

Friends of Camp Christopher
General Membership Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2015 – Camp Christopher

Called to order: by President Tom Gannon

Time: 6:10 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Present: Tom and Barb Gannon, Irene Lawrence, Patti Longville, Tim Lilley, Larry Furman, Janet Corey, Tess Flannery, Catherine Adamek, Lizzy Flannery, Phyllis Richardson, Jim Sovacool, Chaz Gessner, Libby Thomas, Julie Kuilder, Tom McGraw, Paul Moeller, Diane Wendelken, and Sally Antonucci.

Secretary's Report – Sally Antonucci: The July 23, 2015 General Membership Meeting Minutes were approved. Tom McGraw motioned for the minutes to be approved and Tim Lilley seconded.

Treasurer's Report- Larry Furman: Larry presented the Third Quarter Treasurer's Report. The balance as of June 30, 2015 was \$12,273.63 and the balance on September 30, 2015 was \$12,924.48. Barb Marras motioned for the Third Quarter Treasurer's report to be approved and Phyllis Richardson seconded. All were in favor of the report. See attached Third Quarter Treasurer's report.

The 2016 FoCC Budget as approved by the board was handed out. Tom Gannon mentioned two things: 1. the 25% is not in the by-laws; and, 2. when we approve a budget as an organization the detail for the budget comes from the committees. We are authorizing the committees to spend the money. If they go beyond the budget, they need to come back for approval of more funds. Janet Corey motioned for the budget to be approved and Irene Lawrence seconded. All were in favor of the budget. See attached budget sheets.

Finance Committee – Larry Furman: No report.

Sunshine Committee: - Karen McQuade Weiner: No report.

Ways and Means – Chaz Gessner: No report.

Reverse Raffle – Patti Longville: Please see attached report. Patti also discussed the \$300.00 seed money on the budget and the reasons why it was requested. Chaz Gessner mentioned that for the future we may need more information on the costs in the budget for the Reverse Raffle. Tom Gannon said that from an audit standpoint you what you spent matched with receipts. The Reverse Raffle Committee will be sending out a "thank you postcard" at Thanksgiving to thank everyone for their support. Chaz Gessner asked if we should include those who do not come to the Reverse raffle with a sideboard or something. Patti said no and said we should talk about it next year. The "Ghost Number" generated a lot of interest.

Camp Physical Needs – Bill Marras: Camp Infrastructure Committee: No report. Tom Gannon reported for Bill Marras that there is a new cabin under roof. Tess mentioned that brush is being cleared by the Lake Marian Dam and PVC pipe is being installed for the fire department's access to water.

Flagpole Project – Patti Longville and Irene Lawrence: Patti and Irene reported that they are waiting to hear from the paver. The proposal includes one pole. Catherine Adamek reported that the proposal was accepted by Catholic Charities. Patti reported that there will be two sizes of bricks but that they have not established prices for the bricks. They are hoping to include the information in the Annual Appeal Letter in January.

Camp Staff Support – Michael Thompson: No report. Michael and his mom do not want to be in charge but want to serve on the committee.

Membership – Michelle Dolensky, Phyllis Richardson, and Irene Lawrence: Irene mentioned that Michelle was having struggles with Mail Chimp. Irene reported that the committee is preparing the Annual Appeal Letter for January 2016. Phyllis Richardson reported that the labels and addresses are ready to go. The current FoCC membership is 206.

By-Laws Committee – Tom Gannon: No report.

Nominating Committee – Phyllis Richardson: Phyllis handed out ballots for voting for officers. The ballot does not include President and President Elect because they have already been done. The President is Janet Corey and the President Elect is Tom McGraw. The results of the election are: Jim Sovacool, Vice President, Sally Antonucci, Secretary, and Larry Furman, Treasurer.

Camp Historian and Webmaster – Tim Lilley: Tim gave his report from the Board Meeting. The Facebook Page is up to 338 “likes”. Big Trail Publications is creating another calendar for 2016. The cost will be \$12.00 for one or \$10.00 for two or more. Tim will present the check to FoCC in January from the sales of the calendar. Paul Moeller asked how do we let schools who come to camp know about the calendar? Tess Flannery asked Tim to send her the information and she will send it to the school reps who contact Catholic Charities to use camp. Tess mentioned that they use different campaigns for different groups. Tim asked if it would be worth it to post General Membership Meeting Minutes.

Volunteer Incentive Committee – Janet Corey: No report.

New Business – Approval of the 2016 Budget & Election of Officers

Unfinished Business

Presentation: Update on Camp Programs – Tess Flannery: The core summer camp program adheres to all of the ACA Camp recommendations and guidelines. They went through Accreditation. They need to show skill development and campers are given a 45 – 50 minute period schedule that includes: horseback riding, boating, athletics (for gross motor skills), high ropes, low ropes, and archery. Campers go to each activity twice. The department heads are required to create something for each age group that is age appropriate for their skill level. Every night there is a community based program. They do things that will build teamwork: getting up in front of camp with your group. They have opening and closing campfires each week. The Golden Arrow Award, Sportsmanship Award, and Department Awards are announced.

Day Camp is very similar to overnight camp. It is for ages 5 to 13. They still do transportation and shuttles to and from camp. Today’s parents are concerned about day care – they don’t want to pull their

kids out for one week. They are trying to get shuttles to defined areas to try to be more purposeful. Day Camp set a record with 1,100 campers. The most in ten years. Campers can attend an “Express Camp” for ½ of a week. Resident Camp had 1,600 campers this year.

Previously, there were JC’s and they had to be 16 years old to work at camp. They initiated changes to age 17 and the Diocese decided it should age 18. They have made adjustments. They have “utility people” do dishes, etc. They contract out for the bathrooms. Sixteen year old campers attend traditional camp and seventeen year olds can attend a Leadership Camp for two weeks where they learn and earn a certification. During the second week they shadow a counselor. This has created better trained employees and is a huge bonus for the program.

Day Camp and Resident Campers with disabilities are paid for by Medicaid. This does create more paperwork. For Day Camp and Resident Camp, the ADA asks for measureable outcomes and you can measure 10 – 12 different areas. Camp chose three areas: competence, responsibility, and interest in exploration. They survey campers on Fridays. Sum Fun had 65 campers ages 6 to 21. Some were in Akron and some were in camp. Sum Fun is a Day Camp for campers with special needs. They follow the Johns Hopkins Model of Summer Learning. The goal is to retain or improve skills. With skill building, communication has the most growth. The traditional model will be maintained with the Happiness Pavilion as a classroom. They want to include Sum Fun campers into Day Camp. Next summer ages 6 – 13 will be integrated with their peers in Day Camp. They will participate to the best of their ability.

The Family Camp Programs start and end with the summer. You rent the cabin and fill it with who you want. There is a per person fee. There were more new families than ever before this summer. There is no Virtus Program for Family Camp attendees.

September Song is for campers age 50 and over. They stayed the same in attendance this past summer. Tim Lilley suggested they advertise in church bulletins.

The new FoCC Camp Weekend had 60 people last year and 80 people came this year. You fill the cabin with who you want. It was a very successful weekend.

All programs have a spiritual component maybe three times a week.

A Bullying Prevention Program is modified for the camp setting. It is really a common development program. There is a program from Clemson University that helps to educate campers on their boundaries. There is a three hour staff training piece that is pretty intense. There is a box placed in each cabin and it is very successful.

The Environmental Education Program takes place in the spring and fall and is based on ODE State Standards for 6th graders. They put into action what they are learning in the classroom: soil testing, water testing, etc. Traditionally, Catholic schools participate. Also, Akron Public Schools and Friends of the Metro-Parks.

Outside groups rent camp, too. There are only ten days on the whole calendar when no one is here.

A total of 16,000 people were served by the end of the year.

We have hired Libby Thomas as Camp Coordinator and she works with Tess at the office. She is also out at camp 25 hours a week.

There will be Trick-or-Treat at camp on October 30th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm for \$5.00 per person. You Trick-or-Treat from cabin to cabin. There will also be activities in the halls.

Announcements:

Next FoCC Board Meetings: TBD

Next General Membership Meetings: TBD

Adjourn:

Patti Longville motioned to adjourn. Michelle seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.