

JEL Chess Park Committee Minutes

Thursday February 28, 2025

Present: Dave Adams (Zoom), Joe Diaz (Zoom), Ben Marinelli, Bernadette Meade, Larry Morrison, Margaret Morrissey

1. November 2024 and January 2025 minutes reviewed and approved
2. Updates/ Budget Development
 - a. Joe Coen stated that his joining of the TEC engineering company will not affect his previously proposed budget
 - b. Mr. Coen hopes to have bidding documents completed by the springtime. Bernadette will email him for an update
3. Fund Raising
 - a. The donation thank you letter was reviewed (thanks Larry for drafting) and edited
 - b. Review of Donor Letter (thank you Ben)
 - c. Discussion on time line of launch of fundraising with the conclusion to begin at the beginning of the fiscal year with approaching silent(pacesetter) donors in April/May
 - i. Need to identify these donors from potential grant sources on the drive
 - ii. Need to ask for ambassadors who could introduce us to these donors
 - d. Fund raising ideas
 - i. Direct mailings might be costly therefore consider emails, social media and direct solicitation
 - ii. Need to create presentation materials -who will fund?
 - iii. Have mock presentation practices
 - e. Other fund-raising ideas
 - i. Bricks, metal plates and etching on chess park pieces, paving
 - ii. Have donor levels: Queen, King, Rooks, Bishops, Knights and Pawns
 - iii. Need to determine price points for each of the above
 - f. Grant Application
 - i. Kayla applied for a Lowe's Hometowns program grant
 - ii. Her fee is part of the grant process
4. Chess Community Presences
 - a. Good attendance at Saturday chess club at JEL (thank you Ben)
 - b. Bernadette will call local schools to see if chess clubs exist or is there an interest in preparation for future chess tournaments in the spring
5. Next Meeting
 - a. Due to Bernadette's unavailability there will be **NO March meeting**
 - b. **Meetings will be changed to the third Thursday of each month – NEXT MEETING APRIL 17, 2025 5:30pm**