

DCNW Board Minutes - September 27th , 2019 - 10:00 - 11:50 am

Present:

Sheri Garzelli
Oblio Stroyman
Jon Mark
Kevin Haggerty - Facilitator
Saffire Bouchelion
Nala Walla
Sherry Hoffman - Board Communications Liaison

Next Meeting: October 25th at 10 am

Proposed Agenda:

Review of the overall schedule and facility
Length
Pay by day aspect
Relationship and interactions with Flagler
Our choices about the schedule and balance of activities

- *kitchen and food
- * YPP
- * Registration
- * Community Service
- * Programming
- * Marketing
- * Budget and Finance

Who is planning to stay on in Camp involvement/leadership
Ideas for more community involvement

Kevin opened the meeting doing a guided grounding for the group.

We each then shared our own personal highlights from camp.

Sheri said she sent out an email to all Camp attendees (via Brown Paper Tickets) with the link for the follow-up survey, and encouraged us to look for it.

Started discussing about how the length of Camp worked this year. Sheri said Flagler is now only allowing us to reserve 7 total days. Jon said he thought the length was right for where our community is right now and is willing to let the next board decide. Saffire also thought the length really worked; that a week at camp really lands well. Sheri shared that a 5-day camp would be great if people stayed the whole time; also, that allowing people to attend for only one or two days is both good on one hand because it allows for flexibility, but not go in that it didn't feel that cohesive. Ideally she would like people to stay all week and for all have the experience together. Oblio would like people to have to come at the beginning rather than people coming in later, and instead of people coming into the middle. Nala agreed with Oblio; also thought 10 days was too long and that having flexibility feels inclusive ... she liked people being able to come and get smaller glimpses of Dance Camp. She did agree that people coming Wed & Thurs might have had an odd event. We could encourage people to understand they are coming into a container and to choose when they are attending. Questioned how it worked for registration. Kevin shared his sensitivity regarding the container and said it felt pretty good despite the coming and going. Every year there is a dance camp consciousness and there is a palpable feeling of people coming and being ready to go and be fully present to participate. Definitely want to, in the future, really describe what's in store in the programming. Kevin's was the facilitator of the orphan small group; said it went fabulously. Sherry shared that until we are flourishing, maybe we can offer day to day options, and it's good to allow people to have that glimpse and hope they will come longer in the future. Nala noticed we had enough people staying all week that really anchored the camp and she wants to continue to allow locals to come when they can. Jon suggested an early bird option to get discounted entry to camp if they bought a full camp. He also suggested to get the programming schedule much earlier to help folks decide.

Sheri said our **dates for 2020 have been reserved with Flagler: Aug 9 - 16th.**

Then we went into discussion of our relationship with Flagler. Sheri said kitchen check-out went really well, that she & Jon are really happy and Cline from Flagler said it was the best check-out in his experience at Hoskins/Fort Flagler. Overall, the

relationship is going well, though Flagler is getting more difficult more difficult to work with, as a government institution in the current climate (they are becoming more and more rigid).

Our conversation then moved to the chef and the kitchen. Jon noted Spruce has years of experience, despite the complaints; he would like to see us get a snack coordinator. Oblio didn't love the food this year. And sometimes if you were late, it meant that you didn't get food. A couple of people complained about the kitchen dynamic. Brooke Hatch stepped in and had a good conversation with Spruce. She said he did take some good feedback. Sherry mentioned in the past we had a person who was more of a buffer between Spruce and the rest of the kitchen staff (perhaps that was James Schaberg or Cary Whitehead). Oblio said we need to hire someone who fits in with our culture. Nala weighed in and she said Spruce was extremely challenged because we had doubled our number of attendees in less than two weeks. She shared that the chef before him was a disaster, and that Spruce brings in locally sourced, organic food for \$4 per meal per person, which is practically unheard of. If we change, we will be paying more and may not be able to get as good of food. Nala also related Spruce's assessment that he was challenged by being under-staffed. Nala agreed with needing a snack coordinator, as well as a food beautification person to attend to the tea area, bowls of fruit etc. Nala stated that if we change chefs, she may not choose to be on the recruitment committee (or involved with the kitchen in general ?), as that would require a tremendous amount of work; using Spruce for the past few years in a row has made for much less work for her. Sheri considers Spruce part of our Dance Camp family and has a preference to work with him and involve him further. Oblio still not interested in dealing with someone who doesn't fit in with our culture. Sherry said we need to clarify with kitchen staff about whether the behaviour is truly abusive, because we don't want to tolerate abusive behavior at Camp. Jon said we need to set up clear expectations in regards to chef behavior. This is a complex situation.

Sheri wants to know how many Board members we are going to need, and about October 4th meeting. Sheri will stay on the Board, though will not be part of the CCG. Oblio is open and excited to continue, and this is conditional upon who is involved and how. Jon would like to help with transitioning of CCG and will not be doing before-camp work. We have some good names for the CCG. Jon would like to transition off the board in January and would like to remain available as a board advisor.

Nala doesn't want to do committee work and would also like to be a board advisor (for example, might attend some meetings, with the intention of weaving her way out. If the

CCG could have their own meetings and the Board was more of a steering vehicle for camp, she would be interested.

Saffire feels like he's had one foot in and one foot out this year and apologized for not showing up the way he did the year before ... this was not his game plan, and is not his usual MO. At camp, he was not physically okay. He loves all of us and has had miracles happen at camp. He is not really sure what is appropriate for the future; he feels very inspired by our group, though not sure of his involvement. This process feels more labor intensive than it needs to be and he is not sure what the answer is.

Kevin asked Sherry how her year had been as a scribe and thanked her for her very timely and detailed work. Sherry acknowledged how much Saffire's words resonated, and she prefers to sit with the topic of where her involvement is going. She views herself as a board advisor, and desires to wait and see who shows up and in what capacity. Would like to see things get much easier than they have been for planning Camp.

Jon said out beyond the ideas of what leadership there is....there are people who show up, and we have, and we have made this our own. And now it's time for other people to step up and his role needs to shift. Jon thanked Sherry for showing up as a board advisor and many others. Looking forward to October 4th meeting.

Kevin shared that it's been a tough year for various reasons, and that taking a week off is a financial hardship. And it was the first year camp that there were no BIG issues for Peace Council to take care of and how wonderful that feels. He wants to be at Dance Camp and be on Peace Council and very torn because with his personal goals he may not be able to be involved. Kevin is very interested in seeing what happens October 4th. If there is a synergy there, he will have a much clearer idea of what his involvement will be ...committed energetically and ethically. Board involvement is contingent on other life realities.

Kevin suggested a follow-up meeting. Saffire and Sheri also want to have a follow-up meeting. Nala can't make next meeting - Jon may be able to record the October 4th. We set next meeting for this Board for October 25th, 10am to noon.

Kevin asked what's next. Jon said let's look at new board members. Sheri asked how we get board elected. Per Jon, the board choose CCG. And we acknowledged many of these positions will emerge from the community and be chosen as such. He also

announced that per Cherie Lee we have made about 5K; though there are a few outstanding bills and receipts with 4K in the bank.

Sheri suggested that we give Robyn (\$100) and Vera (\$50) from YPP an honorarium for above and beyond service at Camp, and we enthusiastically passed that request.

Kevin spoke to how much we had accomplished, building something from nothing, and how we should give ourselves a moment of big appreciation for making Camp happen. His words were much more detailed, beautiful and eloquent and a wonderful way to end the meeting.

Next Meeting: October 25th at 10 am