

## Minutes from Beverly Farm Cottages Parents' Group Meeting – Stahl, Smith, Herring, Chappee, and Beverly, October 4, 2009

Attendees who signed in: Lee and Brian Birnbaum, Ada Gonzalez, *Amy Smith, Ryan Coughlin, Kara Buttry, Joel Curry*, Gary and Kathy Linke, *Lecia Hearn*, Geri Grisham, Katy Buerger, Dan Birnbaum, Alvina Bishop, Keith Wright, Billie and Jack Sacks, Ted and Helen Szywala, Jeff and Polly Rosignol, Jim and Sherry Spindel, *Angela Giberson*, Barry and Ellie Allswang, *Mella Taylor*, Carol Buerger, Patricia and George Mayes, Sandra and Anthony Earl, Zach and Alex Earl, Barb and Frank Fitzgerald, Connie and Janet Nance, *Dorothy Mitchell, Nancy Giffin, Sasha Morris*, Mark and Denise Thibault, Lynne Gray, Cheryl Talley and Bill McMahan. (italics note staff members).

The meeting was called to order by President, Brian Birnbaum. Brian introduced himself, Geri Grisham as Treasurer, and Katy Buerger as Secretary and Raffle Chair. Those in attendance then introduced themselves. Unit Director, Nancy Giffin, reported that Stahl and Smith Cottages were missing five staff people but otherwise the Cottages are almost fully staffed. The need for staff overtime has scaled back some. She advised that the staff is a mixture of seasoned employees and new employees and this is a good mix. Brian Birnbaum reported that the State of Illinois is still late in making payments to Beverly Farm and that this has been an ongoing problem.

Next, the staff representatives from each cottage gave us their wish list for their cottage as follows:

Beverly: flat screen TV  
Chappee: leather recliner  
Herring: two leather recliners  
Smith: leather recliner and a digital camera  
Stahl: digital camera and hallway decorations

Next, Brian Birnbaum briefly discussed the Parent Group Dues. Dues are \$50 a year and are generally paid at the Fall Meeting. We are going to keep them at \$50, of course if you can give more, great. Remember to make the check out to **“Beverly Farm Foundation”** and then in the memo section write **“Beverly Cottages Parent Group Dues”**. You can also mail the dues to the attention of Brenda Miller. (You will receive a tax acknowledgement for this donation.)

The floor was then opened to general comments. The Mother of a new resident advised that her daughter is doing great and that they are very pleased with Beverly Farm. There was a brief discussion about writing to Illinois state representatives (regarding the late State payments to the Farm, for example) and the idea that even if you do not live in Illinois, your resident does, so you could write on their behalf. There was also mention that a handwritten envelope seems to be more effective than a typed envelope.

The meeting finished up with the Raffle Drawing as follows:

First Place: set of Firestone Tires donated by Sandra and Anthony Earl, was won by Sharonda Homes in Herring Cottage.

Second Place: crystal vase donated by Dr. and Mrs. Lyn, was won by Rodney Wyman, Herring Cottage.

Third Place: \$75.00 Target gift card donated by Carol Buerger, was won by Danielle Pace, Stahl Cottage.

Fourth Place: Beverly Farm logo jacket donated by Patti Downey, was won by Manning Kessinger.

Raffle Chair, Katy Buerger advised that the raffle brought in a generous amount of \$3,345.00! Thanks again to all of the donors and to all of you for your continued support of the raffle.

Geri Grisham, Treasurer advised that the Family Group also sponsors holiday baskets to each cottage and we also purchase a gift for those residents that do not go home for the holiday. Geri reminded staff to email her re their cottage requests: [geri.grisham@covdien.com](mailto:geri.grisham@covdien.com)

Reminder \*Our Spring meeting will be April 30-May 2, 2010\*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katy Buerger