

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
May 26, 2016
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Ron Rasi, April Dipollina, Vicki Severin, Bev Jackson, MaryAnn Langdon, Shannon Aiello, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Carin Mancini

Others Present: April Hardy, Charle Smith RoseAnna Smith, Neil Cobleigh, Karla Andrulot, David Andrulot, Kent Stanley, Ernie Smith, Chris Pierce

1. Call to Order: 10:47 AM

2. Public Comments:

- Stan spoke on behalf of the committee to recognize Ernie Smith and wished him the best in his retirement.

3. Additions to the Agenda

- Dune fence update
- DDS update
- Progress on repositioning the emergency call button in women's Dining Hall bathroom

4. Approval of Minutes:

- MaryAnn motioned to approve the April meeting minutes. April seconded the motion. Jackson abstained. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Fund:

A. Monthly Report

i. Play Group

- April reported on plans for Play Group
- She passed out copies of flyers
- April said the response was good but interesting because of the diversity of age groups
- The range of ages will create a challenge
- CHF will hire a certified person
- Additional support will be from summer staff

ii. Brick Campaign

- Brick Campaign is moving forward
- Vicki will meet with bank regarding direct deposit
- Applications will be on the web site by the end of the month

iii. Summer Fest

- Summer Fest plans are tentative depending on the staff situation

iv. Other

- Camp Harkness Fund awarded \$2000 to each camp for camperships or subsidies

7. Old Business:

A. Camp Report

i. Budget/ Summer Hiring

- Carin reported on the closing of Meriden Campus
- Two CLAs will also be closing, in Middletown and Lebanon
- Carin emphasized the need to show sensitivity to the concerns of individuals, families and staff impacted
- There will be meetings to address concerns
- Carin shared that the hiring process for Summer staff positions was in limbo due to bumping
- She and her staff are trying to absolutely balance everything to accommodate staff loss across disciplines (nurses, RTA, DSWI)
- Certain (DSWI) positions utilized for Camp require special certification but can be bumped
- DPH requires specific licenses and classes must be offered
- Carin will email advisory committee as they know things
- The committee acknowledges the time and effort Carin has given to a difficult and prolonged process

ii. Camp Usage/ Events

- Vicki gave April Report
- See attached
- Cabin users: 92
- Special Events Participants: 176
- Groups/ Agencies: 5
- Volunteers: 45
- Casino group volunteers completed several projects:
 - Mulched play scape
 - Compacted gravel stone dust in pavilion and overlook
 - Power washed cabins
 - Painted picnic tables and stove black on grills
- All cabins were full last weekend
- Some summer workers were present – gate, life guard
- Two more Mobi chairs that actually go in the water are available
- 6 positions are blocked at this point

iii. Physical Plant

a. Status Report

- Ernie reported that the super deck was completed thanks to the staff
- He met with High Hopes and walked the barnyard; they were very happy with the improvements
- Meetings with Kent and Neil will continue every other Tuesday
- Will continue with work orders
- Staff is repositioning the emergency button in the women's Dining Hall bathroom

b. Website Update

- Carin reported that there continues to be changes
- Nancy Kogut who worked in the office retired
- Sarah Abelli is taking care of camp passes

c. Camp Pass Application Process: no change

d. Dune Fence

- Vicki discussed a quote for a split rail fence along dunes in the amount of \$672
- A donation of \$500 has been made
- Vicki will ask CHF to make up the difference
- Carin will try to find money if effort to fund through CHF does not happen

e. Accessible Picnic Tables

- MaryAnn asked about accessible picnic tables – the example from catalogue didn't meet needs
- Carin commented on possibly having them built

8. New Business:

- Good bye to Ernie Smith
- Vicki thanked Ernie for all his hard work at the camp
- Thanks and appreciation was expressed by all members of the advisory committee
- Ernie shared his feelings and stated that it had been a blessing to work at the camp; he expressed that with each drive thru he enjoyed seeing the changes and improvements that had been accomplished during his time here
- Carin presented Ernie a certificate from Governor Malloy thanking him for 28 years of service

9. Adjournment: 11:33 AM

Next Meeting: June 23, 2016 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary