

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
301 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385-3825
March 24, 2022
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, Heather Dierberger, Jackson Pierre-Louis, April Dipollina, Bev Jackson, Elisa Marcoux, Betsie Danforth, MaryAnn Langdon

Others Present: Chris Pierce

1. **Call to Order:** 10:35 AM
2. **Public Comment:** Shannon shared the passing of Enrico DeMatteo, a once member of the Advisory Board and LEA for Waterford Schools
3. **Additions to Agenda:** None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Notes from last meeting; no quorum
5. **Correspondence:** None
6. **Camp Harkness Foundation:**
 - A. **Play Group**
 - April suggested Play Group be removed from agenda since it is no longer in session
 - B. **Fundraising**
 - No update
 - C. **Playground**
 - Elisa reported that the Playground Committee liked the presentation by O'Brien and Son
 - She requested input as to what add-ons others would prefer to have
 - Suggested placing a donation bucket with a pictured design of the proposed playground for groups that utilize the Camp
 - Existing playground is up and running for the season
 - Heather questioned what funding sources were used by other parks
 - Elisa shared that some funds come from Bond monies
 - Stan suggested that they give the Department an opportunity to hear the plan and respond
 - At this time, maintaining the existing park should continue but things should move forward with the need for a new park on the radar
 - Stan and Jackson will speak to Peter
 - Elisa with Cres
 - A possible event planned in September with service dogs, food trucks, vendors, and other activities
7. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Camp Report**
 - i. **Physical Plant:**
 - Chris reported
 - Next week kitchen will be up and running
 - Cottage 3 set for year-round use
 - Cottage 1, 2 and 3 bathrooms converted over to shower stalls
 - Frontier installed fiber optic cable from street
 - Bench issue resolved – awaiting placement
 - Tree work bid submitted
 - DOT has grinded stumps
 - DOT to clean dumpsite
 - Replacement furniture from group homes to be put in several cabins

- MaryAnn repeated her suggestion that the family bathroom at the beach needed another grab bar
- Chris will address the issue when shown where it needs to be placed
- Bev has a shower chair she wishes to donate
- Elisa will look at it – it could possibly be used in the family bathroom
- Reservation system – no results

ii. Policy for Use of Camp for Fundraising:

- No update

iii. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Elisa reported for February (see attached)
- Cabin users: 5
- Day visitors: 425
- Volunteers: 19
- Elisa reported that there was a very productive meeting with Master Gardeners
- Camp Directors meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, April 29th
- Proposed dates for Camp sessions:
 - ✓ Sunrise – June 27th until August 2nd
 - ✓ The Arc – June 20th until August 9th
 - ✓ Oak Hill – June 6th until August 5th
- March 22nd Job Fair had low attendance

B. DDS Updates:

- DDS staff otherwise committed

C. Advocacy:

- Continue to contact Legislature, State Senators, and Representatives
- Stan will send out talking points

D. Dan Steward Memorial:

- Stan sent a note to Dan Steward’s wife regarding dedicating a bench

E. Sun Shelter:

- Betsy questioned use of donated sails for the sun shelter
- Chris responded that the sail design will not work with what was proposed to be done
- He will contact John to have them returned

F. Paving:

- MaryAnn questioned when paving from Brown Cabins to Dining Hall would be completed
- Chris responded that he was working on the issue

8. New Business:

- Stan suggested outdoor meeting for April 28th
- Jackson shared he has requested that Southbury find a replacement for his position; he has too many other commitments

9. Adjournment: 11:58 AM

Next Meeting: April 28, 2022, at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary