

Camp Quest NorthWest meeting minutes

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

Saturday, April 11, 2015, 11:00am

Board Members in attendance:

President – Chuck Wolber

Vice President/Acting Treasurer – Brennon Chruch

Secretary – Jami Blackann

Members at Large – Michael Warbington, Bridget Lombardo, Becky Friedman

Others in attendance: Sharon Zolnowsky, Brian Demong, Kayla Ritchie, Chase Keffeler, Sean Duncan, Dwayne Kirby, Dan Lombardo

Action Items:

* Chuck: For CPR/AED training, investigate acquiring equipment and come up with a proposal.

* Bridget: Look into renting CPR/AED equipment.

* Michael: Send out a poll for preferred dates for the staff day of training.

* Becky: Send a programming supply list to quartermaster.

* Chuck: Ask parents on waitlist if they'd be willing to send their kids to OR if a bus from Seattle were available. Ping Registration Committee.

* Brennon: Investigate the insurance liabilities of transporting kids to Oregon. Using our own vehicles vs renting?

* Chuck: Contact CQ Inc. about coordinating invisible deities of different camps so there isn't conflict.

* Jami: Create Meetup for next board meeting.

* Jami: Change banner on website.

Meeting Minutes:

Start time: 11:43am

* Chuck moved to accept the March 11 and March 22 minutes without a public reading. Michael seconded. The Board accepted the minutes unanimously.

Review of Previous Action Items:

* Becky - create and send to Kathy LT supplemental form **[not yet]**

* Kathy - contact all waitlisted campers to encourage to enroll for Oregon **[done]**

* Chuck - will attend CPR cert training class in May so others counselor can get CPR training **[officially signed up]**

* Chase - draft notes for improvement for next year's Darwin Day **[done]**

* Becky - post meeting minutes from March 11 meeting **[done]**

* Mike - follow up with applicant for archery interests **[done]**

* Brennon - look into upgrading storage unit **[not yet]**

Treasurer's Report:

* Contact Brennon for details.

Staffing Committee Update:

* Gordon has been doing interviews and background checks. He sent the status via Board email.

* Michael sent email to the Board about staffing updates.

Archery:

* Michael went over potential archery leaders and their experience. There are several good candidates.

* Lou is investigating teaching an archery course to bring up a few instructors. His cost is \$30 for each student (packets, certification plus shipping and processing), plus each student will need to pay and take online courses for safe sports and its certification. Currently the certification agency is out of packets.

Sexual Health Instructor:

* There's a good candidate for this role with good experience (trained through Planned Parenthood). This might be a one-day position, but she should still go through the application and background check process.

Nurse:

* We do not have a second nurse or medical assistant registered for Oregon. Because of the smaller camp size, Michael thinks it would be acceptable to designate a female staff member as medical assistant, perhaps the female cabin staff lead. Caitlyn C has also volunteered to assist in that capacity to the extent that her position as cabin counselor allows. Savannah has agreed to be the medical assistant at Washington with the understanding that this would preclude her from being a cabin counselor.

Oregon:

* Current staff roster includes 9 specialists and floating staff and 8 cabin counselors for a total of 17 staff members. One of those cabin counselors (Kevin W) is up for approval at this board meeting. Five additional counselors are available as alternates or in case of increased enrollment, one of whom (Lara S) is also up for approval. We should decide at this meeting whether or not to invite Lara to camp as she will need to make travel arrangements from Nevada.

* Our volunteer staff for Oregon still outpaces our camper enrollment, so Michael's recommendation is to consider stepping up our efforts to encourage camper enrollment with local Oregon freethought groups. We should only increase staff levels if there is a significant bump in enrollment. Caitlyn C has been reaching out to a few CFI groups in Vancouver and Portland and has requested additional brochures be mailed to her.

Washington:

* Current staff roster includes 9 specialists and floating staff and 19 cabin counselors, for a total of 28 staff members. Seven of those cabin counselors are up for approval at this board meeting. We still need to name our male and female cabin staff leads. (That is a decision that the camp director and assistant director should discuss.)

* These 28 staff members represent a hypothetical "full complement" of staff with a fairly even balance of genders. With four recent female staff applicants we do not have the dire need for female cabin staff that we did a month ago. We should continue to encourage staff applications to Washington to the tune of 1-3 additional counselors of each gender with the expectation that some staff members may unexpectedly need to withdraw from camp.

Travel Grant Policy:

* Michael would like a concrete policy in place. First come, first serve, based on needs of camp and needs of staff member. Another consideration: requests should be made in advance (deadline: end of April). Tell everyone we have a limited pot (\$500), so don't apply if you really don't need it. This policy is for 2015; will need to revisit the issue for the future.

Staff Day of Training:

* Michael has a proposal in the Google documents ("Staff Training Proposal" in main directory), listing possible dates, venue, agenda, and questions. Michael will send out a poll for dates.

* Discussion about acquiring CPR mannequin and practice AED machine for staff training. Equipment is expensive, even when purchased used. Chuck will investigate buying, or better yet renting them, and come up with a proposal. Bridget will also research renting them from institutions like schools.

* Chuck approved staff candidates.

Darwin Day Review:

* Chase gave a quick review along with some recommendations for the future.

* Check in was smooth.

* Group activities are a big hit, something we should do more of in the future. Things that get all the kids engaged.

* Need better signage downstairs.

Programming Committee:

* Becky reviewed progress of the programming committee. Last meeting focused on solidifying morning activities and matching staff leads to activities.

* Oregon: Working on program to incorporate invisible deities. Newton the Newt is a strong possibility.

* They have a good setup in place for pod structures.

* Will figure out what supplies are needed and will make requests. Due date: within the next two weeks.

* Before camp: Run through miniature versions of each activity with staff leads.

* Brian asked about skull replication, possibly raising the money ourselves, or doing a fundraiser: Acquire 2 or 3 in addition to the Burke Box. These are museum quality and worth the investment. Human and chimpanzee skull. Brian would purchase and own the Peking Man skull.

Registration Committee Update:

* Brennon gave an update of current camper registration count.

* Michael wants to send an email to various freethought groups for campers. Becky has been contacting groups. Continue outreach efforts, but make sure to coordinate communication with Registration Committee.

Transportation:

* For the future, or possibly this year if there's enough interest: Having a bus would help us register campers in OR. Becky points out how important it is to fill our roster in OR. For this year, we'd want to offer transportation there *and* back. Chuck will ask parents on waitlist.

* No LT campers so far at OR.

Social Committee:

* Nothing new to report. Contact Bridget with any questions.

Quartermaster Committee:

* Nothing new to report. Contact Sharon with any questions.

Art Committee:

* Brian Demong passed around a copy of the t-shirt design with Greek letters for the pod groups.

* Michael's suggestion: Include both mascots on the shirt? The OR mascot can be subtle, since we're introducing it this year. Newt peering over the side?

* Flag: Brian would like to modify the current flag and improve the colors, design.

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:00pm

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

End time: 1:21 pm