

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Office
301 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385

March 26, 2009
Minutes

Members present: Ron Rasi, April Dipollina, Ginny Hogan, Ryan McNamara for Dan Steward, Joyce Baker, Bev Jackson, Fritz Gorst, Diane Harrington, Vicki Severin, Stan Soby
Others present: Mary McKay, Greg Lawton, Nancy Lasalle

Meeting called to order at 10:45 am.

1. Citizens' Comments: None.
2. Approval of Minutes: Tabled
3. Additions to Agenda: SECADD is looking for applications for a campership.
4. Correspondence: None.
5. Old Business
 - a. Camp Report
 - i. Camp Programs/Usage/Events
For March, there were 90 cabin users, 110 at special events and 6 volunteers. There are 289 reservations for the season to date. The Girl Scout jamboree is set for the weekend of May 15th. The Boy Scout jamboree will be in September.
 - ii. Passholder policy/access issues: No report.
 - iii. Signage/security: No report.
 - iv. Impact of State Budget on Summer Hiring
The request is in. DDS CO has contacted OPM directly about summer hiring. There is an informal sense that OPM's response would be favorable. Camp Harkness was top priority on the summer hiring list.
 - v. Physical plant
Maintenance staff are preparing to open camp: getting the water on, painting the floors in the bathrooms at the beach. There is a proposal to paint the dining room. DDS is looking for some money to 'dress up' the beach house. The cabin plan is a ways off, given the budget. Once the design is set, it goes to CO. From there, it goes through the bid process. Only then, does it go to the bond commission for possible funding. A bid is scheduled to go out in April for electrical work.
 - vi. Other

- b. Booster Club/Equestrian Program
 - Mary spoke with Cliff Kramm earlier in the morning. A meeting was scheduled for the following Thursday, with Mary, Jim Welsh, DDS's legal counsel and Cliff attending, to go over the user agreement, insurance binder and staff certifications. The Booster Club's position is that they have been providing a great service to the state for free. There was some concern expressed that statements about there not being a riding program have hurt fundraising. The Booster Club would like an agreement with a longer (5-10 year) timeframe and longer termination notice period. They would also like to be able to do some private riding as a fundraiser to help offset costs.
 - c. Camp Harkness Fund, Inc.: We have identified processes for obtaining and distributing funds required for 501(c)3. We have discussed a number of fundraising ideas.
 - d. Oak Hill Camp for Children with Autism
 - There has been good interest. We had planned to start with one cabin, but if the interest so far translates into campers, we would be using two cabins. After lining up some activities for that week, Linda Chamrad has been busy fundraising. Oak Hill's development staff have been assisting her as needed.
 - e. ARC/NLC Day Camp
 - There has been good interest. The price has been set at \$490/week. Two \$1,000 grants have been received.
 - f. Other: Food service is all set.
6. New Business
 - Ron suggested we make it better known that there was an accessible play area at Camp.
7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

Next Meeting: May 28, 2009 at Camp Harkness