

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
December 7, 2017
Minutes**

Present: Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, April Dipollina, Ron Rasi, MaryAnn Langdon, Bev Jackson, Betsie Danforth, Thomas Dailey, Vicki Severin

Others Present: Neil Cobleigh, Kent Stanley, Heather Dierberger, Brian Dierberger, Commissioner Jordan Scheff, Carin Mancini, David Andrulot, Karla Andrulot, Charle Smith, RoseAnna Smith, Sen. Paul Formica , Shelley Bonner

Annual Holiday Brunch

1. Call to Order: 10:55 AM

- Stan welcomed special guest Heather Dierberger to the Annual Holiday Brunch. Heather is a parent from the Play Group who initiated the online petition to Save Camp Harkness. The petition amassed 20,000 signatures. Heather was accompanied by her husband Brian Dierberger.
- Commissioner Jordan Scheff and Senator Paul Formica were also welcomed as special guests.
- The Advisory Committee and others present made introductions and welcomed guests.
- April presented a book compiled of the 20,000 signatures to Commissioner Scheff; she emphasized that the petition to save Camp Harkness gave a voice to our kids.

2. Public Comments: None

3. Additions to Agenda:

- April's presentation
- Thank-you to Heather Dierberger
- Thank-you to Betsie who worked on the petition presentation
- Thank-you to Shannon – a volunteer at the Play Groups

4. Approval of Minutes:

Ron motioned to approve the October minutes. April seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Fund:

A. Updates

- Play Group hopes it continues to grow
- Cycle Gift Run – less participants; need this year was greater

7. Old Business

A. Camp Report

i. Camp Usage/ Events – see attached

- Vicki gave October/ November reports
- October
 - Cabin users: 238
 - Special Events Participants: 2,292 – included Movie Night, Play Group, Road Race for the ARC, Yoga, IFS Retreat
 - Total for the month: 2,530
- November
 - Cabin users: 104
 - Special Events Participants: 635 – included Motorcycle Gift Run, Play Group, Nutrition Cooking Group
 - Total for the month: 739
- Vicki is still distributing gifts from Gift Run

ii. Physical Plant

- Kent reported that the staff continues to winterize the Camp

B. DDS Updates

- Commissioner Scheff acknowledged staff and the hard work of maintenance throughout the State
- Budget passed a start; federal level actions may undo local efforts
- DDS not the biggest loser; strong advocacy helped awareness
- Graduates – three regions told to move forward
- People first language procedure released
- Permission from DDS IT to move forward with Atlantic or Comcast to establish Broad Band
- Liability agreement needed
- Dan Steward shared contact information of specific officials at Atlantic with Carin
- Focus on DDS mandatory training on abuse/ neglect

8. New Business:

A. 2018 Meeting Schedule

- April motioned to approve the schedule; Bev seconded the motion. All were in favor and the schedule was approved

B. Brick Purchase

- The group discussed and decided to purchase a Brick for Ginny Hogan.
- An invitation for the presentation will be sent to her family who will also receive a certificate
- Presentation will possibly be in June

9. Adjournment: 11:40 am (needs confirmation)

Next Meeting: January 25, 2017 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary