

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

**Present:** Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, Vicki Severin, April Dipollina, Bev Jackson, MaryAnn Langdon, Heather Dieberger (teleconference), Dan Steward

**Others Present:** , John Massicotte, Matthew Lewellen, Nina Harmon (Costco), Stephanie Green (Costco), Liz Taylor, Jackie Staller, Noreen Hills, Cres Secchiaroli

**1. Call to Order:** 10:44 AM

**2. Costco Presentation:**

Nina Harmon and Stephanie Green, representatives from Costco, attended today's meeting to bring awareness to the opening of an area store on November 14, 2019. They gave an overview of services and types of memberships available. Applications were left with Vicki for those interested and will be picked up at a later date.

**3. Public Comment:** None

**4. Additions to Agenda:** None

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

MaryAnn motioned to accept the September 26, 2019 minutes. Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**6. Correspondence:**

Response to SOTS Membership Survey – Stan submitted annual report with survey to the Secretary of State's office.

**7. Camp Harkness Foundation:**

**A. Activities**

- April reported that the Play Group is scheduled to meet October 26, 2019
- Attendance has increased and lots of publicity has been done

**B. Fundraising**

- Train Show scheduled November 9, 2019
- Flyers have been made and both clubs involved will look at set up space and schedule installation of models on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>
- Comedy for a Cause will be scheduled for the spring; the event is planned to be at the Eugene O'Neill Theater

**8. Old Business**

**A. Camp Report**

**i. Physical Plant:**

- John reported
- A lot of damage was done by a recent storm; clean-up is ongoing
- Excess sand in parking lot resulting from storm
- New general trades worker has been hired – very positive feedback
- Sail/ shelter – still investigating options to install

**ii. Camp Usage/Events:**

- Vicki gave September report (see attached)

**iii. Camp Operation:**

- Some summer staff positions are extended to October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Maintenance staff extended to November 7<sup>th</sup>

**iv. Security:**

- Stan has videos to share and has researched several links
- MaryAnn suggested coming together with other Camps to discuss what they are doing
- Vicki will contact Camp Association
- Dan suggested contacting schools to discuss their protocols

**B. DDS Updates**

- Cres reported
- Expanded Respite services in Putnam (to open in June)
- Meridian area services will be centrally located and open 365 days, offering longer stays in beginning phases
- Step-Down Unit is great success – received request for literature from another state interested in the model
- Moving forward with emergency transitional housing
- Working towards graduate placements
- Stan spoke to lack of rate increase for Providers – wage adjustment did not address other costs

**C. Advocacy Update**

- Stan in Washing ton, D.C. to focus on work force implications of funding at Federal and State levels

**9. New Business:**

**A. CHAC Vacancy Discussions**

- Stan requested suggestions as to how to fill vacant seat of Ron Rasi whose organization no longer exists
- Suggestions included representative from CPAC, schools, direct consumer, Parks and Recreation, self-advocacy, Pfizer, Electric Boat, Foxwoods or Mohegan Sun

**B. Thank You to Dan Steward**

- On behalf of the Committee, Stan extended a thank you to Dan Steward for his service
- Dan will be retiring as First Selectman on November 19, 2019
- All have appreciated his advocacy and support of Camp Harkness in the Town of Waterford

**10. Adjournment: 12:12 AM**

**Next Meeting:** Annual Holiday Celebration  
December 5, 2019 at Camp Harkness

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