

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee**  
**Camp Harkness Office**  
**301 Great Neck Road**  
**July 28, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Thomas Dailey, Stan Soby, Dan Steward, MaryAnn Langdon, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Shannon Aiello, Ron Rasi, Vicki Severin, April Dipollina, Betsie Danforth

**Others Present:** Carin Mancini, April Hardy, Neil Cobligh, Chris Pierce

**1. Call to Order:** 10:37 AM

**2. Public Comments:** None

**3. Additions to the Agenda:** None

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

- June minutes amended to correct time of Summer Fest from 2pm to 6pm instead of 2pm to 7pm
- MaryAnn motioned to approve the June 23, 2016 minutes as amended. Jackson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

**5. Correspondence:**

- Vicki reported on April date for MS event

**6. Camp Harkness Fund:**

**A. Monthly Report**

**i. Play Group**

- April reported on Play Group event and presented a slide show of activities
- Great interaction from peer volunteers
- Well supported by Vicki and camp staff
- Results have been very positive
- A gathering of young parents in need of information was very successful
- Kelsey Harrington Foundation has funded more events thru December
- MaryAnn suggested trying to get volunteer assistance through Connecticut College once camp staff has left
- Ron's group donated \$5000 – will be able to give one campership

**ii. Summer Fest – July 30, 2016; 2pm-6pm**

- Vicki reported that Summer Fest is planned and ready to go
- Activities include crafters, llamas, bouncy house, raffle of quilt and baskets (each crafter will donate an item)
- Anna will do food – trucks were too expensive
- Cost will be \$5.00 which includes 2 tickets
- Two T-shirt designs will be sold

## **7. Old Business:**

### **A. Camp Report**

#### **i. DDS Updates: none**

#### **ii. Camp Usage/ Events**

- See attached
- Vicki gave June report
- All camps in session; campsites are in use and numerous groups are visiting and using the facilities
- MaryAnn suggested sending a message to Representatives stating how busy the camp is to emphasize its need during funding issues
- April will supply the link between Family Support Network and Camp Harkness Advisory Committee

#### **iii. Physical Plant**

##### **a. Status Report**

- Chris reported actions by crew
- Water line to garden is complete
- Toilet seats installed; four additional are needed
- Back wall at play scape fixed/ reset
- Coffee machine replaced
- Steam kettle being reproduced – will be ready in the fall

##### **b. Website Update: none**

##### **c. Respite:**

- Betsie teleconferenced on July 27, 2016 with Robin Wood and providers
- She requested clarification of her role as parent or representative for Camp Harkness
- The committee discussed:
  - Developing details about each location
  - Working on marketing materials/ website
- Vicki suggested that we determine if Camp will do Respite or Private Provider
- Identify the facility and what the facility can provide
- Notice of opportunity to providers through Robin Wood's office
- Each should be qualified Respite provider
- MaryAnn expressed her hope that UCP becomes involved
- Carin suggested facility infrastructure be looked at – maybe hire staff to be on hand

## **8. New Business:**

### **a. Gate Procedures**

- Limit of number of users was exceeded and the gate system crashed
- New options are being explored
- Difficult to reach anyone at the out of state company with which the Camp now does business
- Suggestion was made that the Camp swap over what it now uses for a system with bigger user capacity
- A letter will be sent to give temporary number until the problem is resolved

## **9. Adjournment: 11:34 AM**

**Next Meeting:** August 25, 2016 at Camp Harkness

**Respectfully submitted by:** Shannon Aiello, Secretary