

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
September 28, 2017
Minutes**

Present: Betsie Danforth, Stan Soby, April Dipollina, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Ron Rasi, Shannon Aiello, MaryAnn Langdon, Bev Jackson

Others Present: Mary Cahill, Carin Mancini, Phil Stanley, Joe Zinko, Neil Cobliegh, April Hardy

1. **Call to Order:** 10:42 AM

2. **Public Comments:** None

3. **Additions to Agenda:** None

4. **Approval of Minutes:** Tabled until next meeting

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Camp Harkness Fund:**

A. Fund Raisers

- Selling T-shirts at Strides Race

B. Play Group

- Second Mentoring training
- Members have dwindled due to other commitments – small but productive group
- Parents responded on what they would like to see in the future
- Parents talking to other parents compiled a list of resonating statements

C. Other Activities

- April shared that Heather will be recognized with the Family Support Network Empowerment Award for the 20,000 signatures she initiated on the online petition
- Invitations to presentation will be sent to Senator Formica and Representative McCarty
- Stan suggested that 20,000 thank you's be presented to the Governor
- Betsie suggested that some type of visual presentation be made; she will work on ideas
- It was suggested that the Commissioner be invited to the October meeting

7. **Old Business**

A. Camp Report

i. Camp Usage/ Events – see attached

- Neil gave the August report
- August was the busiest month
- Cabin users: 573
- Special Event participants: 2,836
- Tent campers: 212
- Residential Campers: 93
- Day Visitors: 6,199
- Volunteers: 12
- Total for the month: 10,013

ii. Physical Plant:

- Joe reported that the staff were dealing with the following issues:
 - Generator for sewage pump resolved
 - New batteries in two-way radios
 - New gutters outside Dining Hall
 - PVC lines for gate (3) to redo electric, cable and phone; will trench road on Tuesday
 - Winterize some of the buildings at the end of the month

B. DDS Updates

i. Future Status of Camp/ Closure:

- Remains positive
- Continue to emphasize public/ private relationships

ii. Carin Reported:

- Going forward with 10 CLA conversions; less than the 30 originally planned and no job loss
- New Deputy Commissioner Peter Mason
- No budget yet
- Gate issue unresolved for many months; Many stake holders to come together
- Users to have a copy of application to enter
- Gate will be open with no attendant after last of summer staff leaves
- Ron wondered about installation of a surveillance camera
- Carin proposed one with a 30-day loop

C. Advocacy

- Petition/ possible presentation
- Discussion proceeded as to what form of presentation should be given to the Governor
- April and Betsie will look at the options

D. Policy: Use of Drones

- No development about written policy
- Joe reported that 5 signs have been purchased (standard within the USA) and will be placed throughout camp
- Carin suggested adding "No Drones" to Camp Harkness rules before sending out packets

8. New Business:

- MaryAnn asked about progress of Eagle Scout project; Neil with check with Vicki

9. Adjournment: 11:31 AM

Next Meeting: October 26, 2017 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary