

Winter Camp Future Society Meeting
Winter Camp XXXI
Meeting held December 30, 2007
Meeting begins at 12:30 AM (WCST)

Present:

Paul Kupser, Keith King, Steve Donohue, Roger Horn, Jeff Rand, Gabe Church, Ron Donohue, John Howey, Ethan Rein, Gordon Draper

Secretary's report

Meeting minutes from WCFS Meeting at Winter Camp XXX approved with the correction that an arrow be added to Mark Bollman→'s name.

Treasurer's Report

At the beginning of the meeting, WCFS had about \$360 in assets from 10 paid members. Paul Kupser and Gabe Church both contributed \$36 (pay the fee of \$28.80 plus \$7.20 in interest). Ron Donohue will pay the necessary taxes on gains earned by the WCFS. He guarantees a 5% return.

Winter Camp Participation Award

With only one Winter Camper earning the award, there was concern that interest is waining. We agreed that there was a problem with leadership and delegation as well as youth interest. These three problems manifested themselves in the lack of interest in the Participation Award.

Discussion of Planning of Winter Camp XXXI

New events for Winter Camp XXXI are Bocce Ball and Chariot Races. There was some disappointment about the lack of new events and meals.

Paul Kupser proposed that a theme be selected early for Winter Camp XXXII. It was agreed to pick a before the end of the weekette in order to allow more time for planning. We agreed to take suggestions at lunch on December 30 and select at the Last Breakfast.

Equipment Rules

Paul Kupser reports from Clearwater cabin that there are three laptops running at all times. He thinks they are ok to use during free time, but they are taking Winter Campers away from activities and are becoming a problem. Also, there is not equality of opportunity to use them and it's creating problems among some Winter Campers. Paul says he will not bring his projector to Winter Camp XXXII, as it encouraging too much silliness.

Discussion of Cabins and Cabin use

Steve Donohue suggested that it's better to get too few cabins than too many. We've not had availability problems with Beaver Creek cabins in past years. The group agreed that it would be good to have a lounge cabin where Winter Campers can bring in day packs. Winter Campers would bring what they need for a day at the beginning and not have to go back to their cabin during the day. It was suggested that all adults occupy Clearwater cabin. There was concern that Clearwater would not have sufficient space for all the adults.

Discussion of Winter Camp Leadership

Ethan Rein reported that he was working on a Winter Camp Youth leadership manual. It is incomplete.

There is a lack of youth Leaders at Winter Camp XXXI. For example, there is no youth in charge of the newsletter. We will attempt to promote the idea of shared youth leadership for Winter Camp XXXII. The sharing of leadership will also help with a problem seen at this Winter Camp which is a lack of feeling of ownership among the youth Winter Campers. It is observed that some youth Winter Campers are not taking an ownership role at camp and a “participant” and “staff” feeling is present at times.

Ethan Rein asked if there is a disconnect between the Mahican Chapter and Winter Camp – both in participation and planning. The group agreed that there is no such disconnect.

Discussion of the Set up day

Gordon Draper points out that the youth don't seem to work as hard these days as he remembers in past Winter Camps. Keith King observed that when youth Winter Campers bring up more things, it makes them less interested in setting up group equipment. Jeff Rand suggests that a group approach can be taken to decorate the Beaver Creek cabin dining room in order to everyone exited about it.

Discussion of Arrival

The group which met and left from the Bollman was quite small this year. Discussion about Winter Campers caring about that part of Winter Camp ensues.

Discussion of Meals

Jeff Rand observed that the meals lack a sense of community. People were not sticking around following meals and gather before them for discussions and announcements. Steve Donohue points out that the lack of ownership felt by the youth is reflected in the lack of community around at mealtime.

Discussion of Events

Jeff Rand observed that the events are being youth only events in practice. Bocce was a good event which was enjoyed by youth and adults. The group agreed that in the service department, it would be nice to do some kind of project to spruce up the Beaver Creek subcamp. Also, an orientation-type event should be held first thing to get people familiar with each other and the Winter Camp program.

Discussion of Group Unity

Paul Kupser suggest that more things can be done to promote a group feeling at Winter Camp, including writing songs, creating a unique grace, and pushing Winter Camp Café Press items.

Ron Donohue suggest that set up can be a group activity where the group is split up into teams which are assigned tasks to accomplish.

Discussion of Winter Camp Promotion

It was agreed that Winter Camp will be easier to promote throughout the year when a theme is selected as far in advance as we plan to select it.

Plans for Winter Camp XXXV

Old WCFS Projects discussed, including the neckerchiefs at Winter Camp XXX and the T Shirts at Winter Camp XX.

1,000 year time capsule

Nothing new to discuss for this project

Meeting Adjoured at 2:10 AM