

Camp Denison Committee

February 15, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting

Meeting Opened: 6:34 pm

Attendance: (x indicates attendance)

x	Harry Nelson, Chair	x	Jim Lacey, Treasurer		<i>Non-Voting Member:</i>
x	Chris Roop, Clerk	x	George Langlais, Member	x	<i>Sue Gardiner, Asst. Clerk</i>
x	Steve Pinto, Asst. Treasurer	x	Jack LoCicero, Member		
	Don Anderson, Camp Manager		Ella Richardson, Member		

Guests: Jim Saunders

Administrative Business

Minutes Approved:

1/11/2022 minutes approved as written.

1/25/2022 minutes approved as written.

Discussion and Motions:

1. Treasurer's Report was approved 6-0.

Last quarter, there were more expenses than usual. Most of the expenses were required repairs or regular maintenance.

- Kitchen hood repair: Something wasn't working right, and several parts had to be replaced. The repair bill has already been paid. The hood is less than a year old. Harry will look into whether any of the work should be covered by warranty.
- Needham Electric invoices: Denny did a lot of work last quarter. Harry and Jim will review invoices with Denny and be sure are all Categorized to correct project. Only Harry or Jim can authorize Denny to work on any project, to be sure no work is done outside our budget.
- Heating oil: We've used about 40% of heating oil we budgeted. We haven't received a delivery recently, so we'll catch up soon.
- We discussed the need for providing budget guidance for purchases.

2. New business

- Trinity Preschool in Topsfield is holding a fundraiser and requested a donation from us for their April 9 event.
 - After discussion, the Committee decided to donate a 2-day, 1-night stay in the Girl Scout Cabin for the 2022 season, dates subject to availability. Approved 5-1.
 - Sue will create a gift certificate and mail to the Preschool.
- The Committee developed a policy for donation requests. Policy was approved 5-1.
 - We will consider requests only from non-profits.
 - We will donate to no more than five non-profits per year.
 - We will offer a 2-day, 1-night stay in the Girl Scout cabin during the current season; dates will be subject to availability.
- Eagle Scout project – Tent Campsites: We received a written proposal from an Eagle Scout candidate who would like to build two tent campsites with plywood platforms along the pathway from the rear of the Girl Scout Cabin to the large parking lot. Jim spoke with Conservation Agent, who said it was fine. We will measure distance from the pond once snow melts, to be sure it's at least 100 feet away. Project was approved, 6-0.

3. Old business

- CPC meeting: CPC and Conservation Commission were OK with the plan for upgrades of the Great Hall and Mess Hall, including insulation, new windows, and interior improvements.
- Easter Egg Hunt: Will be held Sat, April 16. Mike Shea and Jim Lacey will take the lead.
 - First egg hunt at 9:30 am for preschool to grade 1; second hunt at 11 am for gr. 2 to 4.
 - Linda Hindle has graciously agreed to be our “Easter Bunny.”
 - Jim talked to Erin Duggan at the Georgetown Youth Community Center. They have teens that can help us. We will ask them to fill eggs with candy, as well as hiding eggs.
 - We need to purchase candy and prizes. Jim will talk with Kim to find out what kind of prizes she bought and where she got them. He will buy candy and prizes.
 - Advertising: flyers to Penn Brook School, put on electronic sign board at Town Hall, ask Amy Smith (Selectwoman) to put something on Facebook.
 - Voted to authorize \$700 for all purchases related to the Egg Hunt. Approved 6-0.
- Cabling for parking lot lighting: The Conservation Commission is OK with underground cables. If approved at Town Meeting, funding would be available at start of new FY.
- Ice Fishing Tournament: Cancelled for this year. We thought Paul and Ryan would be willing to take the lead, but they could only assist. We will consider it again next year.
- Eagle Scout Project - Flagpole: They are doing fundraising. They will probably do the project over a weekend in early April; timing is weather dependent. Approved 6-0.
- Boat Storage rental spaces: We need to find a way to encourage active users only for spaces.
 - We will send a letter to all current renters explaining the need to have spaces for those actively using the pond; the letter will ask those who don't use the pond to consider removing their boats or donating them for a Camp Denison fundraiser. Follow-up calls can be made after letter is mailed. Harry will take the lead on this project.
 - We will include an application form with the letter and require that all renters complete the application when paying for the 2022 season.
 - Should consider new rates: Veasey Park (Groveland) is \$100/season and does not offer senior/handicapped rates. Seasonal renters are rare; should we offer only yearly rate? Possibly have set dates when applications/checks can be sent in: Feb 1-March 31?
- Open Items:
 - i. Firewood signs with new rates are now up and new rates are in effect.
 - ii. Flammable storage: Harry will put together some information for the March meeting.
 - iii. Replacement chairs: Not an urgent need right now. Will consider as need arises.

4. Camp Manager's Report

- Rental bookings are starting to pick up. LARP group was here Saturday, and will be here for three days next weekend (holiday weekend).
- In an effort to save on energy costs, Don lowered heat in Smokey's Den from 55 to 50 degrees. Flooring manufacturer says that the temperature should remain at 55 or above to prevent damage to new flooring, so we will increase back to 55. It's less expensive to pay a little more for heat than to have to replace the whole floor again.
- There have been lots of dog-walkers and people walking the trails, as well as a number of small groups snowshoeing. A lot are new faces, which is great!

5. Maintenance Update

- Continued stocking and splitting wood.
- Shop was organized and a clean-up done.
- Lots of clean-up after the big snowstorm; snow removed from parts of roof.

Meeting adjourned: 7:58 pm

Scheduled Committee Meetings: 2022: 3/8, 4/12, 5/10, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9, 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13