

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
October 25, 2018
Minutes**

Present: Vicki Severin, Shannon Aiello, April Dipollina, Bev Jackson, Ron Rasi, Betsie Danforth, Heather Dierberger, MaryAnn Langdon

Others Present: Carin Mancini, Nick Capozza, Todd Perkins, John Rogers, Luz Taylor

1. **Call to Order:** 10:40 AM

2. **Public Comment:** None

3. **Additions to Agenda:** None

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

September minutes were amended to say, "Brown Cabins". MaryAnn motioned to approve minutes as amended. Betsie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Camp Harkness Fund:**

A. Tax Fund Status

- The official name is now Camp Harkness Foundation. All documents will reflect the name change (paperwork, correspondence)
- Scott has met and understands responsibilities

B. Activities

- Develop a calendar of regular meeting times and possible alternate choices
- Play Group field trip not well attended
- April reported Caregivers Retreat on October 20, 2018 sponsored by Family Support Network was very wonderful. The focus was on self-care and stress reduction
- 37 registered for the event and 11 attended
- Activities included journaling, collaging, guided meditation and walking the labyrinth
- Evaluations were very positive
- Plans are to have future gatherings

C. Fundraising Plans

- Heather launched a Go Fund Me page with a goal of \$5,000
- The account is presently at \$1400-1500 – a portion of that will go to the fund administration
- Heather is working on how to continue to share the post - you are only allowed to share once
- 191 people shared on Facebook
- She opened a Change.org page to post updates sharing information from the Go Fund Me page

7. Old Business

A. Camp Report

i. Physical Plant:

- Safety Concerns:
 - Winterizing of Camp is still in progress
 - Pits to shut off water are not OSHA approved
 - Future plans will be to replace pits with curb shut off
 - Need certified individual to do the procedure
- Maintenance Activity
 - Status of shelter (Pavilion) and erosion at Beach unknown
 - Todd will make contacts to move forward
 - Vicki commented it will be good to know for planning for spring starting point
- Recycling
 - No action – possibly next season

ii. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Vicki gave September Report (See attached)
- Total for the month: 4,231
- Motorcycle Run scheduled for November 4, 2018

iii. Camp Security:

- No report from Stan

iv. Youth Camp:

- Betsie, Vicki, April and Shirlee from Oak Hill met to discuss and develop a plan of action
- The group would like to meet with The Arc to discuss challenges
- Issues of space, cabin use and change in schedule will be discussed
- Betsie checked with UCP to inquire if they might be interested in running the program
- April commented that the need for Youth Camp will be impacted by Play Group participants
- A meeting is proposed for November

B. DDS Updates

- Conversions continue
- Job Fair for impacted employees
- Work crew at Camp Harkness now operated by The Arc
- David Connors is temporary office assistant – he delayed his retirement to help
- Carin, Vicki and Shannon continue interviews for an office assistant – a decision will be made by the end of today and an offer will be made next week
- Carin will submit the paperwork

C. Advocacy

i. Disability Rights CT Candidates Forum:

- Report out by attendees
- Bev, MaryAnn and April attended
- They shared that they would have liked to have seen more individuals with disabilities attend

ii. Election Day Reminder:

- Tuesday, November 6th, 6:00 AM to 8:00PM

8. New Business:

- Motor Cycle Run – November 4, 2018
- Vicki requested volunteers arrive by 11:00 AM
- DDS Family Services team will take over gift card distribution
- Bev brought in several knitted items that were donated
- Vicki will send a thank you for them
- Carin and Vicki will also send a letter to remind people of Camp Harkness policies addressing the disruptive behavior encountered by Bev and others

9. Adjournment: 11:45 AM

Next Meeting: December 6, 2018 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary