

Board of Directors Meeting

Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois

July 15, 2021

Marriott Coralville Hotel and Conference Center

Present: Andrew Abbott, Teresa Colgan, Jill Dashner, Chelsea Hillman, Beth Nickel, Tracy Schwind, Gwen Canney, Tim Conlon, Kay Kress, Laura Ekizian, Sarah Beckman,

Absent: Anne Ryerson, Anna Patty, Theresa Dunkin, Rachel Savage, Annie Gulick, Ally-Anna Wheeler

Staff: Diane Nelson, Shelly Wells Cain, Allison Johnson, Roxie Lucas, Kelly Campion

Welcome & Introductions:

Jill Dashner, Board Chair welcomed those in attendance and declared a quorum at 4:57 PM.

After declaring a quorum, board members took a few minutes to introduce themselves. After introductions had concluded we moved to Gwen Canney, and the voice of the girl.

Voice of the Girl: (attachment)

Gwen Canney gave her presentation on her Girl Scout journey.

Consent Agenda (action):

Jill Dashner presented the consent agenda. Laura Ekizian moved to accept the consent agenda. Andrew Abbott offered second. With no discussion the motion carried.

Board Development:

Chelsea Hillman presented the Board Development update.

Vacancies

- We have three openings on our board of directors.
- Areas of focus are Dubuque, Cedar Rapids and Iowa City.
- Looking to bring diversity to our board.
- Expertise in technology.

Discussion followed and Diane Nelson, CEO asked that the board members make finding the right board member a priority. Many of the current board members have terms that are up in the next few years and the goal is to have the three vacancies filled and trained before 2022.

Financial Report: (attachment)

Roxie Lucas, CFO for the council, and Treasurer and Finance Chair Sarah Beckman presented the financials.

Investments: GSEIWI continues to yield gains off our current investments. The Finance Committee, with the guidance of outside advisors, is working on updating the investment policies that will be presented at the October or January board meeting.

Sarah Beckman asked for any potential names of someone that might have interest in joining the Finance Committee that specializes in investment policies.

May Financials: Roxie Lucas, CFO presented the month ending May 31, 2021 and the year-end forecast in more detail.

Property/Camp:

Andrew Abbott presented the property update:

Building Inspections – Site Managers have been working with key volunteers to complete full inspections on all of the buildings on our camps and the Leadership Centers that we own (Quad Cities and West Burlington). These inspections have helped the team prioritize work and inform decisions for budgeting capital improvements and special projects for 2021-22. All vehicles and equipment on camp properties have also been inspected and evaluated. They have used this information to create a long range plan for maintenance and replacement.

Camp Little Cloud Long Range Planning – Conlon Construction visited Camp Little Cloud in June to evaluate the property. The Conlon team is preparing recommendations for future improvements that will assist in the development of the strategic long range plan for Camp Little Cloud.

Camp L-Kee-Ta Renovations – Russell Skidmore the Site Manager at Camp L-Kee-Ta is wrapping up renovations on the property. Many projects were completed with the support of the AmeriCorps NCCC team in the spring. All the buildings and outdoor units have been deep cleaned, power washed and painted. We are still working on the plan to demo the pool after the Property Development Committee and the L-Kee-Ta task group agreed the repair or replacement was too much of an investment. The property is looking great and we have received several positive reviews from rental groups on the work that has been done. Our focus now will be on increasing and evaluating use.

Property Development Committee – Members of the Property Development Committee visited Camp L-Kee-Ta in June. They toured the property and provided some feedback on the renovations and work that might be done in the future. The group will be visiting Camp Little Cloud in August.

Property Services (Camp Rentals) – With recent turnover we have reevaluated the position that works with non-GS rentals. The new position, Property Services Coordinator, will be working as a part of the property team with a focus on developing relationships and increasing rentals on all three camp properties. This position will work closely with the Development team to help market corporate retreats, educational groups and special family events. We have hired Michelle Vander Horn to this new position, and she started the first week in July. Michelle has vast Girl Scout experience and has utilized all three camps as a troop leader and camp director. Michelle’s background is in hospitality management and we are excited to have her as part of the team.

Non-Girl Scout Rentals are rebounding after closing camp properties last summer. L-Kee-ta was utilized by the Burlington School District for a week long camp. Camp Little Cloud has hosted three different summer camp programs totaling 4 weeks of rental. Camp Liberty will be hosting two corporate retreats and two weddings this fall.

Summer Resident Camp – Camp has been going well. We continue to struggle with short staffing due to the hiring shortage, attrition and illness. Our camp staff team have been amazing with everyone pulling together to make sure each and every camper has a special experience while at Camp Liberty. We have recruited volunteers to support the Partner Camps at L-Kee-Ta and Little Cloud to ensure that some sessions were still able to take place. We have also been able to utilize volunteers to support activity areas at Camp Liberty.

Many of the changes made due to COVID have been beneficial to the overall camp experience. A staggered check in was implemented with different age levels arriving at different times. We also did drop off as a drive through experience. Both procedures have received very positive feedback from families.

Camper Numbers

Year	Total Camper Attendance
2015	818
2016	1358
2017	1119
2018	1164
2019	1274
2020	1182*
2021	992**

**Number of registrations for summer camp when the decision was made to transition to a virtual program.*

***Number is of currently registered campers and is not the final number adjusted for year-end attendance.*

Strategic Planning (attachment):

Allison Johnson, Chief Development Officer presented the strategic plan for 2020-2023.

President Report:

Jill Dashner, Board Chair presented the president's report:

By-law Task Force: Chaired by Theresa Dunkin, the by-law task force's first meeting will be scheduled by the end of next August.

This committee consists of: MaryAnn Brown, Mindy Stark, Amy Wheeler and Theresa Dunkin.

The current by-laws are available in the drop box, if there are any suggestions for updates that need to be brought to the attention of the task force please email Diane/Kelly with those suggestions.

CEO Report:

Membership – Diane presented the current dashboard on Looker: 3500 girls, 1000 adults and 1000 lifetime members are currently registered. We are behind where we are a year ago, however we surpassed our 57% goal of last year's girls registered.

Adjournment:

Jill asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:31PM. Andrew Abbott made the motion, Sarah Beckman offered a second, all agreed and the motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Kelly Campion, EA.