

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
October 24, 2013
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Vicki Severin, Bev Jackson, Shannon Aiello, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Ginny Hogan, April Dipollina, Ron Rasi, Thomas Dailey

Others Present: Ernie Smith, Neil Cobleigh, Chris Pierce

1. Call to Order: 10:37 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

~Jackson Pierre-Louis motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Shannon Aiello.
Correction to read STS Gatehouse, all in favor. Ron Rasi abstained.

3. Public Comments:

~None

4. Correspondence:

~None

5. Additions to Agenda:

~None

6. Camp Harkness Fund

A. Monthly Report

~Marian to attend meeting later.

7. Old Business

A. Camp Report

- i. The transition of positions for Ernie and Chris is proceeding.
 - ~The lowest bidder for Brown Cabin renovations was not certified by the State.
 - ~The next bid was \$80,000 over funds available – bids will go out again with modifications in certain areas.
 - ~Some things may be taken out –no major eliminations.
 - ~Progressing towards December start date with anticipated completion in early spring.
 - ~Dining room projected finish also early spring, bathrooms to be completed in December and a January completion of ceiling and lights.
 - ~Vicki shared information on Fire Pit at Browns Cabins.
 - ~Questions were raised regarding accessibility and a safety wall around the pit.
 - ~Joyce expressed concern about a transitional edge from pit to grass to sidewalk for wheel chairs. Vicki shared picture brochures that showed a pit that would be designed with a 5 foot surround and 5 foot sidewalks.
 - ~Pit construction would coincide with Brown Cabin renovations.

- ii. Camp Usage/Events
~See attached
- iii. Vicki shared Camp Harkness newsletter.
~positive feedback from committee members.
~The upcoming Nov 3rd Motorcycle Run was discussed.
~Plans to repeat Summer Fest with possible Super Hero theme.
- iv. Bev and Vicki opened the discussion of Camp Hemlock's closing.
~Questioned its effect on Harkness camp attendance and usage.
~the loss of therapy pool.
~Possible respite opportunities for Camp Harkness.
~All agree it will impact service system.

B. Equestrian Program

- ~Camp Directors, Harkness staff and High Hopes staff had a very productive meeting.
- ~All agreed program went very well. Schedule issues and small fixes will be made for next summer.
- ~Discussion of High Hopes expanding their foot print at Harkness beyond summer to community outreach.
- ~Expanding would need a commitment from High Hopes, the state or a sponsor.
- ~Thomas will open discussion with state for a longer user agreement.
- ~Jackson commented the program can only enhance what Camp Harkness is doing.

C. Donation Policy

- ~April discussed with Carin the development of a Master Plan. A feasibility study to be done for future use and reference.
- ~The bench for the garden will be put on hold until fire pit project is completed as that area will also need benches.
- ~Bev felt the garden bench should be provided sooner, but agreed. She also discussed the plaque for the bench and how long it would take to prepare.
- ~Project completion early spring.
- ~Also discussed request to plant trees, the question of what type (invasive) and where they can be placed. This needs to be resolved with Master Plan.

D. Appointments/Reappointments

- ~Ron Rasi and Ginny Hogan had received their letters, both appointments complete.
- ~The Camp Harkness Fund seat has not been finalized. Stan will follow up with Nancy.
- ~April will contact a parent for possible appointment if needed.

8. New Business:

- ~None

9. Adjournment: 11:27 a.m.

Next Meeting: December 5, 2013 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by:

Shannon Aiello, Secretary