

Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
301 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385-3825
July 28, 2022
Minutes

Present: Stan Soby, Shannon Aiello, April Dipollina, Bev Jackson, Elisa Marcoux, Betsie Danforth, MaryAnn Langdon

Others Present: John Massicotte, Carrie Rogers, Melissa Kremmel

1. Call to Order: 10:41 AM

2. Public Comment: None

3. Additions to Agenda: None

4. Approval of Minutes: Tabled until next meeting

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Foundation:

- April read a written report sent by Marian Brown

A. Fundraising

- A T-shirt fundraiser is planned
- Continue to sell bricks; ceremony planned for the fall

B. Garden Cleanup

- Planned garden clean up for August 22nd
- Marian will send out flyer to recruit volunteers
- Marian, Shannon and Vicki continue to work on clean up of garden
- Fountain in garden is not working – will remove and replace

C. Camper-ships

- Camper-ship funds were given to the Arc and Sunrise camps
- Foundation also funded camper participation in an outing to the aquarium

D. Playground

- Foundation will assist with fundraising
- An account at Chelsea Groton Bank has been set up
- The foundation made an initial donation of \$1000

E. Activities

- Melissa state that there may be possible Play Group activities later in the month
- will assist with fundraising

7. Old Business:

A. Camp Report

- The Advisory Committee was introduced to Carrie Rogers, the new supervisor of Camp Harkness

i. Physical Plant:

- Elisa read a report submitted by Chris Pierce
- Paving awaiting last quote
- Gliders being installed at beach
- Concrete installed under pavilions to provide ease of mobility
- Super deck is out on beach
- John met with DEP regarding beach road
- John reported that there was a need to be sensitive to the wetlands – to properly maintain them and not affect the salt marsh

- Maintain control of Phragmites
- Add on to Yellow and Blue Cabins is in the bidding process
- Andrew has repaired floors in Yellow and Blue Cabins for the season
- Andrew is now facing a health crisis – our thoughts and prayers go out to him
- Trees removed and DOT will be stump grinding soon
- Walter is working with summer staff to re-do Nature Trail
- Green Cabins have new roof and contractor will replace doors as soon as they come in
- Brown Cabins and office have been painted inside and out
- Shelter with new paving – need new roof and repairs
- Map has been put at entrance at roadway – it was designed by Elisa’s son
- John is working on types of lighting– 2 types of pole lights (possibly solar) primarily to facilitate safety but not look unnatural
- Will install grab bars next week
- Purchase order submitted for power operator for door
- Bev questioned shade for the Boardwalk
- Elisa responded that several of the tents used in the past have been lost
- John suggested research into purchasing the proper type
- Tree removal near Brown Cabins awaiting contractor to install sun screen
- Bev stated that the new shelter has been utilized frequently for events at the Brown Cabins – a wonderful addition to that area
- New maintenance employee has been assigned to Camp

ii. Camp Usage/ Events:

- Elisa gave report for June (see attached)
- Summer camp started for the Arc and Sunrise
- Tent campers: 22
- Day visitors: 1300
- Volunteers: 15

iii. Master Plan:

- John reported that they are looking at proper storage for the Camp
- He will look at plan with Carrie to prioritize needs

iv. Reservation System:

- On hold

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

- Stan will continue to pursue

vi. Dan Steward Memorial:

- John showed 2 examples of wood or metal benches appropriate for Camp
- Will send possible costs
- Placement is under further discussion

vii. Playground Update:

- Elisa sent email to playground contractor to get a picture and an estimate
- Stan questioned if State surplus monies could possibly fund the playground

B. DDS Updates:

- Stan reported that the Department is undertaking a process to revisit what the service delivery system will look like
- Change in positions include:
 - Carrie Rogers - Camp Supervisor
 - Cres Secchiaroli – Regional Director South
 - Patricia West – Public Liaison

C. Advocacy:

- Stan stated that 46 legislators are not running for re-election
- Paul Formica is not running for Senate seat
- These significant changes require a lot of education to people who do not understand the needs of the disability community

8. New Business: None

9. Adjournment: 12:19 AM

Next Meeting: August 25, 2022, at Camp Harkness and via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary