



THE CAMP MATTATUCK VOLUNTEERS

Connecticut Rivers Council
Boy Scouts of America
P.O. Box 257, Plymouth, CT 06782-0257



SUMMER MEETING

Aug. 2, 2023

MINUTES

Attendees:

Patrick Sheridan, Chairperson
Pete Gati, Vice Chairperson
Jeremy C. Nelson, Reservation Director
Noah Cross, Reservation Program Director
Pat Malin, Ranger
Rob Reed, Treasurer
Jenifer Watkins, Secretary
Brian Shannon
Joe LeClair
Beth Nelson
Maggie Bellemare
JT Plona
Joe Gannon
William Fitzner
Vin Pietrorazio
Shannon Smith
Bob Anoruk
Bob Sanford
Tim Martin
Ray Zawislak Jr.
Charles Doback
Robert A. Start
John Leary
Jeffrey Hubbart
Tucker Michaud
Jason Hanis
Melissa Miller
Beth Nelson
Alan Chartier
Samantha Olszewski
Lucas Nelson
Lee Hoffman

1. Call to Order & Welcome [Pat Sheridan] Thank you to the staff. All departments have been awesome, and camp is looking great. Peter Gati: For the most part smooth sailing, lots of smiles, kids and staff are happy; a good sign.

2. Treasurer's Report [Rob Reed]:
- See the report annexed to these minutes
 - Highlights:

Account Balance @ 12/31/2022:		\$ 49.0 k
Income Jan. – July 2023:		
Donations	(14.2 k)	
Donation Released from Restriction	<u>(19.7 k)</u>	
Total:	\$ 33.9 k	
Expenses Jan. – July 2023:		
Scholarships	(5.0 k)	
New Equipment	(0.6 k)	
Boom lift parts	(1.6 k)	
Food	(0.5 k)	
Water Project	(10.0 k)	
Lumber (various projects)	(13.6 k)	
New Mower	(5.5 k)	
Total:	<u>(36.9 k)</u>	
Account Balance @ 7/28/2023		45.9 k
Donor Restricted Funds		
Golf Cart Repairs	(0.6 k)	
Rifle Range	(1.0 k)	
Troop 90 Donation	(7.9 k)	
Forestry Projects	(2.0 k)	
Sporting Equipment	(2.5 k)	
Total:	(14.0 k)	
Balance Available for General Use		\$31.9 k

3. Projects [Pat Sheridan]
- Topside – lumber for staff cabins, lower corner of the activity field is human foosball.
 - New lawn mower, fixing old one, painting 49ers pavilion, wiffle ball field by Leever, stone and yard work at the dining hall, carport pavilions at various campsites. The carports were paid for with a state grant and we also received 100 mattresses with this.
 - [Jeromy Nelson] Lumber to repair & replace low Cope elements, Cub Scout Archery
 - Hosted a church youth camp mission trip the week before staff week and they framed staff cabins and built Cub Scout Archery, Michele S. at the council office painted shelves at the office, and Kevin M. at council has been mowing.
 - Thank you for the new mower donations.
 - Want to pour a concrete pad for hungry-hungry hippos out past Barnum cabin with a roof over it; human arcade area. We own all the parts to hungry-hungry hippos so will be working on it.
4. How Going
- Very well, sheltered in place many times, frequent and significant storms
 - Recovering trails & roads, stone down and waiting on some

- 1 week opened late along with Webster due to weather.
- Council leadership, professional scouters and camp department leadership doing well working as a unified team, in a really good place.
- 12 new units this summer but only 4 more scouts, BSA membership was low, but Cub Scouting saw great growth, potential that those units decided to attend, also Jamboree and Philmont this year.
- Good place, budgetarily with Council and the Volunteers and received state grants

5. Next Year

- Need some stuff, convection oven, warmers, kitchen equipment – maybe Council & Volunteers
- [Pat Sheridan] Cost sharing with Council especially the bigger projects. Thank you for donations, the foundation of our group here at camp that helps us
- Professional staff and council united with social media posts between all of the camps, volume, camps interacting with each other, cohesion among the camps, looks good.
- Volunteer groups for each camp are respective to camp sizes and programs for each camp.
- Making Volunteers donations a more prominent line on the CRC level for each group for each camp this year

6. Scholarship [Pete Gati]

- Recipients received last year: Jeffrey Hubbart and Maggie Bellemare. He has two years remaining on his and she has 3 years remaining on hers.
- Committee will select 2 additional recipients: One for a 2 year balance and One 4 year scholarship.
- Revamp process last year. Evolution is \$500 awarding first year, \$750 year two and three and \$1,000 for the fourth year which will help to offset the costs with inflation and everything that we have gone through in the last few years. Increased monetary amounts to offer more assistance and as staff are here longer they tend to move into director roles and positions of greater responsibility.
- How many applications? Six at the current moment and expect eight to ten at the time of the deadline.

7. Take Down Day [Pat Sheridan]

- Take Down Day is August 19th to take down whatever programs not using thereafter.
- Pat Malin is working on other fall dates, to get posted and out.

8. Big Joe's Jog [Joe LeClair]

- Labor Day Weekend, Saturday, September 2nd
- Fundraiser for the Scholarship
- 4th year, building slowly
- 5 mile run out to COPE, Christmas Tree Farm, around the lake and back but also the option for a 1 mile walk around the lake this year. A New added feature this year of the walk for younger and older people who want to help camp.
- Can use some help, simple stuff: manning a water station, keeping cups full, registration, pointing people in the right direction. Morning activity: 9 am to 12 noon.
- Getting sponsorships with Chris Perkins and Robert Mendela
- Youth wrote up the proposal, growing each year, a lot of corporate sponsorship this year
- Largest expenses are T-shirts and Greystone Timing professional who runs the race for us

- Promote the event with your friends, challenging race, but not on hard pavement
- Virtual aspect too, can be done remotely
- Qualifying event, registered event, GPS Tags, keeping it the same day to get on the calendars of runners.

9. Introduce Bob Sanford, Council Commissioner and great friend of Mattatuck

10. Blood Drive [Pete Gati]

- In the spring in partnership with the Red Cross we had a blood drive at Leever Lodge
- On September 30th there will be another one at Leever Lodge from 12:00 PM-5:00 PM
- Interested in donating, already taking registrations through <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>
- Maggie Bellemare: If you are on a circuit donating every 56 days, we are trying to get it on the circuit for individuals who donate regularly.

11. Gala [Noah Cross]

- November 18th Saturday night 6:00 PM-11:00 PM
- Crystal Room, 98 School Street, Naugatuck, CT
- Changes: away from Event Bright to Scouting Gives this year because free, owned by us, and more streamlined
- Donation tab there if can't attend
- QR Code brings you to Scouting Gives
- The biggest thing is to get people to Come.
- Ahead of schedule reserving things and planning the evening; DJ booked, vendor booked, sorting out menu
- Want to start selling tickets, spread the word
- May have a keynote speaker, please feel free to share ideas
- Fun night! Great time! Hope to see you there!
- Questions go to Facebook or website: <http://www.campmattatuck.org/gala.html>
- Pat Sheridan: Thank you to the Committee for being on top of everything this year

12. Man Power Help [Jeromy Nelson]

- August 10th, 11th and 12th, youth group outside rental from LDS group, limited staff still here. If anyone is available to maybe help cook a dinner, help sanitize things, or help in a program area. 55 kids and 10 adults. They are also willing to help. Noon on the 10th and leave a little before noon on the 12th. Later in the week is better for their adults.
- Seeking feedback from you, please. Each troop at camp gives feedback for ½ hour about the whole camp experience; from start to finish of the experience, the year-round experience, what went well, and opportunities. What do you want to see at camp? What have you seen at other places? Potential projects? etc. We are interested in this from the Volunteers too. Please share it.
- Pat Sheridan – Need help organizing Volunteer workdays with Pat Mulin, the administrative aspect of it. Legwork a week or two before, could be even emails going out.
- John Leary – One person for a project to spearhead it and set expectations of the job to be done ahead of time so folks show up prepared for that specific project. Throw out ideas to the group of Volunteers from a wish list of projects to be completed so that different members can volunteer to take that project for completion, and do it when they are available.
- Camp will work on asking for what is needed and putting it out there to the larger group.

- John Leary volunteered to buy T-shirts thanking people for coming & volunteering. To give them to people who come and volunteer. Give \$1,000 to start it off. Seek out the people that you don't know and thank them. Thanks and appreciation goes a long way. Meet, greet, and thank who shows up. They will come back.
- Spreadsheet of tasks, done a few times, needs some updating. Need some extra help with keeping this up. If anyone has time to help with these administrative tasks that would be great.
- Some units that were here want to get a list of projects for the campsite that they stayed at in the summer. Ownership of it. Fire ring, paint latrine, etc. Service project at summer campsite potential for free tent camping site.
- John Leary - Maybe have different units or members take ownership of more permanent structures down the road to help with projects for these structures. Do it when we can do it flawlessly.
- Fall workdays will be coming, usually every 4 to 6 weeks apart.
- Need 3 professionals; carpenters, furniture makers to refinish tops of dining hall tables as a wintertime project. May replace the bottoms if can't be repaired, to be discussed further.
- Troops traveling 3 plus hours to get here. Draw for 2 was the BLOB. If your kids like something about camp share it so that it can get on the website because if our kids like it, others likely will too. These 2 units Loved the Camp.
- For one of these units, we are 20 minutes farther than their council camp and they would prefer us and will be joining us for Klondikes and Camporees from now on. Felt very welcomed by our Camp! Others see what we have, and we don't always see what else is out there. Those Troops are planning to sell camp to the people that they know.
- Jeromy Nelson and other key staff a few years ago went out and toured camps in the Midwest to see what was out there. One, in particular, is very well-known and huge and it was eye-opening to see how everything is ala carte. Our staff returned feeling that we have great Council camps!
- Any piece of equipment you want in the next 5 years? Potential to partner with manufacturing companies like STIHL and John Deere, etc.
- Pat Sheridan - Council-wide membership has been doing great in the past year. Better than others. Camps are a center core of that, the opportunity to show people and social media shows thousands of pictures showcasing the program. These troops that traveled to us this summer came distances sight unseen because of this presence online. That says this camp is amazing and that is a testament to all the volunteers, staff, and professionals. Scouting in Connecticut is doing well.
- For next year need help parking, on Friday nights especially.
- John Leary - Add roof on Dick John Shelter to repair list because it had a tree come down on it. And it has a new roof.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenifer Watkins,
Secretary