

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
August 28, 2014
Minutes

Present: Bev Jackson, Ginny Hogan, Thomas Dailey, Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, Vicki Severin, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Dan Steward

Others Present: Carin Mancini, Ernie Smith, Neil Cobleigh, Frank Provenzano, Denise Bevza, Charle Smith, RoseAnna Smith

1) Call to Order: 10:37 AM

2) Public Comments:

- Denise Bevza shared how overwhelmed she was by the success of the High Hopes riding program. She would like to be a community volunteer in helping expand the program for more than two months. Community volunteers with horse experience are needed to expand program and High Hopes staff will attend the September 25, 2014 Feasibility Study meeting.

3) Additions to Agenda: None.

4) Approval of Minutes: None.

5) Correspondence:

- A letter regarding fire pit at Brown Cabins. Discussion later in meeting.

6) Camp Harkness Fund:

- Marian Brown unable to attend.
- Vicki reported over 400 attended Summer Fest.

7) Old Business

a) Feasibility Study for Master Plan

- Frank reported that engineers and architects will return to camp on September 25 at 1pm to review progress.
- Vicki reported architects had previously toured camp for several hours
- Interviewed Jen and Shirley in regard to what works for each camp.
- Jen shared input as to what works in ARC camp area
- More information is needed from tent site users
- Address awareness issues of parking and driving speed in tent site area by pavilion users.
- Carin suggested summer workers should caution individuals and pass out regulations.
- Regulate parking in grill areas by individuals using pavilions
- Vicki is thinking of writing a letter description of Camp Harkness to tell users it is a "Peaceful Retreat" for individuals.
- Carin suggested we table the discussion and bring back thoughts and plans to put in place for next summer.

b) Camp Report

i) Physical Plant

- Brown Cabin floors are slippery
- Erine has a solution to the problem.

- Bev shared how beautiful the cabins are completed.

ii) UCP Fire Pit

- Bev shared concerns that the design does not accommodate wheel chairs
- She felt individuals had no input on the design and had further concerns about height of the fire pit which they can see and feel the heat, but not accessible to their wheel chairs
- Frank apologized for the oversight and shared design meets safety concerns for individuals with mobility issues
- Discussed issue to make pit higher or lower, Ernie stated it meets present ADA standards
- Thomas suggested higher for safety issues
- Stan suggested wider
- Carin suggested research and feedback on what has been done in other areas
- Frank, Ernie or architect will look at issue over the next month

iii) Master Plan

- Meeting September 25, 2014 at Camp Harkness

iv) Camp Usage/Events

- See attached
- Vicki reported camp is still in session
- July was very busy- over 12,000 users
- August-over 13,000 users: camps ended mid-month
- Summer staff approved until October. Individual who stay will help with special events

c) Membership/Appointments/Re-appointments

- Stan reported Joyce Baker (camp user/pass holder) resigned. He is looking for a replacement.
- No information regarding Betsy Danforth
- Charle Smith- still waiting

d) Other

i) Cedar Palms

- A vendor at Summer Fest who builds natural arbors wishes to donate one to the camp. Designs create natural patterns. Two choices were given. Vicki and staff will decide which for possible placement at sidewalk into Butterfly Garden

8) New Business

a) Bingham Beach

- Dan Steward reported notifications of the sale of Bingham Beach by family members who offered the property to the town or the public
- Right-of-way on Camp Harkness property could create issues with unwanted public influx and parking problems
- At present an offer of \$189,000 has been made
- Dan can propose to the town and state that money be raised to make a counter offer
- Dan will ask for an option to pursue
- Ginny motioned that Dan pursue option to purchase of property for Camp Harkness.
- Jackson seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

9. Adjournment: 11:53AM

Next Meeting: September 25, 2014 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary