

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee**  
**301 Great Neck Road**  
**Waterford, CT 06385-3825**  
**August 26, 2021**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Stan Soby, Heather Dierberger, Shannon Aiello, April Dipollina, Elisa Marcoux, MaryAnn Langdon, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Bev Jackson

**Others Present:** John Massicotte, Vicki Severin, Marian Brown, Myra Ortiz, Rob Brule, Chris Pierce

**1. Call to Order:** 10:50 AM

**2. Introduction of Committee and Welcome to Rob Brule, Waterford's First Selectman**

**3. Public Comment:** None

**4. Additions to Agenda:** Brick Ceremony

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

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

**6. Correspondence:** None

**7. Camp Harkness Foundation:**

- Marian reported that the Foundation membership met that morning to discuss future plans
- All agreed to meet again in September

**A. Play Group**

- April discussed Play Group activities, how the group was developed and who participated
- New coordinators will contact Elisa and Foundation members to set up a meeting
- Possible Drum Circle in September
- Marian offered the continued support of the Foundation
- Play Group activities continue to be limited to outside
- Heather asked for the cost of repairing the Playscape – John responded that he had the purchase order and was awaiting the parts to start the repairs

**B. Fundraising**

- On hold

**C. Fundraising by Other Organizations**

- Discussion of organizations that use Camp Harkness for fundraising
- Several members and staff expressed proposal of generating a letter to encourage organizations who use the facilities to make a donation
- John suggested that these additional funds would enable means of maintaining facilities and support additional staffing
- Marian made a motion to look at the usage guidelines for Camp Harkness
- Heather seconded the motion, and the motion was approved
- Stan suggested that the list of discussed ideas presented be sent to Myra Ortiz, the State Liaison

## **8. Old Business:**

### **A. Camp Report**

#### **i. Physical Plant:**

- John reported
- He continues to work on improvement specifications
- Gate purchase order has gone forward
- New booth is in the works
- Tree in garden area near Brown cabins have to be removed; the area is to be resurfaced
- Options to provide shade alternative were discussed
- Shower stalls in cabins
- Floors in Cottage 1 and 3
- Cottage 2 has new flooring and new shower stall
- Waterproofing on new pavilion to be applied tomorrow

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

- Elisa gave July report (see attached)
- Cabin users: Arc Day Program
- Special Events: none
- Visitors: 3013
- Turn arounds: 422
- Volunteers: 6

### **B. DDS Updates:**

- Myra reported: the DDS is preparing for a possible shutdown if Covid cases continues to rise

### **C. Advocacy**

- Governor's visit was a great opportunity for Advocacy
- The thank you to the Governor should include pictures
- Stan stated that there was an informational forum on Wednesday regarding the ARPA spending plan for Medicaid Home and community-based services
- He will send a link for the forum to committee members so they could review it
- The plan has been submitted to Federal Government but has not yet been approved

## **9. New Business**

- Bev wondered when the ceremony for the brick installation would occur
- Ordered bricks are in
- Vicki and Marian will review pathway and possible placement
- Elisa will make arrangements for the ceremony

## **9. Adjournment: 12:17 AM**

**Next Meeting:** September 23, 2021, at 10:30am at Camp Harkness

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