



girl scouts of southern illinois

Town Hall Meeting Minutes

03/28/2019 Girl Scout Little House 100 N 20th Street, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

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%
5. Fund Development
 - United We Lead Gala: \$ 175/person a ticket. We have to increase adult generated funding from external sources.
 - 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 Cost \$35

9. Product-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.
- Emergency line for programs: We are needing clarification on what constitutes using this number. Is it also for non-emergencies, but pressing issues?
- What is the plan for the Mt. Vernon office now that it is almost vacant? GSUSA Sharon Baade provided a plan of the Long Range Property Planning Committee.
- How to proceed with the properties within the Council.
 - i. The committee is focusing on programing/membership/facilities. The Girls will drive where we go with these properties.
 - ii. Geographic area brings programs to girls and vice Versa. There is great opportunities for providing transportation to/from camp throughout the Council.
- Talk about keeping the same large programs throughout our jurisdiction year over year, therefore girls from all areas have the opportunity to attend a large program.

- Resident camp fees higher off premise vs Girl Scout Property. Families cannot afford these. The Council is willing to negotiate with Camp Ondessonk (& etc) to reduce rates for full week for Girl Scout use only.
- Can we post program partners online: Camp Cedarpoint- partner for resident camp. Touch of Nature-partner with for special needs girls for programming.
- Leaders fun weekend at Camp Butterfly-different theme each year.