



**Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:00PM
GS Camp Torqua or Zoom Meeting**

PRESENT:

Voting Board Members:	Voting Board Members Absent:
Linda Manley, Chair	Trish Manning
Steven Bushong	Julia Deien
Elizabeth Shore	Norma Trimble
Marianne Doll	
Gloria Sweida	
Kathryn Diak	
Michelle Yates	
Lesley Sanchez	
D-Lori Newsome-Pitts	
Kevin Doak	
	Staff members:
	Loretta Graham, CEO
	Jessica Upchurch, COO
	Carrie Smith, CHRO
	Ashley Green-Bryant, Governance Coordinator
	Ron Buerges, FCFO
Non-Voting Board Members:	
Jackie Bushong – Girl Ex-Officio Member	
<p><i>*Note any late arrivals or early departures here:</i></p>	

1. Mission Moment

Veterans Day Girl Troop activities, honoring veterans throughout the 40 counties; attending parades, making murals, thank you cards, flag presentations, etc.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- Board of Directors Minutes 9.11.2024
- Finance Partial Packet 10.30.2024
- Property Task Force Partial Packet 10.28.2024
- Girl Scout Experience Fund Committee Partial Packet 9.24.2024 & 10.22.2024

Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda Items.

Moved: Michelle Yates

Seconded: D-Lori Newsome-Pitts

MOTION CARRIED

3. CEO Summary

End of Year Report

Loretta gave her End of the Year Report to the Board – recap of year’s successes.

GSUSA Registration Fees

Special NCS on October 19, 2024 – 13-hour virtual meeting, democratic process at work, lots of discussion, voting, debate and finally settled on 2 solutions: Girl Membership Fee Increased to \$45 in 2025 & \$65 in 2026. Adult Membership was raised to \$45 starting in 2025.

4. Board Chair Summary

CEO/Board Conference attended by Loretta & Linda, successful meetings
Board Retreat/Annual Meeting/Recognition of Excellence - 4/27/2024
Keeping 2025 Board meetings on Wednesday evenings @ 5PM – 5 meetings in the year.
Holiday Gathering – trying to find a good day for a gathering – Looking at January for a good day.
CEO Evaluation – Linda will be sending out some emails to Board members for input.

5. Finance Committee Updates

- **Finance Reports through September 2024**

Fund Development down \$382,000 from budget
Program revenue down due to some cancelled programs
Product Program over budget, huge success to Council
Total Revenue down mostly due to Fund Development
Expenses in check throughout the entire year, especially Salaries & Expenses.
Net Revenue over Expenses loss of \$135,000 – solid year even in a deficit

Motion: To Approve Financial Reports Through 9/30/2024.

Moved: Gloria Sweida

Seconded: Kevin Doak

MOTION CARRIED

- **Cohen Fund Restriction**

Discussion on the history & past use of the Cohen Fund, Chester Girls use of the fund.

Motion: To Release the restriction on the Cohen account held at Commerce leaving \$50,000 in a money market designated for use on any needs or requests from the Chester, IL Girl Scouts. The remaining balance, approximately \$809,000, is to be liquidated and moved to the operating account for use as needed. Every future payment from the Cohen farm proceeds will first replenish the money market back to the \$50,000 level before depositing the remaining farm proceeds into the operating account.

Moved: Coming Out of Committee.

Seconded: Marianne Doll

MOTION CARRIED

6. Property Task Force – Steve Bushong

- **Property Updates**

- Camp Torqua Updates
 - New Cabins “The Pines” 4 cabins + a new pavilion, paved trails all around the cabins nearing complete, excellent addition to camp.
 - Wants to make sure camp is self-sufficient, could we meet with finance committee soon.

- Camp Torqua Sub-Committee – Marianne
 - Committee has met, comprised of staff, volunteers, & girls - had a focus group to create a survey on wants/needs of camp.
 - Survey was sent to committee & sub-committee.
 - Plan on writing a strategic plan for camp.
 - Volunteers really would like to use camp for shorter periods of time, 2-hour period, ½ day.
 - Should the survey go out to more volunteers to gauge interest?
 - SIUE is offering the Engineering Dept for a Senior Project to be completed at Camp Torqua. More to come on this.
 - Survey to be sent to Gloria Sweida at SIUE for feedback & send out to more volunteers.

7. Fund Development

- **Updates**

- Giving Tuesday Board Match – Half way to goal, please give if possible. Check out the info email that came out from Council.

- **Gala Recap**

- Awesome Event, Committee will start meeting again in January for planning for 2025 Gala. Save the Date coming soon!

8. Girl Scout Experience Fund Committee

- **Updates**

Ongoing application approvals, did have one application that was denied – they were not happy, but it didn't line up with the policy. It's a slow time of year for applications.

For 2024 \$67,000 was granted, hopefully in 2025 we can surpass the amount of set aside for grants, which is \$75,000.

9. Governance

- **Updates**

Still working this year's Annual Meeting candidates. Please send any interested Board candidates to the Board Development Committee.

BDC is trying to make sure they are getting new Board members up to speed quicker, possibly a mentoring program in place.

10. Open Discussion

- Keep an eye on your email for Holiday Gathering & other Key Dates
- 2025 Save the Date's
 - Death by Chocolate – March 7th, Robinson, IL
 - Annual Meeting & Board Training – April 27, Mt. Vernon, IL
 - Cocktails at Camp – May 8th, Camp Torqua, Edwardsville, IL
 - Gala – September 5, Edwardsville, IL

11. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn the November 13, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting.
Moved: Steve Bushong
Seconded: Kevin Doak
MOTION CARRIED

Submitted by:

Name: Norma Trimble, Board Secretary

Signature & Date: _____

Transcribed by:

Name: Ashley Green-Bryant

Signature & Date: _____

Adopted by the Board in the meeting

of _____,

(Date of Meeting)

(Signature of Presiding Officer)