

MINUTES - Board of Directors Meeting – October 22, 2015

The Board of Directors of Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois met at the I-80 Restaurant, in Walcott, Iowa at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Andrew Abbott, Lee Mowers, Nancy Franzen, Teresa Colgan, Sierra Pope, Carrie Rankin, Jill Dashner, Tracy Schwind, Kay Sackwell-Breuer, Nancy Dunkel, John Cummings, Scott Illingsworth, Kasia Luebbe and Cherlyn Foster.

Staff: Diane Nelson, Shelly Wells-Cain, Doug Nelson, Mahlon Sibert, Hillary Blevins, Allison Johnson and Kathy Pinger.

Absent: Katie Wiedemann, Theresa Dunkin, Mallory Roudabush, Marika Jones, Anne Ryerson, and Laura Hubbard.

Welcome & Introductions:

Teresa Colgan welcomed those in attendance and declared a quorum. Natalie Johansen Murray, from TAG Communications was our guest.

Consent Agenda: (see attached)

Due to some recent changes, several items were moved from the consent agenda. Items approved in the consent agenda were the minutes from the July, 16, 2015 board meeting, June, July, and August, 2015 financials, the Performance Excellence results and the updated Finance Policies. A motion was made by Nancy Franzen to approve the amended consent agenda. Cherlyn Foster offered a second and the motion carried.

Fund Development:

Shelly Cain, VP of Marketing and Communications for the council, announced that the original goal for phase one of the Outdoor Odyssey Campaign, set in October, 2014, was reached this week with several large gifts. We are now at \$3 million dollars raised. Teresa Colgan encouraged the board to continue with their fund raising efforts as we will continue with phase 2 of the campaign.

Board Development:

Tracy Schwind, on behalf of the Board Development Committee, made a motion to accept Laurie Hamen, President, Mt. Mercy University, Cedar Rapids, IA, as a candidate to fill the open board position. A second was made by Scott Illingsworth and the motion passed.

Property Committee:

Mr. Mowers indicated that the Property Committee is in need of one additional member. A representative from Waterloo or Dubuque would be preferred. Lee made a motion on behalf of the Property Committee that board member, Andrew Abbott from Waterloo, be asked to fill the position. Jill Dashner offered a second and the motion carried.

Mr. Abbott is actively involved in the community and with our council efforts in that area.

Lee Mowers spoke about the updates at the new Waterloo office location. The additional storage space is still being constructed. The plan is to be finished by the end of November. The furniture was installed October 20th. On October 8, our office space was chosen to be featured in the Tour de Loo – an open house style tour of buildings in downtown Waterloo. About 100 people came through the office where we got to share our Girl Scout story. It was a good connection to meet some other players in the Waterloo area. Ribbon cutting for the office is scheduled for 4:00 on November 3.

The footings at Camp Liberty have been poured and walls are going up for the concrete foundation for 2 of the 3 unit houses. The entrances have been widened and graveled. Walls are scheduled to be delivered and go up on October 28. The site for the horse arena is laid out and holes for footings are scheduled to be dug and poured. The shell of the arena is anticipated to be completed by November 1. Due to the construction, the facility will be closed for all usage from November 1 through May 14.

Photos of the progress can be viewed at <http://outdoorgirls.girlscoutstoday.org/>

DISCUSSION:

Surveys have been completed at Camp Liberty and the abstracts need to be filed, then the parcels that were determined to be divested and can be sold. An agreement was signed with an adjacent land owner for parcel D and the sale should be closed by Thanksgiving.

Lee Mowers made a motion on behalf of the Property Committee to list the parcels at Camp Liberty for sale at appraised value plus 10% to cover appraisal closing and other costs, to the adjacent landowners and direct the Property Committee Chair, Denise Bulat, to negotiate on the committee's behalf. Carrie Rankin provided a second and the motion passed

The board discussed the letters/emails received about the future of camp property. All correspondence addressed to the board is posted in the Board Drop Box. One of the correspondents suggested an all council meeting to go over the plans for each camp. Usage information of our properties for the last 18 months will be used in determining future plans. A time line has been established noting that town halls will be held in February or March.

Appropriate staff has spoken to individuals who have contacted us regarding property for sale. They have been told that the only parcels being sold are currently at Camp Liberty (aka Camp Conestoga). No other property is for sale.

There are numerous ways, other than council wide meetings for members to communicate with the board and council and to voice their concerns. Staff and board members have talked to volunteers, campers, those who use the facilities and attend events. Emails have been established for easy contact with the board and Property Committee: GSBoard@GirlScoutsToday.org. and Property@GirlScoutsToday.org

Hillary Blevins, Research Analyst for the council, presented a number of reports on usage of all of our facilities, including camp property and the Rock Island Program Center. Discussion ensued regarding usage, programs, locations, property used and financial impacts. The council plans programs to encourage usage of our facilities throughout the entire council. Information is available on line with our monthly program guide. 83% of all programs planned have been completed. Those cancelled include one due to weather and the others due to low participation. No special advertising is done on program events except word of mouth and support from service units. The board has asked for a report of where the troops attending our events and outdoor programs come from, the size of the groups, how far they travel for events and outdoor programming. The usage map provided validated with clear facts the areas of the property with low or no usage.

A time line was presented to the board regarding property decisions. This should give each person and committee time to complete research, study the data gathered for all properties and make a decision by August.

Presidents Report:

Teresa reported information gained at the CEO/Board Chair Conference held last week. Five priorities were listed for councils 1) Reach more girls (nationally, only 8% of girls belong to Girl Scouts) 2) Have a higher impact 3) Increase our investment 4) Have effective operations 5) Have a strong brand and a united voice. She encouraged support of the national organization.

Our 2016-2019 Girl Scout Charter Agreement was presented. This includes an annual review to ensure we are meeting the criteria and standards for Girl Scout councils.

CEO Report:

CEO, Diane Nelson, announced that the council had exceeded their goal of 100,000 hours of service by achieving 109,872 hours of service provided by our girls, leaders and staff.

A motion was made by Nancy Franzen to adjourn the meeting. A second was provided by Tracy Schwind. The meeting adjourned at 6:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Pinger, Executive Assistant to the CEO

Attachments:

Minutes	Financials	Property updates	Discussion charts
Performance Excellence	Board Development	Years of Service	Finance Policies
Time Line			