

Youth Camp Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2020 | 10:00 am
Department of State Health Services

Meeting Site:

Microsoft Office Teams Live

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted online using Microsoft Teams.

Attendees:

- Jason Guzman (DSHS)
- Jeff Mantia (DSHS)
- Simone Salloum (DSHS/HHSC)
- Victoria Price (Cmte. Member)
- Dan Neal (Cmte. Member)
- Bob Miller (Cmte. Member)
- Danny Dawdy (Committee Chair)
- Leah Mesches (Cmte. Member)
- Brandon Briery (Cmte. Member)
- Andrew Burchfield (Cmte. Member)
- Allen Smith (Cmte. Member)
- Patricia Osborn (Cmte. Member)

Minutes:

1. Mr. Danny Dawdy - Welcome and call to order.
 - Start time – 10:00 am
 - Mr. Dawdy confirms all committee members are present for meeting.
2. Mr. Dowdy requests new committee members Dan Neal and Leah Mesches to introduce themselves.
 - Mr. Dan Neal introduces himself to committee.
 - Ms. Leah Mesches introduces herself to committee.
3. Mr. Jeff Mantia - Review and approval of the meeting minutes, as written, from the last meeting of the Youth Camp Advisory Committee (October 23, 2019).
 - Committee unanimously approves minutes as written.
4. Ms. Simone Salloum and Mr. Mantia - Review of Youth Camp 2019-2020 inspections, licenses issued, compliance actions taken. Draft of proposed penalty matrix, rules update, and addition of FAQs to webpage.
 - Ms. Salloum provided updates in regards to rule changes and new penalty matrix.
 - Mr. Mantia provided updates on camp licensing, inspections, and compliance actions taken for 2019 and 2020 camp seasons; as well as newly created Youth Camp FAQ, clarification, and guidance webpage.
 - Mr. Dowdy suggests that the program send an email to all camps, providing them details of rule changes adopted in 2020. Mr. Mantia agrees to send email to all camps regarding updates to rules.

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5. Ms. Patricia Osborn - Recommendations for language to be added to rule clarifying "sunscreen is not a prescription medicine".
 - Ms. Osborn proposes her draft of rule language be reviewed by the program to make final recommendations for a rule change, which the Committee unanimously approves.
6. Ms. Salloum and Mr. Mantia – Review of Youth Camp rules regarding Committee Member expiration dates being non-compliant and how to resolve the issue.
 - Ms. Salloum reviews rule concerning committee member's expiration dates to expire August 31 of odd numbered years.
 - Mr. Mantia conducts random draw to align 4 non-compliant member expiration dates to be in compliance with rule and statute.
 - Mr. Neal has inquiry concerning how long does the chair of the committee serve?
 - Ms. Salloum confirms the statute and rule both require the committee to select annually a member to serve as chair.
 - Mr. Mantia proposes he will add this topic to the next meeting agenda.
7. Youth Camp Specialized Activities discussion open to all for comment.
 - Consensus from brief committee discussion, all agree they like description in rule.
 - Mr. Andrew Burchfield - Other activities discussed like Go-Karts / motor sports are those considered as a Youth Camp Specialized Activity by the program? Yes, per Mr. Mantia
 - Mr. Neal - Ninja Warrior type activities may become more popular in near future. Program opinion: per rule, as long as the activity is conducted outdoors it would fall under Challenge course activities.
8. Camper on Camper Abuse topic open to all for comment.
 - Mr. Neal – Need to emphasize topic in youth camp staff trainings.
 - Mr. Bob Miller – Offer to share Boy Scouts of America training material on this topic, to be sent to Mr. Mantia and forwarded to all committee members and youth camps.
 - Mr. Mantia – Confirms he reviews all new youth protection trainings for the topic "Consensual and Non-Consensual Sexual Activity between campers", which is required by rule for an approved training program.
9. Public Comment
 - None
 - Committee members' additional comments
 - Mr. Dawdy wishes to express his, and the committee's, appreciation for the guidance the program has provided in regards to the challenges facing camps in regards to COVID-19 and also holding this meeting virtually.
 - Mr. Miller suggest the program send an email to all youth camp operators commending them for safely operating camps this year, and the program agrees to send out such an email.
10. Next meeting date set to Wednesday March 3, 2021 at 10 AM, meeting place TBD.
11. Meeting Adjourned at 10:52 AM