

SUFFOLK COMMITTEE FOR CAMPING
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Date: October 7, 2020
CATHEDRAL PINES COUNTY PARK

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President Dave 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: Bob Colwell, Clare Gunning, Joe Kukral, Todd Lavender, Dave Lipman, Sharynn Lipman, Carmella Masem, Donna O'Shaughnessy and Ed O'Shaughnessy.

Clubs Represented: Pathfinders, Friends by Nature, Cruisers, LI Castaways, Polecats, Long Islanders, Mallards, Carefree, LIBBA, Outsiders, and Drifters

Minutes from the last meeting were read.

Motion to accept by John Groves and second by Mike Schmidt.

Jason Smagin has been appointed the new Parks Commissioner.
David thanked Joe Kukral for all his help in making the 2020 camping season happen.

Legislative/Park Liaison: Joe Kukral thanked everyone for their patience and understanding. Jason Smagin came over from Legal to be the new Commissioner. He is willing to listen but wants everything in writing. A plan had to be submitted with drawings in May to convince the county to open camping as they had opened golfing and hiking trails. Many, many phone calls and texts involving Joe, Dave and the Commissioner happened before they opened the campgrounds. The Covid numbers were being followed and there was never an uptick that could be tracked back to camping. If there had been, camping would have been shut down again.

Dave reports that the Cathedral Pines water and electric upgrades will not be happening next year. At this point, Kick-Off may not be happening if a way to stage it safely isn't figured out.

The new Commissioner loves Cedar Point and would like to see funds diverted out there to improve it. Tree trimming, site leveling, and site widening are on his agenda. The contract for the Glamping sites was defaulted on. There was a picnic area created overlooking the water that will remain. The platforms are still intact as that park doesn't have the machinery to remove them from the ball field. The parks department really wants to get the store reopened. There's a 30 page RFP (Request for Proposal) that has to be followed. The campers really want it. The locals really want it. The previous operators did well. The problem is the amount of money that has to be paid up front and then monthly.

The Commissioner has been at all the parks checking the residency requirements.

Member complaints were made about day tippers being allowed in but visitors aren't allowed to campsites. There are loopholes that are being exploited though.

The one car at Smith Point per campsite rule will not be going away.

They are closing Smith Point on November 2nd. All the other parks are open and the water will be shut off starting November 12th.

The two parks that will be open through the winter are Cathedral Pines and Indian Island.

LIBBA: They don't want to put an air compressor back in. Couldn't finish the Christmas Trees but the county finished up. They will be doing them again this year.

Membership: Membership due 12/31 with roster \$3 per person max \$50

Old Business: Member had requested action on a law change relating to a known sexual predator who camps. Sexual predator is only required to register when he gets there and state how long he is staying. No change has been made at this time. Complaint about the site signs in the group areas at Southaven. The electric boxes that are marked do not line up with the site numbers. Complaint about people driving through the group areas.

New Business Full timers should contact West Sayville to find out what is planned for them. They hope to resume next year walk ups with a \$10 reservation fee. It was requested that they do tree trimming at Blydenburgh. Member had trouble in regular sites.

A financial report was given.

Good and Welfare: Friends by Nature lost 2 members, James Wittschack and Bill Powers. Pathfinders lost 4 members this year, Carol Paulsen, Joan McGrattan, Dominick Santanella, and Carmella's son Joseph Masem. Joe Kukral's daughter gave birth to twin girls in April. Bob Fanning of the Drifters recently passed away. One of our Park Rangers lost his brother and his uncle.

Next meeting: November 4 at Cathedral Pines

50/50 winner Ruth Olson

A motion to close the meeting made by John Groves. Second by Jim Maier.

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