

FOCH Board Meeting, 12/13/09

Meeting called to order at 2:11 PM

Attendees:

Lynn Richardson

Rob Richardson

Barb Starr

Pat Boczar

Lucy Hanigosky

Susan Czaplicki

Lisa Dabramo

Kim Janikovics

Candi Clouse

Ray Ringle

Corey Ringle

Sarah Spiegler

Susan Kabat

Jacque Walsh

Discussion prior to beginning agenda topics: Can we just pay for plumbing for Coach House?

Lynn : We could propose to Council that we get estimates for plumbing at Coach and waterproofing at Amity.

Lucy: We need a real list of repairs that are needed so we can decide on priorities and ask the group who can help with what.

Lynn : Vision 2012 initial decision is supposed to come out in February 2010 . They got fewer responses to their survey than they had hoped. They wanted 3000 girls. They got 800 adults and 300 girls. A paper survey will be sent out in February

Susan: Camp monitors can encourage troops to fill out surveys.

Put sheet in Chagrin for monitors to pass out to campers.

Barb has a posterboard that she asked people to write what they liked about C/H on, graffiti-style.

Agenda: Camp subsidies, cookie sales, committee reports, open forum, what can we report to the whole membership.

Camp subsidies:

We have \$2,000 pledged already for the camp subsidy project. We hope that others will be able to contribute. This is not coming out of FOCH operating funds. The idea to get girls into the camp, experiment to show Council that if we bring the price down more troops will take advantage, and if we prove that, Council could lower the prices. Some prices have already been lowered. Amity has been lowered from \$200 to \$150 for a weekend. Coach House is \$120.

Barb S: Are we going to provide rebates, or provide money up front?

Lynn : Some troops dont have the money up front, so rebates wont help.

Pat: Up-front paying is fairer.

Lynn : Council is inconsistent: rule now is paying entire cost up front. Jan Larsen suggested something similar to Cookie Dough. She wanted to suggest to Council that if the troop checks that they are using C/H Dollars, then Council will send us a bill and troop contact information.

Pat: Walk us through it. Im a troop. I go to Council and register. Council sends a letter to FOCH with informaiton. We send the money.

Jacque: How do handle cancellations? She would rather go directly to a troop.

Lucy: Troops should come to us, making them to us and show interest.

Jacque: Registration is still chaotic, and we should not rely on them to help us.

Corey: Troops tried to sign up for camp, send in faxes with credit card numbers, and then call and find that Council doesnt know about them.

Some troop leaders need help from camp monitors, but at site monitoring training Council said that monitors were not supposed to be working directly with troops.

Lynn : Kim, can we talk to Lisa about having the option of expanding the role of camp monitors?

Pat: Create a role other than monitors to help troops.

Lynn : Dont go in there and demand things. Instead, say Heres what we can offer. How can we do this?

Laura: What happened to troops being monitors? Pat: Troops have to be 18 or older, Seniors and Ambassadors, and all have to be First Aid and CPR trained.

Lynn : Going directly to the troops might work for now, but if it ever gets off the ground, donations need to be tax-deductible. But checks written directly to the troop can be deducted from taxes.

Laura: GSNEO is very understaffed, and everybody is seriously stressed.

Barb: Can we ask Council for advice on how to implement this ?

Lucy: All checks written to Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc., are deductible.

Pat: Can we get a troop to present this to Council? That would meet goals presented in books about girls getting active in the community.

Lynn : Yes, it would be good, but we need to move quickly.

Lynn : Were going to have to take our chances with not getting refunds in the event of cancellation.

Pat: Can we get something added to the evaluation form asking troops used our money?

Pat: We need at least two major fundraisers for the grant, one for adults and the other girl-friendly.

Jacque: How would an individual give money to this?

Lynn : Well do what Barb says: Lynn will send an E-mail to BZ, Daisy, Roberta and Melissa asking them how they want it to be done.

Corey: What is the purpose?

Lynn : To get girls into the camp to see the camp, and to overcome financial problems for the troops.

Candi: Make sure that we emphasize that we are equalizing cost, rather than drawing people from other camps.

Candi will handle the checks for this project. Checks must have a note in the memo that its for the FOCH camp grant.

We need to make sure that GSNEO publicizes this.

Cookie sales:

Pat: We will use Troop 414 . (Now 70414). Pat doesnt want to get burned, so we need to be responsible for the money. Cookie forms will be put up in the group. Lucy will accept personal checks from FOCH board members, but not from cookie buyers.

Committee reports:

Fund raising (Lucy):

Idea of fundraising is not to keep hitting up ourselves, but to hit up other people. Lucy is trying to go out into community. We will have a table at Hinckley s Buzzards Day. We need to decide what to sell there. Its the Sunday before March 15th. We need informational stuff (handouts, etc.). Sell window clings, yoyos, shirts, etc. Initial orders can be small, with order forms available. What kind of access do we have here? Can we show the community the camp?

Lynn : No. As insurance stands, we cant have anyone but Girl Scouts here.

Members should consider becoming delegates.

Council office doesnt want us doing fundraising because they havent decided to keep the camp. So, they arent going to let us use any GS property. But we can do our own fundraising outside camp properties.

Idea: Stadium Grill offers spaghetti dinners, and you dont do any work. You pay them \$300 and sell tickets for \$10 each. We can do other things like raffle baskets and so on. But its in Lake County .

Committee should continue looking into products to sell and get details about costs, times, and so on.

Publicity committee:

Susan: Will mail letters to Richfield residents to make them aware of whats going on.

Lynn : When people send letters to Council complaining about camp plans, Council forwards them to Lynn . ???

Barb: Everybody here should write to the Plain Dealer

Site monitors: Call Kim if youre signed up but cant make it, or if youre at camp and need help. All site monitors need all training (First Aid/CPR and Outdoor Essentials).

Camp history:

Quickie fact sheet passed out. This can be used as stuff for programming to be based on.