

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 March 18, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

**Present:** President Andrew Verstraete, Commissioners, Jim Powell, Jim Heberer, Jacque Verscha, Steve Brackett, Jackie Garms (19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant), Susan DeVilder, (Star Courier) Director Brian Johnson and Secretary Christy Jackson-Ehnle.

**Absent:** None

President Andrew Verstraete called the meeting to order. The minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to accept the February 2021 minutes as written. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The minutes of the March 06, 2021 special meeting were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to accept the March 06, 2021 minutes as written. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The February 2021 Financial Statements was presented. The Board reviewed and discussed the Financial Statements. Jim Powell motioned to accept the February 2021 Financial Statements. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The March 2021 Bills for Approval were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to approve the bills for March 2021. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Ordinance No. 354 – With no changes made, Jim Powell motioned to accept the Ordinance No. 354 Annual Appropriation Ordinance, as written. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**Open Business:** Jackie Garms (19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant Manager) came to the meeting to discuss that it was mentioned to her that the second entry to the dining room at the restaurant was going to be closed off. She wants to keep both entry ways to the dining area to circulate traffic. Jackie also mentioned that she did not want the dining area when you walk in the front door converted into a sales area. It was discussed and decided that there are not going to be any current changes.

With no other open business to discuss, President Verstraete turned the meeting over to Director Johnson for his report.

## *Director's Report and Meeting Minutes*

- 1.) There are several events that we sponsor but with KHS changing all their sports season, we need to at least alter ours or decide if we are having the events in the first place.
  - a.) Easter Egg Hunt — Family Video is no longer in business so they will be taken off the Easter Egg Hunt. Do you still want to proceed with the hunt because of Covid? If so, Easter is April 4<sup>th</sup> so if we have it on March 27<sup>th</sup> we will still have enough time to advertise the event and time to get the candy. We do not need to bag the candy we can just give out handfuls if you want or we can bag the candy. Any volunteers to help?
  - b.) Day Camps — I talked to Sharon DeSmit who said she would agree to run 2 KPD Day Camp with 10 participants and 1 Special Needs Camp with 10 participants if we still wanted to do this program. Sharon expressed that this will be her last year for day camps and does not want to run the fishing derby this year so you will need to make other arrangements for the fishing derby.  
**The board agreed on the day camps dates for this year.**
  - c.) Oldeen Fishing Derby — We already have \$5,000.00 in our account from the Oldeen Family so I can order the fish to be delivered and even pay for them in advance, so all is ready to go on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>. You will need to have someone in charge of the event as Sharon is passing this year.
  - d.) Youth Golf Program — I feel we can continue with this program as normal. Jerry Bowers has already agreed to teach again this year and do the junior golf league as well.
  - e.) Soccer Program — KHS Soccer program starts on March 8 for practices with the first home game on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Their last home game is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Do you want to start the recreational soccer league in mid-April and have them finish before the recreational baseball season starts and then have baseball/Softball after the soccer season? What are your thoughts.  
**It was agreed to start Soccer in April and get the information out there so the kids can get signed up.**
  - f.) Baseball/Softball — KHS Baseball/Softball seasons run from April 5, 2021 to the middle week of June (Kewanee may have the regionals here —yet to be determined). KHS will be practicing 5 days a week so it will be too hard to coordinate at the same time as them for our league. Do we want to have a Recreational season that runs from the end of June to the second week of August for baseball/softball? What are your thoughts?  
It was discussed and after soccer and the KHS season is done that would work for baseball to start the season.
- 2.) Illinois Department of Transportation is having a big project on Route 78 coming into town on the west end. Looks like they are replacing the road and



adding an on-street bike lanes as well as off street Multi-Use path. I have attended a meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> to learn more about what is happening. The minutes to this meeting are enclosed in your packet.

- 3.) Scholarships — I have sent the scholarships to both the schools and asked if they would return them by May 4<sup>th</sup> in time for the Elections of Officers meeting so you can decide who wins in a timely fashion and get them names back to the schools.
- 4.) Child's Best Friend Award — I was wondering if the Board is ready to select the Child's Best Friends Award? Please think of nomination that you want to see brought up and if you want to award them at the Election of Officers Meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> or present them in the regular meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>? Sharon has suggested Henry County Health Department Ray Ann Tucker or U of I Extension Darcy Eggimann who both come out to the day camps.
- 5.) Dan asked if he should brick up the entrance doorway by the fountain drinks as he was asked to do that, and I said let me make sure there is a vote on that in the March meeting. Jackie said she would like to keep it as it is for viewing purposes from the kitchen so I said I would see what the Board wanted to do. Should we have Dan do this or Terry Hand who is a mason?
- 6.) Pay for Employees — Christy and I need clarification on how pay raises are going this year. Ray VanDeGenachte asked if he was getting another dollar and hour again this year as we took him to \$11.00 last year. I know if you are not making \$11.00 last year your pay will go up to \$11.00 an hour this year but if you were making \$11.00 or over before this year do, they get a dollar or just a quarter. We need to answer their questions with an answer that you all want us to give them.

**Jim Heberer motioned for .50 cent raise for 90-day employees that will not be affected by the minimum wage. Jim Powell seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

- 7.) Scorecards, Tee Markers, Fairway Markers —
  - a.) I have sent out for proof on the Tee Markers That I saw was approved in the last meeting. Fore Better Golf has sent me a proof of what the tee signs would look like. If we approve this proof that is what all tee markers will look like, with different yardages on them. The project needed to pay for before they sent the proofs. We should get a proof of every sign before they make them.
  - b.) Scorecards — I have sent out letters for the sponsors for the scorecards and the Flags for the next two years. It sounded like in the paper that you wanted to give the old sponsors a chance to get on the scorecards. As I currently sit, I have heard from 3 flag sponsors and no scorecard sponsors yet. How do you want me to proceed?

- c.) Fairway Markers — I have ordered 70 fairway markers (yellow) for the new tee points. We will need to put the yardages on them ourselves. The cost there is \$1365.00 plus shipping.
- 8.) Kewanee Womens Club would like to donate a tree to Northeast Park for Arbor Day and has asked if we would participate in the cost of the tree. They would want it bordered out with mulch and a cast bronze plate on it as well. How about they buy the tree, and we border it out and pay for the plate?  
**Jim Heberer motioned to get a 5 X 7 cast bronze plate for \$200.00. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**
- 9.) Acco — Pete Young from Acco said we are still on their list to repair the pool this spring. They cannot work with concrete and caulk until it warms up more than it is now. Keep your fingers crossed on this project and hope they do not find more damage than what we think?
- 10.) Golf Course — Dan said the golf course is ready to open whenever the weather straightens up. He said if people play now with private carts, just let them go. The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole's registers are ready to go, still working on a staff (nobody is applying because of the generosity of unemployment), and the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole is scheduled to open March 29<sup>th</sup> for half days.

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