

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
January 24, 2019
Minutes**

Present: Stan Soby, Vicki Severin, Shannon Aiello, April Dipollina, MaryAnn Langdon, Betsie Danforth, Ron Rasi, Jackson Pierre Louis, Bev Jackson (tele conference)

Others Present: John Massicotte, Todd Perkins, Marty Donovan, Cres Secchiaroli, Kaicie Ware, Carol Ziogas, Jackie Staller

1. Call to Order: 10:33 AM

- Introductions

2. Public Comment: None

3. Additions to Agenda: None

4. Approval of Minutes:

April motioned to accept the December 2018 minutes. MaryAnn seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes were approved. Stan abstained.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Foundation:

A. Tax Status

- April reported status is official – the first tax forms have been filed

B. Event Planning

- Establishing regular meeting dates
- Foundation is sponsoring a dance with a DJ – the theme is to celebrate Chinese New Year (Year of the Pig)
- Discussion continues about scheduling Comedy Night
- Summer Fest plans include a Zucchini Contest (judging size), a race, recipes, etc.

C. Play Group

- A survey of Play Group parents was given to learn their preferences to make it responsive to their needs
- April will ramp up publicizing to increase attendance
- The group received a grant from LM William T. Christopher Fund for Children's Health

7. Old Business

A. Camp Report

i. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Vicki gave December report
- Vicki reported on Gift distribution in December and charted towns and people who benefited

ii. Physical Plant:

- Camera installed at front gate
- Sun Shelter #1 at Bath house to be rebuilt
- Interviews in process
- Replacing 12 cabin doors
- Requesting bids for Sun Shelter
- Waiting to be put on Agenda for Bond Commission for funding
- April has written a draft letter of Committee's support of building of the Shelter
- Signs will be installed at conjunction with camera
- System to acquire passes will come to Camp Harkness – ability to delete codes

iii. Youth Camp:

- April, Vicki and Betsie met with Kathleen Stauffer
- Discussed The Arc suspension of program and alternatives for the future
- The Arc will not do a program
- Kathleen offered her help in developing a new program
- Play Group participants give opportunity to make a continuum of need

B. DDS Updates

- Commissioner Scheff was reappointed by Governor Lamont
- Carin Mancini retired – restructuring
- Marty Donovan overseeing Camp Harkness
- Continue global outreach with families
- Positive impact of wage increase

C. Advocacy

- Request has been made for Governor Lamont to visit in June or July when camp is in session
- Contact new Legislators and reach out to those re-elected
- MaryAnn expressed concern about a bill to ban plastic straws and change to paper straws which is not appropriate for her and other individuals

8. New Business:

A. Election of Officers

- Slate – Stan Soby (President), April Dipollina (Vice President), Shannon Aiello (Secretary)
- Ron motioned to accept the slate as presented. Jackson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the officers were elected

B. Approval of Meeting Dates

- Jackson motioned to accept proposed meeting dates. April seconded. All were in favor and the dates were approved.

C. Other

- Committee agreed to purchase a Brick for Carin to be placed next to the existing one for her Dad
- Stan will continue to pursue Camp Security

9. Adjournment: April motioned to adjourn, MaryAnn seconded. All were in favor.

Next Meeting: February 28, 2019 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary