only went up 6% and last year it was 9% especially with health care today that is good. Jim Heberer agreed that it is a good price. Steve Brackett asked about not meeting ACA coverage requirements and is concerned about being compliant. Brian said he could get our agent Bob Hartwell to come to our next meeting and explain if Steve wanted him to. Steve thought that might be a good idea and maybe make changes and get it cheaper. Jim Powell mentioned that this is a grandfathered policy and we cannot get a policy like this again. Andrew Verstraete said if we lose this policy, we are going to lose some good benefits. Jim Heberer made a motion to renew the UnitedHealthcare Insurance package. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

1. Windmont shelter – we received a final payment from ICRMT in the amount of $12,016.43. We will in turn send it to Ser Pro when we receive a final invoice. Comcast is still working on getting internet to the shelter at Windmont. When they do, we will put in surveillance cameras.

**Christy had talked to Jason from comcast and he said that they would be out to Windmont tomorrow and start working on it. Originally, they thought they could just go out and simply hook it up, but they need more cable.**

1. Dan did receive the grinder that he ordered. It was in tough shape, but he says it will be fine and a much better way to sharpen reels (bed knives).

**Director Johnson said Dan thinks it got drooped in shipping and he is trying to get refunded for the condition that it was in when he received it. Jim Powell said he talked to Dan about the grinder and he is happy with the grinder, but it came in tough shape.**

1. The 19th Hole Restaurant is open for business and dining outside. We are happy to be open and will be happier when June 26th comes by and we can dine inside at least at half capacity.

**Director Johnson mentioned that the restaurant is fully staffed and is doing well Taco Tuesday which is the biggest night went well also. The Tuesday ladies league has not started up yet but think they will next week. Steve Brackett said that he would like to see the wall with the plaques be contained somehow, it’s a golf heritage and you go to any golf course they have something set high to show their history of golf at the golf course. Steve suggested by the cash register in the 19th Hole there is a door that goes out into the Veranda and that side of the Veranda isn’t used very often except to grill steaks, maybe put up a building there. We already have a wall and roof we only need three other walls and have a hall of fame or something that people can walk in and look around and see all of the nostalgia and things from the golf course. Jim Heberer ask what the dimensions of that area is, Steve mentioned north of the roof put a wall there and they can still grill out there against that wall. Jim Heberer mentioned that it would be a good place to put the child’s best friend awards and baseball stuff from the booster club that they had we can put all those awards in there to. Jim Heberer said he like the success with tee times and see a lot of advantages of having tee times especially for people out of town. Director Johnson said it is helpful, especially on the weekends. Jim Powell mentioned that he agreed with the tee times and if they call we can let them know it there’s a play day and what time they can golf that day, and that we need to get it out to the media that we are continuing to take tee times. Brian also mentioned that the 2 for one golf on Thursday and Friday’s which is very popular we have people that come from out of town and brings in a lot of guys. Andrew Verstraete asked Brian about setting up tee times on the internet and he said that he could get ahold of Mike Perva and see if he would do that. Also, Andrew mentioned about making it available to pay for golf online. Jim Heberer suggested that if a golfer golfed nine holes and decided that he had time and wanted to golf 9 more that he should only have to pay the difference of 18 hole price not the full price for 9 holes. Jim Heberer asked about guidelines if we have any guidelines on playing an extra 9 and Brian said that we do not currently. Andrew Verstraete asked Brian to make a list of guidelines for those that choose to golf another 9 holes. Jim Heberer made a motion to have Brian make a list of guidelines for those that chose to play a second set of 9 holes. Jacque Verscha seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**Jim Powell mentioned that last year we had 182 season ticket holders this year we have 111. Even though the numbers are less there are more that are paying as they play instead of buying a season ticket. Jim Powell talked to Brian and Dan about the tee markers that they are looking bad and would like to see them check into getting new ones, and no sponsorship on them. Brian suggested that when they are removed to offer them back to the people that sponsored them. Jim Powell mentioned that we would have to replace all 26 the course looks so good and the tee markers look bad, also he complemented the landscapers Sue Hartweg and Connie Cherrytree on doing a great job and asked Brian to have them landscape by #1 tee. Jim Powel mentioned painting the signs that show the hole numbers, they need it. Jim Heberer mentioned that he could see the big one being painted but we might be changing the others. Jim Heberer said that he would like to thank Brian, Christy, Larry & Steve for handling the golf when we were able to get started and they handled it well, he’d been in the office a few times when the phone is ringing and someone walked in the front door and someone wants to golf. He was thankful that we were here to collect the money and get them out to golf and let Steve & Larry know also. Steve Brackett mentioned that our greens are fantastic they are better than they have been in a long time. Andrew Verstraete said that Dan takes good care of them that is his pride. Andrew Verstraete asked if our employees get free golf, it was mentioned that the full time get free golf not the part time, he ask if the part time could get a discount on a season pass or on a single day pass since they are employees. Jim Heberer asked how many employees expressed interest in this? Andrew said he remember Terri Jones used to always ask when she worked at the 19th Hole. Jim Heberer mentioned that the starters get a pass and Andrew Verstraete said he did not know that and was okay with that.**

With nothing further to discuss Jacque Verscha motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.