

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD RETREAT
804 PALMYRA STREET DIXON, ILLINOIS
JULY 25, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. President Ron Pritchard called the meeting to order at 6:02 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
Denise Rodgers, Administrative Assistant

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- A. None.

III. VISITORS

A sign-in sheet is on file.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Referendum
President R. Pritchard said that the Park District needs a coherent message for the public as to why we are doing a referendum. Carey said that to increase the tax base, the District tried to bring in Dixon Township in 2000. The vote was 3,256 to 1,974 from in-district voters in favor and 860 to 254 against from out-of-district voters. The deadline for submitting the referendum for the March 20, 2018 primary election is January 2, 2018 and for the November 6, 2018 general election is August 20, 2018. Commissioner Miller presented to the Board "Helpful Hints for Successful Approval of Referendum" (attached) based on what Lee County found helpful for their jail referendum. He said that in order for the public to pass this the District needs to show a strong purpose; educate the public and have a clear question on the ballot; and have informational meetings.

Discussion then turned to devising boundaries. Discussion included using the School District boundary, Dixon Township boundary, or drawing our own boundaries.

Commissioner Miller asked if the purpose should be a sports center or to survive financially. Carey suggested that a survey be done to see what people want. It was agreed that the most saleable thing the Park District has to promote the referendum is Lowell Park. Commissioner R. Pritchard suggested that we have a meeting with all of the entities that use the Park District facilities for ideas.

The Board plans to meet with Burbach Aquatics, Inc. at their earliest convenience to get an idea of what an aquatics facility would require in cost for construction and maintenance.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Carey reported that a \$4,500.00 donation was received from the Reagan Run and a donation of \$10,000.00 was received from Ken & Carol Novak for the splash pad.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:20 p.m.

VII. ADOURN

At 8:38 p.m., Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Aurand, to adjourn. Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

Signatures:

Ron Pritchard

Date

Shane Miller

Date

Rodney Frey

Date

Keith Aurand

Date

Steve Pritchard

Date