

SUFFOLK COMMITTEE FOR CAMPING
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Date: September 6, 2017

HOLTSVILLE ECOLOGY SITE

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President David Lipman opened the General Membership Meeting of Suffolk Committee for Camping at 7:30 PM. The salute to the flag was led by Dave followed by a moment of silence.

Board members in attendance: Clare Gunning, Joe Kukral, Todd Lavender, David Lipman, Sharynn Lipman, Carmella Masem, and Steve Stengel.

Clubs Represented: Castaways, Pathfinders, Polecats, LIBBA, LI Campers, Cruisers, Hooters, Weekend Warriors, FNA, Friends by Nature, Mallards, Allegros, Pioneers and Happy Campers of LI.

Minutes from the last meeting were read. Motion to accept as read by Steve Koepper, second by John Groves.

Legislative: Joe Kukral attended the Parks and Rec Legislative Meeting. Many resolutions passed granting clubs authorization to use parks for events and runs. Tabled a resolution to bond out an \$8k survey as there is more than enough money in the capital fund for this. One of the legislators asked about the numbers of campers camping at the parks. The response from the Commissioner was that the numbers were down at the beginning of the season due to the weather. Joe, with the membership's approval, will go back to them that it was not only the weather but the increased fees and non-refundable fees that caused the camping to be down. They still have issue with getting people to work at the eastern campgrounds. Joe questions why the Parks and Rec department are supplying so much money for all the pocket parks that are donated and then fall under Parks and Rec. Hundreds of dollars are going to the upkeep of the Vanderbilt Museum even though they have an endowment fund. He's glad to see that they are notifying Dave that there are group site cancellations so that he can send out a blast email to clubs. This was suggested by Joe and Dave last year.

LIBBA: At Shinnecock, they are busing in seasonal workers from Lake Ronkonkoma. The bus goes back and forth to see if the parking lot is full. Rules are not being enforced. Commercial generators are on the beach. Both air compressors are working at Shagwan in Montauk. At Smith Point, the county is having a beach cleanup Sept 16 which is sponsored by LIBBA. The beach is currently closed at Smith Point because the water is up to the dunes. People are calling and complaining that Burma Road is closed and the Christmas trees restoration was cancelled. It's the Feds that are stopping Burma Road from opening.

Correspondence: None

Membership: No update given

Happy Campers: No update given

FCRV: Applications available for another camping opportunity, Sept 15, 16, & 17th at Cathedral Pines. Speak to Clare.

Park Liaison: David is impressed with how the parks look so much better this year than last. Indian Island is beautiful. They are driving through and picking up stuff. Good security. Southaven has the garbage cans in the group area. The ash barrels are in - one in the group area and one by individual sites. The site markers have come down in the group area and the numbers are painted on the roadway. It came up that you are now allowed to launch kayaks and canoes Thursday to Sunday from the opening behind the playground if you are camping at Southaven. Smith Point has slowed down on cleaning sites in between each camper coming in. They are having personnel issues in all the parks. At Sears Bellows there were people going back behind the group area, where the DEC had put the trees they had cut down, with chain saws and cutting that wood up. Chain saws are not allowed in the parks. Wood was delivered to Southaven and Smith Point from the cut wood at Southaven. Dave learned they closed the gate at Indian Island for the fishermen because there were people partying all night at the picnic area. Fishermen can still go in but they must walk it. Complaint that day tripper fisherman was being charged the overnight fee at Theodore Roosevelt even though he left at end of day. Dave suggested contacting Sayville about that. Frank from LIBBA said he'd check into it.

Complaints brought up about pop ups being allowed in 200s at Smith Point (they are allowed) and campers not being allowed in no slide out sites even if they promise not to put out the slides. Complaint that someone stayed a week and then their sister came with a different green key and got a different site with the same camper for a week. Dave requested email with the info so he can find out what happened as that is not allowed. Complaint about garbage pickup being sporadic at Indian Island. Complaint about the mosquitos in Sears Bellows. A discussion of the quails being used to kill mosquitos. Problem with the dump stations at Cedar Point and Southaven.

Smith Point bridge has a new traffic pattern. They are checking registrations to limit the amount of weight on the bridge at any one time. They are working on a solution for the northbound traffic. The parking lot project at Smith Point for third car parking is working out well.

Starting Sept 11, you will need to use the Jessup Ave bridge to go to Cupsogue as the Westhampton Beach bridge is closed for maintenance.

Cedar Point has a new check in building exactly like Indian Island. Issue with the alarm is holding up the finishing of those buildings.

Member questioned why you can't use personal watercraft at Sears Bellows in front lake when there's no one there to rent out the county watercraft. Joe Kukral will check with commissioner.

Complaint about the water spigots in the parks, people who camp with dogs and leave them tied up outside all day, people plugging into electric that's not on their site.

Treasurer's report was given. Next meeting October 4th.

Good and Welfare: Dave and Sharynn Lipman have a new granddaughter

50/50 Won by Louis Bohnet. He donated his winnings of \$67 back to the scholarship fund.

A motion to close the meeting made by Mike Schmidt and second by John Groves.

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

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ALL ISLAND RV	631-680-5576
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