

JEL Chess Park Committee Minutes

Thursday October 17, 2024 – Pioppi Room

Present: Dave Adams, Janet Jenkins, Bernadette Meade, Margaret Morrissey

Meeting called to order at 5:45pm by Bernadette Meade (Google drive not available during meeting)

1. September Meeting minutes reviewed
2. Dave Adams and Janet Jenkins (JEL Board Member) Introduction
3. Updates
 - a. FOJEL 501c application still awaiting IRS staff assignment
 - b. Margaret and Bernadette presented PowerPoint on Chess Park to Southbridge Planning Committee – it was well received with appropriate questions by committee members concerning maintenance, security and funding
 - i. Dave Adams suggested next meeting with town manager in the new year (and probably every six months) to review project, i.e. bid procurement, EHS presentation and next steps
 - c. Joe Coen unable to attend meeting
4. Budget – no new additions
5. Fund Raising
 - a. Dave Adams made the following suggestions after reviewing the donations SOP
 - i. Can we use the town EIN for donations tax exemptions?
 - ii. Offered that the Veterans Council might be able to collect donations for the chess park and use their 501 C for tax exemptions
 - iii. Would we be eligible for the state heritage grant?
 - iv. Dave Adams discussed how the Veterans Council uses “see my legacy” as a fund-raising method
6. PR
 - a. All agreed on developing a JEL CHESS PARK Facebook page
 - i. Dave Adams noted the possibility of fundraising through Facebook- PayPal
 - b. Bernadette Meade presented template for updating JEL chess park website (handout on drive)
7. Next Steps
 - a. Make appointment with town manager for the new year
 - b. Follow up with Joe Coen
 - c. Consider time line for fund raising
 - i. Bernadette will outreach to Liz and Kayla
 - ii. Investigate further use of town EIN or Veteran’s Council for tax exemption
 - d. Development of Facebook page
 - e. Update JEL Chess Park Web site
8. **Next Meeting: Thursday November 21, 2024 5:30pm – Pioppi Room**