

## JEL Chess Park Committee Minutes

Thursday April 17, 2025

**Present:** Michael Brunelle, Joe Diaz(zoom), Ben Marinelli, Kayla Marinelli, Bernadette Meade, Larry Morrison, Margaret Morrissey

1. February minutes were reviewed and approved

### 2. Updates:

- FOJEL 501c status still not obtained. Friends have concerns about their liability of funds usage if Chess Park Committee used their non-profit status for grants.
- Mr. Coen has completed the bidding documents. Bernadette will be meeting with him to obtain and will share with committee as soon as available.

### 3. Fund Raising

- Endorsements
  - Bernadette has reached out to US Chess Federation, The National scholastic Chess Foundation, MA Chess Association and CT State Chess Association. Will also contact smaller state chess organizations.
- Suggested Silent Donors
  - The suggested Silent Donor Price List was reviewed. Need to review our general donor list on the drive to determine who gives monies versus grants.
    - Kayla will send to Bernadette those names who do grants.
    - Bernadette will work on adding more names to the general list.
  - Margaret is discussing with Joshua Hyde library director concerning solicitation to organizations in Sturbridge
- Suggested Donor Price List
  - The list was reviewed and following changes were made.
    - Instead of metal plates on the chess pieces and chess sets, there will be a donor plaque displayed. This being that these pieces may be replaced due to theft.
    - Raise the chess tables to \$1000 donation
    - Bernadette will inquire to trophy places concerning cost of etchings/ metal plates/donor plaque
    - Donor Levels
      - Changes:
        - King: \$ 50,000 or above
        - Queen: \$20,000 to 49,999
        - Rook: \$10,000 to 19999
        - Bishops: \$5000 to 9999
        - Knight: \$1000 to 4999
        - Pawn: \$ 100 to 999
      - Consider etching the king (? queen) donors names on the chess board perimeter
- In person presentations
  - Need to begin to design high end professional leave behind handouts for donors

**4. PR**

- Bernadette is doing PowerPoint presentation to the JEL Board of Directors this month and to the FOJEL next month.
- Future presentations to community organizations in early summer

**5. Open Discussion**

- Kayla clarified that her fee varies according to time spent and is part of the 10% administrative fee written in the grants.
- Ben found Southbridge Middle School with a chess club and will make an outreach

**6. Next Meeting: Thursday MAY 15<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm – Pioppi Room**