

Friends of Camp Christopher
General Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2015 – Camp Christopher

Called to order: by President Tom Gannon

Time: 6:00pm

Welcome and Introductions

Present: Tom and Barb Gannon, Irene Lawrence, Patti Longville, Tim Lilley, Larry Furman, Janet Corey, Michelle Dolensky, Tess Flannery, Jeff Marras, Phyllis Richardson, Joe Sovacool, Chaz Gessner, Kathryn Adamak, Jonathan Rieman, Henry Wessel, Tommy Blankenship, Libby Thomas, Charlie Litten, Will Bertolini, Amanda Schuster and Sally Antonucci.

Secretary's Report – Sally Antonucci: The January 22, 2015 General Meeting Minutes were approved. Irene Lawrence motioned for the minutes to be approved and Phyllis Richardson seconded.

Treasurer's Report- Larry Furman: The balance of the FoCC Account as of the end of March was \$12,178.99. There is \$3,900.00 in Memorials and \$3,500.00 plus or minus in the Annual Appeal. See attached report.

Finance Committee – Larry Furman: No report.

Correspondence – Janet Corey: Janet reported that she is caught up on thank you cards. She sends a handmade card to the person donating to recognize and acknowledge the donation. It also serves as a record or receipt for tax purposes.

Sunshine Committee: - Karen McQuade Weiner: Tom reported that Karen is looking for a way to get notifications of who needs a note using her email. It was suggested that people can use the Facebook page to let her know.

Ways and Means – Chaz Gessner: Chaz reported that the Chili Cook Off is one year in planning for the spring of 2016. Chaz asked if the FoCC wanted to handle it within or contact some businesses to be sponsors.

Chaz also reported that he is 90% set up for the Farmer's Market Table. It will be held during the eight weeks of camp and he sent around a signup sheet for the seven weeks that are still available for people to sign up to help out. Janet mentioned that people who sign up need to have a BCC background check and be VIRTUS trained. Tess will talk to the board. Donations for the Market will be from Morningside Farm in Hinckley and Crown Point Ecology Center in Bath during the weeks we need food but those dates have not been determined yet. Yoder's has bulk food that is cheap for the market. T-shirts and signage have been ordered. Each week any leftovers will be donated to the camp kitchen. Chaz also has information on how to grow vegetables for camp. Chaz has 72 shirts in all. Chaz is concerned about how money will be handled. Tom Gannon suggested that the Finance Committee should create a procedure for collecting/handling the money.

Table Set Up – Chaz reported that it takes a half hour to set up the tent and table for the market. The equipment is in the Gatehouse. Chaz determined the signs needed. He needs a Farmer’s Market sign. Chaz will create a “OneNote” to show how the table should be set up. Joe Sovacool will get Brown’s Tickets and Raffle Tickets will be sold at the Farmer’s Market.

Giving Tree for Camp Idea – Chaz reported that a router could be used on wood to create the tree. Paper leaves will be used for giving tree with ideas for what camp needs written on them. There will be an envelope with each leaf and the tree will also include general donation leaves with envelopes. Janet Corey recommended Chaz and his committee wait on the Static Giving Tree Idea to get control of the procedures involved. Tom Gannon reminded everyone that Chaz needs members on his committee. Sally Antonucci suggested having a receipt on the form with each leaf for people to take home to document their donation.

Other Ideas – The night of Opening Camp Fire – restaurants give percentage of their evening’s proceeds to FoCC. Gift Cards at Christmastime – purchased from FoCC then a certain percentage goes to FoCC. Maybe this idea could be started at the Reverse raffle in the fall.

Reverse Raffle – Patti Longville: The Reverse Raffle will be at the same sight on Thursday September 17th from 6:00 – 9:30. The Committee agreed to keep the price the same for the Main Board Tickets at \$50.00 the “dinner only” ticket will be \$25.00. Joe Sovacool will get the Brown’s tickets. A 50/50 will also be held at the Reverse Raffle. Another added dimension to the Reverse Raffle will be a Chinese Auction with themed baskets.

Camp Physical Needs – Bill Marras: Camp Infrastructure Committee: Tom Gannon reported for Bill Marras that there will be construction of a new cabin at the site of the current PX building. Also, there is heavy consideration/early planning for the water system.

Camp Support Staff –Michael Thompson: Jonathan reported that Mary Kay and Michael are compiling an email registry.

Membership – Michelle Dolensky, Phyllis Richardson, and Irene Lawrence: Michelle Dolensky reported that the goal of the Membership Committee is to increase membership by 20%. This year there are 39 new members. The committee would like one person from each decade to join the committee. They also need someone from Day Camp on the committee. They are trying to keep emails as current as possible. The committee would like to post activities Pay Pal, etc. on a web page and needs someone with design ability to work on it. Tom Gannon mentioned that Jeff Marras and Maureen Flannery are interested in working on the web page. Messages can be sent to Facebook and the FoCC P.O. Box number is on Facebook. We have a FoCC at gmail.com: Friendsofcampchristopher@gmail.com.

Phyllis reported there were five new memberships since the last meeting. They update the list four times a year. The number of current members as of February 2015 is 160 plus the five new members for a total of 165.

Nominating Committee – Phyllis Richardson: Current Board Membership and Vacancies: No report.

Camp Historian and Webmaster – Tim Lilley: Time reported that “*I Wanna Linger*” is three years old now and the Facebook page is two years old. Tim and Irene Lawrence will write a one-page history of FoCC for Catholic Charities Partners.

Volunteer Incentive Committee – Janet Corey: Janet reported that there are volunteer hours to benefit camp. She thanked those who helped on February 17th reporting that seven people spent six hours each on camp brochures and delivered them to 40 parishes. The other volunteer opportunities are a Spring Clean Up at Camp on Saturday May 2, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The rain date will be May 9th. Volunteers will be asked to paint, clean flower beds, and help with brush clean up. Go to “Sign Up Genius” on the Facebook page to sign up to volunteer. Another volunteer opportunity will be the Camp Christopher Open House on May 3, 2015. Parking lot attendants are needed. Also, Catholic Charities needs volunteers for the Akron Marathon.

Bylaws – Tom Gannon: Tom has planned a By-Laws Committee Meeting for April 30th at 6:00 p.m. at Camp. The committee will work on what needs to be taken out and what needs to be put in.

New Business

Memorials/Bequests: A motion was passed at the Board meeting on April 9, 2015 concerning Memorials/Bequests (individual or bundled). Barb Gannon recommended an amended motion for bundled contributions – all of the memorials that come in for one person are “bundled” together. Tim Lilley seconded the motion. Patty recommended voting it down. Irene read the new wording. Charlie asked if that could include camperships? He was told “yes”. A question was asked about endowments and how they worked. The principal is invested and the interest money is used for needs. None of these funds can be used for Administrative needs of FoCC, for example: office supplies, etc. Tess asked two questions: What happens when/if FoCC dissolves? Referred to By-Laws. What happens when Catholic Charities doesn’t agree with where the interest money will go? Tom said we would negotiate. Janet said the wording does not preclude camperships. The fiscal year closes the door on the bundle. Barb Gannon motioned to accept the change and Tim Lilley seconded. Patti called for the question. Tom asked for a vote on the amended motion as amended and written before you. A vote was taken: 16 people voted in favor of the motion and 4 opposed. There were no abstentions. The motion was passed with 4 no votes. Passed by membership. A question was asked: how do we implement what has been written? The Finance Committee will create a procedure. The amended motion reads:

Memorials/Bequests (individual or bundled) that are donated to FoCC that total less than \$2,000.00 will be used totally for the camperships on an annual calendar basis; memorial bequests (individual or bundled) that total \$2,000.00 or more will be put into a restricted account to become a funding stream to fund the needs of Camp Christopher and Staff, unless otherwise stipulated by the donor. See attached.

Board Motion: FoCC to commit up to \$600.00 to fund September Song camperships to be used to fund up to 50% of each approved camper’s fee. Tim said Tess will include money in total campership fund. Decision for September song camperships: \$300.00. Time called for the question. Tom said the board approved it. Tim motioned to accept it and Janet Corey seconded. The vote was taken: 18 approved and 2 opposed. There were no abstentions.

Presentation: The Campership Process - Catholic Charities Staff: Amanda Schuster: Amanda described how the campership process works. Forms were passed out and everyone looked at them. Amanda described camperships at a glance: If there are five children at \$460.00 per week they need to pay 10% which is \$46.00 per child. Money is allocated as applications come in. Some campers apply to another camp and then money may come in to be put toward camperships, that camper who applies elsewhere loses out. Tom asked: How quick is a decision made for camperships? Amanda said within one week. Joe asked: What happens to the extra money left over. Amanda said there is no money left over. Tom asked: Who makes the decision? Tess said there is a formula they follow in the accounting department. Tom asked: Is it safe to say that most people who apply will get a campership? Tess said 20% are turned down. Phyllis asked: Does it matter if they are new to apply for a campership? Tess said the years of camping are not put into the formula. Chaz asked: Did our part of the 25% increase the amount? Tess said the amount was guessed and put into the budget. Janet asked: Do people fudge their income? Tess said “yes”.

Proposal: Stewards and Caretakers - Joe Sovacool: Joe talked about an idea for a Century Garden. He gave an example of a Century Garden like a window box or adopting a flower bed in camp. FoCC members would adopt and care for an area in camp. He is looking for a venue to present this idea. Amanda Schuster has a list of plants. Phyllis asked about watering the plants? Joe will start with a letter and will get the information to Michelle Dolensky to take to Bill Marras’ committee.

Unfinished Business

1. **Nonprofit Directors & Officers Liability Insurance:** Irene talked to the insurance people for expertise and it was determined that liability insurance is not needed at this time.
2. **IRS Filing:** Larry Furman is not done yet. The filing is due on May 15, 2015.
3. **By-Laws – New Committees to do annual review:** Tim, Irene, Larry, Patty and Tom will be working on the changes for the By-Laws.

Announcements:

Next FoCC Board Meetings: July 9, and October 1, 2015.

Next General Membership Meetings: July 23, and October 22, 2015

Adjourn:

Phyllis Richardson motioned to adjourn. Diane seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.