

JEL Chess Park Committee Minutes

Thursday June 26th, 2025

Present: Joe Diaz (zoom), Janet Jenkins, Ben Marinelli, Bernadette Meade, Margaret Morrissey

1) May minutes were reviewed and approved

2) Updates

- a) Friends' 501 c update:
 - i) Received approval from IRS of the 501c (3) for FoJEL .
 - (1) Friends have decided we cannot use the 501 for the chess park fund raising.
- b) Mr. Coan update:
 - i) The construction budget updated(handout)
 - ii) We heard from state we will need to use prevailing wage. Mr. Coan estimated this cost at least \$20,000.
- c) Town Manager (Michelle Hill) Meeting:
 - i) Will be setting up account with Unibank so will be able to pay by credit card in addition to cash/check
 - ii) Does not think we can use Venmo, PayPal etc.
 - iii) Will have a presence on the Town's website
- d) We have received endorsement from Mass Chess Association with the possibility of sponsorship. They are very interested in our school outreach and will be contacting Ben for further discussion.

3) Updated Budget

- a) An updated budget (handout) was reviewed – need to determine maintenance fee and outdoor sound system costs

4) Fund Raising

- a) Ben and Joe are working on the presentation documents. Should be ready by month's end
- b) Need to clarify further with town concerning use of their EIN for tax deductions

5) PR

- a) Meg is working on updating our PowerPoint presentation.
- b) Decided to not schedule town council presentation until the fall
- c) Next Presentation will be to the SBP on August 25

6) Next Steps

- a) Complete the presentation materials, including marketing pieces for the community awareness
- b) Follow up meeting with town treasurer

7) Next Meeting: – next meeting THURSDAY July 17, 2025 – 5:30pm