

# Friends Camp Committee Annual Report

June 2021

Friends and the NEYM Community, as the summer starts, and Friends Camp will begin receiving its first campers in nearly two years. This season will be different as we have had to address changes in number of campers, hygiene, and other CDC guidelines. The past year and half has been a logistical and financial challenge. We have operated for years with a very tight budget paid for by camper fees. Because of Covid 19 restrictions, we need to operate at 63% of our normal capacity with higher operating costs, staff recruitment challenges and a facility that has stood idle since September 2019 with additional facility costs. This report is not about the challenges but about your Friends Camp Committee that rose to the challenge along with the executive leadership of Anna Hopkins.

Friends Camp Committee has 15 members with 7 subcommittees:

- Building & Grounds: Bob O'Connor, Clerk
- Finance: Rob Spivey, Treasurer/Clerk
- Health & Safety: Karin Wagner, Clerk
- Development: Natalie Bornstein and Molly Kaviar Co Clerks
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee (New)
- Nominating: Sarah Lafleur, Clerk
- Personnel: Carol Baker, Clerk

These committees have been meeting on a very regular basis, some weekly for the last year and half with trying to figure out how to make the Camp work as the pandemic subsides. Attendance via Zoom has been very high at all the meetings.

Some of the highlights of this past year.

- We completed a Friends Camp outside financial review.
- Financial Manual has been completed.
- We have built two new cabins and modified the other cabins to provide increased ventilation.
- Health and Safety sub-committee created guidelines and policies addressing the requirements of the Maine CDC for camp opening during the summer of 2021
- We have a full staff. Many camps are struggling for staff.
  - 6 Rising Leaders from the 2019 class
  - This summer we will have another class of 10 Rising Leaders (age 16 &17) They will be available for staff in 2023.

- We have instituted a Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer position to allow us to help future leaders gain the experience before assuming the position.
- This summer we will have fewer sessions but longer duration with a total number of campers around 270

For the Friends Camp Committee meeting in April, Anna prepared a short video which sums up pretty much what has occurred over the past year. The Camp is very fortunate to have an active and engaged Committee, staff and Executive. Below is the hyperlink for the video.

<https://www.loom.com/share/a5daff78e350456bb3c7712ad83529e6>

Faithfully,

John Reuthe

Clerk

Friends Camp Committee