

## **Camp Quest NorthWest meeting minutes**

**Round Table Pizza (15730 1st Ave S, Burien, WA)  
Thursday, February 21, 2013, 6:30pm sharp**

Board Members in attendance:

President – Chuck Wolber

Vice President – Brennon Church

Secretary – Jami Blackann

Treasurer – Jerry Schiffelbein

Members at Large – Becky Friedman, Brian Demong, Lou Amadio

### **Action Items:**

- \* Chuck: Finish half-hour presentation about CQNW.
- \* Chuck: Contact August about applying.
- \* Chuck: Contact the Clergy Project and make inquiries about finding a speaker.
- \* Chuck: Take inventory of CQNW supplies.
- \* Chuck: Northwest Freethought Conference prep.
- \* Chuck: Ask Amanda about Espionage.
- \* Chuck: Contact all the staff/board/volunteer and parent lists about the retreat. Send RSVP list to Brennon.
- \* Jerry: Update IRS address.
- \* Jami and Brian: Start thinking about a t-shirt design.
- \* Jami: Create Meetups for the retreat and next board meeting.
- \* Becky: Ask applicants for program ideas.
- \* Becky and Sam: If possible, figure out plan for new ads for Ask an Atheist.
- \* Lou/John/Jami: Continue working on Google Adwords.
- \* Everyone: Think of a theme for camp.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

**Start time:** 7:00 p.m.

- \* Previous meeting minutes were adopted.

### **Review of Action Items from Last Meeting:**

- \* Chuck: Finish half-hour presentation about CQNW. [**Multiple pages put together. Sagan's Demon Haunted World is a great resource for presentations.**]
- \* Chuck: Contact the Clergy Project and make inquiries about finding a speaker. [**Not yet.**]
- \* Chuck: Take inventory of CQNW supplies after Darwin Day. [**Not yet. Will happen before camp.**]
- \* Chuck: Northwest Freethought Conference prep. [**Not yet.**]
- \* Chuck and Becky: Have a schedule matrix prepared for the February board meeting. [**Done.**]
- \* Brennon: Pick up arts and crafts activities, a few Hex Chess games, and the t-shirts from storage. [**Done.**]
- \* Brennon: Add parent/camper feedback to Google Drive. [**Done.**]
- \* Brennon: Figure out how many campers we can reasonably handle this year. [**Done - 56.**]
- \* Brennon: Figure out how much we owe Camp Kirby and send the total to Jerry. [**Done. Jerry sent the check for ]**
- \* Jerry: Update IRS address. [**Not yet. Jerry will check.**]
- \* Jami and Brian: Start thinking about a t-shirt design. [**Not yet.**]
- \* Jami: Create silhouette labels for donation jars and flyers. [**Done.**]
- \* Jami: Send out announcement to board about next meeting in addition to Meetup. [**Done.**]
- \* Becky and Sam: If possible, figure out plan for new ads for Ask an Atheist. Ad for Darwin Day, Billy. [**Can't make ads right now – too overwhelmed. Becky asks for a general script, not necessarily a Billy ad.**]
- \* Lou/John/Jami: Continue working on Google Adwords. [**Not yet. Lou figured out his email problem.**]
- \* Lou: Get as many staff interviews finished before Darwin Day as possible. Encourage them to attend Darwin Day. [**Got a chance to talk to a lot of people at Darwin Day.**]

### **Financial Report:**

- \* Contributions: \$45,008.57
  
- \* Expenses so far: \$28,910.62
  
- \* Balance: \$16,097.95

### **Registration Update:**

- \* 28 campers have signed up so far.
  
- \* Brennon suggests that we set our limit at 56 campers. This will give us 3 cabins each of boys and girls. Don't want to expand too quickly.
  
- \* Chuck makes a motion that we cap the number of campers at 56. Becky seconds.
  - \* Vote: Passes unanimously.
  
- \* Cabin capacities are available on Google Drive document ("Camp Kirby Cabins"), along with bathroom locations and suggested gender divisions.

\* Action item for September: Look into registering foster kids for camp. The state of Washington will pay for this.

\* CITs pay full price for registration.

\* Chuck: Set Becky up with full Wufoo access.

### **Staff/Counselor Update:**

\* 19 total staff applications so far.

\* A number of people have said they want to apply, but haven't yet.

\* Lou has invited everyone to the retreat.

\* Set up interviews at the end of March. Get confirmation from applicants by April 1.

\* Chuck: Contact August about applying.

\* Becky: Ask applicants for program ideas.

### **Parents as Counselors/Staff Members:**

\* The board discussed the pros and cons of hiring parents. Having a parent present changes the child's away-from-home experience. Staying overnight away from home and parents is part of the point. We understand that there are several parents who are excited about participating, but we want to discourage them from being counselors if their kids are attending. Therefore, parents will be considered, but they won't be first on our list.

### **2013 Camp Schedule Matrix**

\* Available on Google Drive. The board discussed the schedule so far.

\* Becky: Parents want to see an activity before picking up their kids.

### **Taste of Camp Quest / Darwin Day Review:**

\* Almost 40 kids present.

\* Gears and Legos: Big hit.

\* General feeling: Successful event, good feedback, though it was a little chaotic. Hard to corral kids for a focused activity.

\* Lou: We need a check-in/check-out. We should provide bracelets for kids with contact information so kids are accounted for.

\* Becky's Review:

For future kids events:

\* No lollypops or popsicle-type items. Too much running to be safely enjoyed.

\* Have a check-in/check-out system with bracelets to manage in/out for children 10 and under. It was good we didn't have any *truly* lost children. That way, adults in the main room know that any kid still wearing a bracelet has "escaped" and needs to be returned to the kids' room.

\* Campership tip jar in the main hall AND at the kids' room check-in table.

\* When available during pitches/presentations about camp, kids should always participate in the explanation. They should be well prepped and well prompted. Example:

“Between archery, kayaking, or campfire, which did you like more?”

“What do you remember most about the food?”

“What was funnier, freethought or talent show?”

“What sciencey thing did you do that was interesting?”

\* I heard more than a few adults say they wished they could have heard the kids say something. Whatever Lou said (I was next door), it apparently went over fantastically because they were also pining to go to camp themselves!

\* Always have a construction project. Bridge building, egg drop, solar balloons.

\* We had 10 past campers attend the event. Also got several sign-ups after Darwin Day.

\* Chuck: Ask Amanda about Espionage.

### **March Camp Kirby Retreat:**

\* We need a list of commitments from people.

\* Chuck: Contact all the staff/board/volunteer and parent lists about retreat. Organize a grocery list and cooking responsibilities.

\* We'll be using these buildings: the main lodge (large kitchen building), the central/staff lodge, and Herman's hut, the lodge near the beach past the main lodge.

\* Note: We'll be sharing camp with four or five alumni members on March 16 who are spending the night at camp after the auction. Shouldn't be a problem for us.

### **Calendar Reminders:**

\* Retreat: March 15, 16, 17.

\* Staff Selection Announcements: April 1

\* Camp Session Plan Update: May 1

\* Plan is finished: June 1

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2013**

**Round Table Pizza (15730 1st Ave S, Burien, WA)**

**End time: 9:30pm**