

Board Minutes
July 9, 2011

Attending: Jimmie Holland, Steven LaSota, Scott Suggs, Ernie Roberts, Adam Hewitt as officers.

Attending: Alan Sanders, Robert Hardy, Will Henderson, Beth Olson, Mike Giusti, Jackson Norton, Brad Bushnell, Jim/Martha Jo Berry as Board Members.

Proxy Votes: Miriam Zimmerman, Steve Cothran, Scott Luna, and Billy Gregory.

Ex-officio: Frank Johnson, Ron Springs, Chris Maslin, and Phillip Berry.

Absent: Hewlitt Sullivan, Kenny Byrd, and Phil Brown.

Meeting was called to order and Chairman Steven LaSota opened in prayer at 10:05 am. Steve thanked all members rotating off for their service. Those members are Phil Brown, Mike Giusti, Steve Cothran, Hewlitt Sullivan, Miriam Zimmerman, and Ernie Roberts. The Scholarship fund currently has \$36,000. President Holland reported we need volunteers for committees, and that Byron Hill sent his greetings from Lifeway but unable to attend.

The cabins update from Steve Lasota mentioned that we have an annual goal of \$60,000 to send to camp with final goal of \$175,000. He has asked Scott Luna to help out raising the money and help captain that project for the cabins. Other committee updates show our new committee structure is improving. No reports from Scholarship, Financial or Communication committees.

Ron Springs, Camps Director remarked that incredible staff was making for a great camp summer. They work together very well and put the campers first. Great evaluations and parental comments were being received. Enrollments were 98.5% at girls camp (best ever) and 87% full at boys camp. (3rd highest ever). This is even more impressive in light of the current economy. There is continued excitement with 4 Apache and 5 Shawnee cabins completed. Plans are for two more years doing the remaining cabins. The Crestridge museum is to be built and put together. Lifeway is supporting us, and Byron's boss has grandchildren attending our camps.

Phillip Berry confirms great summer, and now camp has 23 cabins for the kids. The new cabins look and feel bigger, cleaner and brighter. The new cabin renovations are making a difference. Members of the alumni association are here on Opening/Closing days to work and welcome parents and campers. This gives us presence, and they appreciate the effort on Sunday morning. Phillip Berry also said that we do make a difference to fill in for specific needs. Parents and campers come in from 9:30-2:30. Gate duty begins at 7:30am. This approach makes a great way to start camp, is more organized and needs less food. (Saves money with less waste)

Webmaster Scott Suggs says we are receiving almost 250-300 views a week on our Facebook page. The Echo publication is a loose cannon with no one totally responsible. Scott Suggs has taken it on, but prefers not to deal with this aspect of communications. Hence we need a communication director to function in this regard. Is there money to pay a stipend for this position? Also website needs to be continually updated. Jackson said Nicolai in Flat Rock was the original person for this task but became overwhelmed. He is good, but must be told what to do. Camp has found that their website has become their most intense marketing tool. To look into cost factor of website, Scott Suggs and Steve LaSota will continue to investigate. Phillip Berry mentioned Word Press Platform to pay about \$1000-2000 to get the website going and \$100 a year to maintain. He also says it is very easy to use. Motion made to investigate expenses by LaSota and seconded by Frank Johnson. Motion carried.

Discussion turned to the Echo again to put it under the jurisdiction of the communications director. Miriam Zimmerman is willing to help, but a communications officer needs to oversee. We decided we still need to keep the Echo with both hard and electronic copies for the fall and spring editions. Website has our past Echo publications for the past 10 years. Articles are always needed as contributions. Its main purpose is to advertise and promote work weekends and summer meeting/reunions. It also keeps members informed especially through the grapevine section.

By Laws Update. The secretary needs to be repositioned into the Communications Director. We can add more duties for that person to do or to delegate to committee members, etc. Matt Fowler has volunteered to step into this role and receive a stipend of \$500. This would be a reduction in the President stipend from \$1500 to \$1000. Will Henderson also put his name up for the position. Could we have two positions instead of one? Jim Berry made motion to keep secretary position separate and add the communication director position with stipend of \$500. Seconded by Brad Bushnell. Discussion occurred and motion passed unanimously. The Winter Board will pick up component for the By Laws.

Adam Hewitt will be getting notes/cards out to members who have not responded to fund-raising or donor opportunities thus far this year. This will be worked on during fall work weekend. There are bad addresses both email and physical home addresses on our rosters. It is very time intensive to find those who are missing and coming back as bad addresses. Maybe pay a person on staff (High school or college) to resolve this problem. We would like to ask each staffer from camp to list the summers they work. Reminder also of the \$250 contribution expected from each board member to help meet expense of our annual operations. Need more unique donors (new untapped). Goal is add 85 new individuals which would be a 10% increase.

Fall Work weekend to be determined. Our New board nomination suggestions are Matt Fowler, Scott Young, Jackson Norton, Jay Pichard, Doug Trotter, Ashley Olson, Len Taylor, Anthony Whitmire, Holly Harris Colson, Brad Reisinger, and Caleb McClain. There has also been great feedback (positive) from the alumni video shown at closings this summer.

Updates and concerns. Darryl Andrews former camp staffer and outstanding counselor passed away. Hewlitt Sullivan continues to struggle and his wife is very supportive of him and

camp. Robert Hardy's daughter recovered from near death. This was a miracle and Robert thanks all of Ridgecrest nation for their prayers.

Steve Lasota made motion for Jimmie Holland to continue for another two year term as president of the association. Motion seconded by Beth Olson and unanimously passed. Members meeting was announced to be held at 1pm. Jackson Norton closed in prayer and meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Roberts, Secretary