

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee  
Camp Harkness Office  
301 Great Neck Road  
August 22, 2019  
Minutes**

**Present:** Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, Bev Jackson, Vicki Severin, MaryAnn Langdon, Betsie Danforth, Heather Dieberger, April Dipollina

**Others Present:** Todd Perkins, Luz Taylor, Marian Brown, Cres Secchiaroli, Phil

**1. Call to Order:** 10:38 AM

**2. Public Comment:**

Phil (?), a long-time camper, attended the meeting to discuss concerns with Brown Cabins. He suggested the possibility of exchanging cabins to those with more exits, such as switching Brown Cabins for Green Cabins to allow for more accessibility. Further discussion and options will be continued with maintenance and Camp Director.

**3. Additions to Agenda:** None

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

April motioned to approve the July minutes. Bev seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**5. Correspondence:** None

**6. Camp Harkness Foundation:**

**A. Summer Fest**

- Marian reported that the event was very successful
- A summary of activities proceeds at a meeting today after CHAC

**B. Play Group:**

- April reported yesterday's Play Group was cancelled
- Drum Circle will be rescheduled
- Evaluations were also delayed
- Brain storming helped some parents with tough issues
- Overall sessions are very positive
- Discussion continues on focus of 13-21 age group

**C. Activities**

- Revisit possible Comedy Night
- Motorcycle Run – 40<sup>th</sup> year for the event
- Vicki will attend an open house at Mikes Famous on September 20-21, 2019

**D. Train Show**

- Club members from both groups met and agreed on a date of November 9, 2019
- Vicki will coordinate the setup

**E. Fund Raising**

- Discussing options at next meeting

## 7. Old Business

### A. Camp Report

#### i. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Vicki gave July report

#### ii. Physical Plant:

- Todd reported activities include mowing and fixing leaks
- Options for the tree-root pruning – remove asphalt or cut down the tree
- An individual has accepted a new full-time position; start date is September 3, 2019
- Electrical issues in Blue and Yellow Cabins are being addressed
- Air conditioners overload systems – breakers cannot handle the demand

#### iii. Shelter:

- Funding request was not on the agenda of Bonding Committee yet - Efforts will continue
- Focus on capital equipment

#### iv. Sails: No contact

#### v. Camp Usage/ Events:

- See attached
- 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Motorcycle Run
- Open House on September 20-21, 2019
- Information table at Mike's Famous in New London from 10-2pm
- April suggested a letter of Thank you and appreciation be written to all those who work and maintain Camp Harkness
- Cres shared having conversations with Commissioner about Camp Harkness being the best example of collaborative efforts

#### vi. Security: Stan will follow up

### B. DDS Updates

- Cres reported
- Budget allowed graduates to be working
- Increase in Provider payments of 11%, mainly in wages
- Progressing with Step Down Unit – at full capacity
- Facilitating transitions to more permanent settings
- ETH- RFP's went out
- Emergency Transitional Housing possibly up and running by November
- Patricia West, Assistant to Regional Director, will attend CHAC meeting – undecided if she will become Vicki's new supervisor

### C. Advocacy Updates

- Stan will send something on behalf of CHAC to Commissioner addressing appreciation of Camp Harkness staff

## 8. New Business: None

## 10. Adjournment: 12:05 PM

**Next Meeting:** September 26, 2019 at Camp Harkness

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