SKC Master Camp Planning: Meeting Notes

April 21, 2020

17 attendees

Meeting Notes:

• The team reviewed acreage needs for our aspirational camp. Currently Chief Logan Reservation (CLR) and Falling Rock (FR) use about 25-27% of their space for structural/program purposes.

• Aspirationally, for 300 guests on site, we would need an estimated 318 acres; for 700 guests, we would need 466 acres. This does not include extra non-used space as is typical for most camps.

• 3 options right now:
  1. Develop CLR, close FR
  2. Develop FR, close CLR
  3. Sell both and build something new
     o Preliminary high-level research: To purchase a 600-700-acre lot in an area central to our council, prices range from $1.5-2.5 million for primarily wooded undeveloped land (ballpark estimate based on a few examples).

• Our priority is to make one of our current properties work. We know that financially it’s not sustainable to keep all of our camps operating at current levels.

• The team reviewed maps of the CLR and FR properties and surrounding areas.

• FR is 488 acres. CLR is 261 acres. We need a clearer picture on how much acreage is buildable on each property. Team members will pull this together and report at the next meeting. They will also bring estimates of costs for the structures and program areas that we’ve outlined for an aspirational camp. Our goal is still to define the ideal camp first, but we want to be prepared for questions that could come up regarding costs. Plus, we will need to keep in mind that we won’t build everything on Day 1; the camp will be built in phases.

• Location: The group discussed feedback received on the Facebook site regarding location, as well as needs expressed for different geographical areas of our council. We are in a difficult position of having a large geographical area to cover. Dave Cornell, our national representative and architect, shared that some councils are closing camps and sharing properties between councils in line with the trend of a lesser number of youth/Scouts attending camps.

• Dave also advised that Cubs need to be within an hour or two of resident camp. Older Scouts will typically be willing to drive farther. For example, Seven Ranges and Friedlander are popular summer destinations for units in our council.

• Next meeting: Monday, April 27 at 5 p.m.