



Town Hall Meeting Minutes

03/26/2019 Camp Wassatoga Lodge 15230 N Blue Point Trail, Effingham IL

6:30-7:00 Delegates Only

7:00-8:00 Open to the Public

1. Meeting you where you are; GSOFSI movement.
 - Bringing the resource to you-Google STEM challenge/Mobile STEM unit
 - Operational restructure at Council Office: The changes are in your favor
2. Where in the Council is Loretta Graham Success
 - Has been a huge success, will continue into 2019-2020.
 - Bullying has been a hot topic at these events
3. Annual Meeting: Rend Lake College, April 27th, 2019
 - No silent auction, if you still want to bring a basket to Annual Meeting, please do so and we will use it at Leading Ladies events.
 - No question and answer portion: replacing Q & A with Town Hall meetings in Spring/Fall
 - Annual Meeting is a business meeting, it's not a "closed meeting" but it is only for girls 14 and older. Sensitive issues may be discussed and not appropriate for younger girls
 - Will include the Adult Awards and Vote the Slate
 - All that Glitters Ceremony will be after the Annual Meeting
 - Next year: 100 Year Celebration 2020 –Exciting year to come
4. Donations & Pass through Donations 75%:25%
 - Could there be a minimum or options available besides this change.
 - This is strictly for donations, not specific troop fundraising or volunteer hours
 - Discussed was optional giving at Annual Meeting
5. Fund Development
 - United We Lead Gala: \$ 175/person a ticket. We have to increase adult generated funding from external resources.

- Volunteers can participate/support by baking for the dessert pull (Girl Scout cookie inspired desserts)
- This Gala will open up more scholarships for graduating High School Seniors.
- With the untimely passing of our guest speaker, we are searching for a powerful guest speaker for the Gala.

6. Property Updates

- Improvements made at all 4 camps over the last year.
- Long Range Property Planning Committee will be finished by November. John McCracken heading the committee.

7. Program

- Lots of discussion on bringing programs to ALL areas "Meeting you where you are"

8. Membership

- Early Bird Starts April 1st
- Extended Membership for New Members starts April 1st

9. Product-Cookies

- We are not changing the price of Cookies
- Cookie Sales are down, had to extend cookie season. That trend is everywhere, not just our Council.

10. Communications

- Talked about Sensitive/Social issues. A handout containing FAQ's about social issues was given to the Service Unit manager to distribute.
- Statement was made "We do not have a relationship with Planned Parenthood, We do not fund Planned Parenthood & we do not partner with Planned Parenthood."

11. Fall Town Hall Meetings

- Dates/Times: TBD

12. Open Discussion / Q&A

- Hunter Safety Training/Use of BB guns a possibility? GSUSA says No, Loretta will be bringing it to her national CEO conference in 2 weeks. It is all about safety, we want our girls to be safe. We cannot lose Girl Scouts to Boy Scouts because we do not offer this program.
- Are we still accepting applications for the Long Range Property Task Force? No, the committee has been set.
- Any way the Communications Department can work on a "social media catalogue" to encourage volunteers/managers to participate. This could also be helpful with finding new members? Communications Department is working on some platforms to help with this.
- Boy Scouts in Oblong do public fundraising, we need MORE of what they do. Why not partner with the Boy Scouts for certain events. We are not anti-Boy Scout, we are PRO GIRL SCOUTS!!