

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
January 23, 2020
Minutes**

Present: Stan Soby, Bev Jackson, Betsie Danforth, Heather Dieberger, April Dipollina, MaryAnn Langdon, Shannon Aiello, Vicki Severin

Others Present: Matt Lewellen, Chris Pierce, Pete Cavanaugh, Marian Brown, Mary Cahill

1. Call to Order: 10:45 AM

2. Public Comment: Pete Cavanaugh, a long-time employee of the State, attended today's meeting. He stated that he intends to stay involved with Camp Harkness.

3. Additions to Agenda:

- Update of status of UCP Camp Program
- Update on Sun Shelter

4. Approval of Minutes:

No quorum was obtained at December meeting. Notes were taken and received by members present today; no need for a vote.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Foundation:

A. Play Group

- April reported that sixteen children were at the last meeting
- The group was awarded the grant to continue from the William T. Christopher Fund
- Developing a calendar of upcoming sessions
- Events scheduled include Train Show on November 6th, 7th and 8th
- Vicki, April and MaryAnn Cahill met the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut to assist as a partner in donations; will continue to discuss this option
- Met with Sigfrigson Builders regarding proposed shelter and they will develop plans

B. Fundraising

- Moving ahead on Comedy for a Cause
- Heather suggested a Walk-a-thon with information to be shared on social media

7. Old Business

A. Camp Report

i. Physical Plant:

- Chris reported
- Air conditioning units are being inspected
- Chris met with Vicki on scheduling and coordinating with Casino volunteers
- Matt is coordinating with John Massicotte on shelter repairs

ii. Camp Usage/Events:

- Vicki gave December report (see attached)
- Gift cards and gifts from Motorcycle Run were distributed to families of South Eastern region

iii. Camp Operations:

- Camp Director's meeting is scheduled
- Uncertainty regarding UCP Camp – interviewing directors
- Stan contacted Cres Secchiaroli regarding status of UCP Camp
- Suggestion to communicate with Central office to clarify what's going on and get a definitive answer

iv. Security:

- No update

B. DDS Updates

- Review Legislative packet for upcoming session

C. Advocacy Update

i. CHAC Vacancies/ Representatives

- Placeholder language to be changed to include Mental Health Consumer, Local Special Education Director

ii. Legislative

- Governor Lamont to announce plan to cap Medicaid at 3%
- February 19, 2020 – the Arc of Eastern Connecticut Family Hearing Day

8. New Business:

A. Meeting Calendar for 2020

- April motioned to approve the calendar. MaryAnn seconded the motion. All were in favor and the Calendar for 2020 was approved

B. Election of Officers for 2020

- Slate of Officers was presented:
 - Stan Soby – President
 - April Dipollina – Vice President
 - Shannon Aiello – Secretary
- Motion to approve was made by Bev. MaryAnn seconded the motion. All were in favor and the slate of officers was approved.

C. Sun Shelter

- Plans for shelter were distributed for review
- Will be forwarded to John Massicotte for review and any questions

10. Adjournment: 11:54 AM

Next Meeting: February 27, 2020 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary