

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
301 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385-3825
August 25, 2022
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, Heather Dierberger, Bev Jackson, Elisa Marcoux, Betsie Danforth, MaryAnn Langdon

Others Present: Chris Pierce, John Massicotte, Carrie Rogers

1. Call to Order: 10:37 AM

Introduction of Advisory Committee to Carrie Rogers who is the new supervisor of Elisa Marcoux

2. Public Comment: None

3. Additions to Agenda: Grab bar at Beach House

4. Approval of Minutes: Betsy motioned to approved minutes. MaryAnn seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Foundation:

A. Fundraising

- T-shirt order with new designs has been received
- Continue to sell bricks; brick dedication ceremony scheduled for September 11th
- Fall Festival has been slated for Saturday, October 16th – we are still looking for vendors and food trucks

B. Garden Maintenance

- Garden cleanup scheduled for August 22nd was cancelled due to rain – will reschedule
- Pump in fountain was removed – a new one was ordered and installed
- Continuing to recruit volunteers for garden cleanup

C. Playground

- Fall Festival event is planned for Playground fundraising
- Vendor tables will be \$25
- Admission will be \$5 per car

D. Activities

- Picnic and opportunities to chat with Play Group parents for today, August 25th

7. Old Business:

A. Camp Report

i. Physical Plant:

- Chris reported
- Paving will start in the spring for certain areas of Camp
- John has resolved issue with Yellow and Blue Cabins regarding additions
- Signs were ordered to use as animal deterrents
- Concrete pads installed for gliders
- DOT grinded stumps of trees that were removed
- Discussion of water issue on Beach Road – MaryAnn questioned the water buildup at the intersection
- John responded that the area is to be raised
- Interior of all Brown Cabins were painted
- Flooring in Brown Cabins was replaced

- MaryAnn expressed concern with the grab bar at the Beach House – she stated that it moves when she grabs it and wondered if there could be a lock button added
- Chris will try to resolve the issue with the grab bar
- John shared screen of proposed changes for Beach House to provide for privacy, resolution of water issue, and toilet sizes to make fully accessible
- He also showed proposal for new flooring, new fixtures
- He will share the proposal with the group via email
- Broken water lines required Camp users not to drink water last week
- Summer staff was excellent – all worked very hard to maintain the Camp
- Discussion of water issue with John – situation required water to entire Camp to be shut off
- The system is antiquated and needs to be upgraded
- Plans to re-do outside shower, provide dishwashing area for campers at sites
- The current electrical situation requires that Camp be shut down for repairs
- John would like a system that would only shut-down portions of the Camp for repairs
- Bev questioned why the Dining Hall is locked – John responded that it was due to the misuse of kitchen facilities
- He stated that protection of the Camp is a priority – expensive equipment in the kitchen area requires certified operators

ii. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Elisa gave report for July (see attached)
- Summer camp: the Arc and Sunrise Northeast
- Tent campers: 215 families
- Day visitors: 2375
- Group agencies for picnics: Waterford Public Schools, Griswold Public Schools, Groton Park and Recreation, Project Genesis, IFS, Down Syndrome
- On August 10th, the Governor’s Horse Guard came to visit
- New supervisors at Camp are: Carrie Rogers and Eric Carrero

iii. Master Plan:

- John will meet with Carrie to discuss and prioritize needs

iv. Reservation System:

- John will meet with Carrie to discuss previous progress

v. Policy on the Use of Camp for Fundraising Activities:

- Issue still under discussion

vi. Dan Steward Memorial:

- Two options were suggested by John
- Committee will work with Foundation members to fundraise

vii. Playground Update:

- Elisa stated that we are still waiting for proposal and actual blueprints for the Playground

B. Advocacy:

- Many new legislators to be elected
- Continued efforts to educate them on the needs of our community

8. New Business: None

9. Adjournment: 11:31 AM

Next Meeting: September 22, 2022, at Camp Harkness and via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary