

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD RETREAT
804 PALMYRA STREET DIXON, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 31, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. President Ron Pritchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 Roll Call: President R. Pritchard - present
 Vice President - Shane Miller - present
 Commissioner - Rodney Frey - present
 Commissioner and Board Secretary- Keith Aurand - present
 Commissioner - Steve Pritchard - present
 Staff Present: Debra Carey, Executive Director
 Teresa Smith, Administrative Assistant

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- A. None

III. VISITORS

- A. Nathan Boyles from the Sauk Valley Hockey Club, and other interested parties were present to discuss the future of the Sauk Valley Hockey Club and the use of the roller hockey complex. The Hockey Club is considering offering deck hockey and is exploring additional ways to increase participation. Carey is scheduled to meet with the Sauk Valley Hockey Club on Sept 28th. Sign in sheet on file.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Long-range Planning
 Carey shared a document with the Board that was recently used as a working document for a staff meeting. The Board discussed the properties that require the most staff time and the parks that have limited use.

- B. Community Survey
 Carey indicated that prior to the referendum in 2000, requesting annexation of the Dixon Township, a survey was mailed to determine interest in building a pool and interest in raising taxes to build a new pool. An electronic survey to determine community attitude and interest could be utilized prior to a referendum regarding annexation. E-mail addresses can be purchased from an outside organization.

- C. Referendum
 Carey shared information from the attorney indicating that a question regarding annexation and asking the voters to build a sports center/pool cannot be on the ballot at the same time because the property owners that are being asked to annex into the Park District cannot vote on an issue until after they have been annexed into the park boundaries. Carey shared information from the WIXN radio website after a recent interview with President R. Pritchard.

- D. Feasibility Study
 No discussion.

- E. Sale of Properties

Carey reviewed the process for selling park properties and presented the Board with a list of parks that could potentially be sold to generate revenue. The Board discussed the current parks that have potential sale value and the process for selling the park property. The Board would need to create a resolution declaring the parks “unnecessary” by the district prior to any further actions regarding the sale of park property. Commissioner Miller indicated that we need to start planning for a referendum in 2020 to expand the park boundaries and use that money on programming that would generate revenue for the district. Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to begin the process for selling some of the park property. Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

F. Annexation

Carey indicated if the Plum Creek property is sold we would want to annex the property into the Park District prior to the sale. Commissioner Miller made a motion to start the process for annexation of the Plum Creek property into the Park District. Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

G. Master Plan

Discussion on having a formal document with long term goals included so that the public is aware of next steps for the Park District. Jim Berle, staff with the park has experience with preparing this type of document. Carey will request a proposal from Jim Berle.

H. Finances

Carey indicated that the Park District is limited by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) with no tax rate increases and a limited amount of debt allowed. Selling some of the park property would allow for revenue to sustain the Park District but other items also need to be considered including negotiation of some of the leases and reassessment of programs with limited use and/or higher costs associated with maintenance of the program.

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board returned to Open session at 9:45 p.m.

VII. ADJOURN

At 10:04 p.m., Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Frey, to adjourn.

Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

Signatures: _____ Date: _____
Ron Pritchard

_____ Date: _____
Shane Miller

_____ Date: _____
Rodney Frey

_____ Date: _____
Keith Aurand

_____ Date: _____
Steve Pritchard