

Introduction – Lynn

We are a voice to the board!

We were advised to wait for the board. No! We are going to be proactive, giving board our suggestions.

Girl Scouts is supposed to be about what the girls want!

Make sure the girls know about this, and that they have a voice!

Tell people that you want the camp to stay open!

There are two areas of attack that are possible:

1. Preservation and maintenance of structures that are here.
2. More importantly, Girl Scout programming. It doesn't matter if we have great facilities if nobody uses it. We are going to be doing things not just to promote this camp but to promote all camps.

Kids aren't playing outside as much as they used to! GS USA is changing the program to capture the interest of the girls of today. We should be countering the trend of loss of interest in outdoors, not pandering to it.

Program ideas: From Fred Cash: Site monitoring will be started here. Instead of having Stan checking everybody in and out, they will rely on volunteers to check in girls, inspecting the cabin when they're leaving, collecting evaluation forms, and checking them out. During the weekends, you'll be doing very light maintenance, but you're main role is to be an experienced Girl Scout presence. Lynn asked Fred and got confirmation that men can be site monitors. Maybe site monitors can do some programming: fishing, archery, etc. They will need Outdoors Essentials training, maybe CPR. FOCH position is that a trained 18-year-old would be acceptable as a site monitor.

"Essentials" training is not good enough!

We will submit a proposal that we can sponsor a campout for new leaders where we will visit various sites. "Training party package". Suggestion: Offering on-site training, where an experienced trainer supports a troop with a new leader at camp, and the new leader can get Troop Camp Training certification.

GSNEO offers free campout for new leaders on "Faces and Places" page (details to follow).

FOCH to ask Fred where monitors would stay in winter. Seeley Cabin is not winterized.

Brittany Z: Hard-Hatted Women or some other group comes up as an official project and they have insurance that will cover them, then the group can do it.

Can HHW provide training to girls? Can they put together a program and present it to council? HHW has "Rosie's Girls" program already.

FoCH to suggest sites for site monitors, including Chagrin and the Administration house.

Site monitors need to be able to use a car (perhaps our personal cars). There should be a car at each site for safety.

Kim J took old site monitor training and still has the documents, and can provide training for us.

Fred said we are now allowed as a group to organize ourselves to take down tents, store mattresses, battle invasive species.

Kathleen Bradley is the group's Mistress of Herbology (although she doesn't really want that exact title). She will lead battling invasive species, and she will work to get a plant survey done.

Can PLANET (landscaping organization) do service project here?

Stan said that there is a group of engineers in the area that has to do a certain amount of hours. They always came in to take care of roads and buildings. Council pooh-poohed it.

Can high ropes (and low ropes) be re-established?

Can we contact each troop? As a group of volunteers, we do not have access to Council's mailing list. We have asked if GSNEO would put information about the Friends groups on their web site. Last summer, GSNEO only told a few people that camp was closing. But we do not know how much information has gotten through.

Is there any thought about making C/H a resident camp again? We are, but Council isn't.

During off season, promote C/H to corporations to come out for team-building programs. We can also make profit from feeding them at Gund.

Can we find out usage numbers? FoCH wants leader access and access to GSNEO E-blast.

Grant writing skill: Elaine, Candy, Susan Kabat and Jacque Walsh. Approach Gund Foundation.

What trends are there among people who are camping?

Can we get US stimulus money? Tri-C Green Academy? Sustainable living center in Cleveland? OSU Extension? Lucy to find out how to get on National Registry of Historic Places.

Speak to leaders at Service Unit meetings.

Can we have a weekend for new troop leaders to show off the camp and provide training?

Lynn: If we are going to put together an event to pull people in? Do we want to start planning it? Plan it for spring. We will suggest to Council that we would like to organize a Spring Fling event to highlight C/H for one of the last two weekends in April.

Possible Halloween event to introduce girls to camp. Deedee and Melinda to begin crafting proposal to send to Council. Great Trails has done a Halloween event for years.

Do we want supporting merchandise: T-shirts, mugs, and so on? It will be investigated by Elaine.

Other programming: Since GSUSA is promoting different modes of Girl Scouting, think of how we can play into that. Have different pathways. Can we offer something once a month at different camps?

Open camps to outside groups one weekend a month.

"Bring a Friend to Camp" event?

(For future FOCH events, rent a microphone/speaker)

Motion proposed by Lynn: As a group, are we taking the position that while we are glad that the camp is open for limited use, our position is that the whole camp should be open. Motion passed.

FOCH Board of Directors: We need a minimum of 12 directors by law. Board to meet once per month.

Lynn elected as president!

Vice-president runs meetings if president can't be there, etc. Lucy and Becky Richardson are candidates.

We need corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and treasurer.

Barb Dottore voted as recording secretary.

Corresponding secretary writes thank-you letters for donated money. Deedee voted as corresponding secretary.

Treasurer: Bank account is in Lynn's account, and Rob has set up the PayPal account. The treasurer needs to keep track of funds. Candy Clouse has agreed to act as treasurer, and is accepted.

We have three nominations for the two spots as representatives of FoCH at meetings of the GSNEO strategic planning group. Lynn Richardson, Anne-Marie (who left), and Jan Larsen.

Twenty-four members who volunteered for board of directors are accepted by acclamation.