

9:23 PM (29
minutes ago)

Janet Sibarium

to me, Eve, Teri, Suzanne, Lisa, Marty, Marty, Bill, Guy, Mark

Wording on this motion (and passed, but not unanimously, the BOD), is not clear. Is Hosting or co-hosting a weekend now a qualifying activity? (This was a mistake years ago and removed.) Or does this mean attending/participating in two hosted weekends?

Motion: current (or future) applicants who meet all of the requirements of completing qualifying activities for full membership as a Nawakwan Keyholder, except for fulfilling the hosted weekend requirement, will be given a Provisional Membership and provided with a key. They will have 12 months from the time COVID restrictions are lifted and hosted weekends are reinstated to fulfill the Hosting requirement. If this Hosting qualifying activity is not fulfilled, their Nawakwan Keyholder status will be forfeited, the key shall be returned and they may return to their applicant status.

**NY Chapter – ADK
Statement for the Open Board Meeting - September 12, 2020
Submitted by Janet Sibarium**

As one-third of the Membership Committee, I recently received an email from the Secretary, that the Board created modified requirements for completing qualifying events and prematurely giving camp keys to applicants, who will be given a “Provisional Membership”.

Motion: current (or future) applicants who meet all of the requirement of completing qualifying activities for full membership as a Nawakwan Keyholder, except for fulfilling the hosted weekend requirement, will be given a Provisional Membership and provided with a key. They will have 12 months from the time COVID restrictions are lifted and hosted weekends are reinstated to fulfill the Hosting requirement. If this Hosting qualifying activity is not fulfilled, their Nawakwan Keyholder status will be forfeited, the key shall be returned and they may return to their applicant status.

While I agree with extending the time limit, which is fair, reasonable and realistic, I strongly oppose this Board approved motion granting Provisional Keyholder Membership and giving camp keys:

1. It is against our ByLaws and foolishly premature to grant Keyholder Status to an applicant who has not completed all the qualifying events.

Article III: (Membership) Section 3, Subsection 2: **Both categories** (noted in subsections 1 and 2) ...are known as “Applicants” and neither are granted Nawakwa rights nor unlimited Camp Nawakwa access until successfully completing the Qualifying, Orientation and Safety Activities and being voted in by the BOD.

An Applicant will need to complete the Qualifying, Orientation and Safety Activities to become familiar with Camp Nawakwa procedures, safety issues and Palisades Interstate Park regulations. All these activities must be completed prior to being granted access to Camp Nawakwa at other registered events.”

The Board has, in effect, modified and amended the ByLaws.

2. Article XI (Amendments) Section 1, explains how the ByLaws can be amended. The Board must approve any proposed amendments to the ByLaws by a two-thirds majority of the entire Board. **All approved changes must be submitted to a vote by Nawakwans at a duly called meeting or other method authorized under the law and will become effective immediately after approval by the majority of Nawakwans voting provided that at least 10% of the Nawakwans voted.**

At the very least, Nawakwans must vote and approve this motion before it can take effect.

3. *Further, I caution the Board of the Referendum process in our ByLaws, which may be costly and time-consuming for the BOD:*

Article VII, (Referendum) empowers the membership to petition the BOD and bring a Referendum on any resolution affecting the ByLaws of the Chapter and Corporation. Only 5% of Nawakwans may at any time petition the BOD to pass a resolution. If the BOD does not pass a resolution, it must be submitted within two weeks to a referendum of the applicable members. At least 10% majority of the total Nawakwans is needed to pass a resolution.

4. Using a short-cut to provide camp keys and total access to applicants who have not completed all qualifying events, do not have two sponsors, nor completed three sponsor sessions to thoroughly orient and mentor them in the Park Rules and Regulations, Camp Closing procedures, Nawakwa Community history, etc. is seriously in the wrong direction. In the past, short-cuts to keyholder status have been demoralizing among keyholders and proven damaging to the overall running of Camp Nawakwa.

5. In addition, as a former Board Member, who picked up the mail at our P.O. Box, for at least 12 years, only two or three times has a former keyholder voluntarily returned camp keys. Occasionally long-lapsed members (non-members for more than a year), have used their keys and visited camp. That is why the former BOD had to issue a Policy of Reinstatement of Lapsed Membership. There are currently 27 applicants, and if only about half of them complete all qualifying events after the Covid-19 restrictions, good luck trying to get the remainder of the keys returned. We may have to have locks changed again, which will be expensive to the members and the Chapter.

With the reasonable time extension to complete the requirement of two overnight hosted weekends, motivated applicants will eventually become keyholders and hopefully active members, who will cherish their membership.

Thank you,
Janet Sibarium
September 11, 2020

Date: Sept, 10 2020

Suggestions for the open board meeting to be held at Camp Nawakwa on September 12 from Ron Engasser

Number one item is the roof of the camp which has several leaks, and discussions with Ernie Kreis, the expert in this matter. I thought that possibly nailing up some tarps might do the job since they cost only to a three dollars each 5' x 7' tarp. Putting roof tar could also fix the problem but my friend Ernie says that most of the cracks originate around the skylights and that rubber flashing needs to be installed around the skylights in the suspected area. I have never been up there so I wouldn't know. So to leaks in the main room come from the skylight in one leak in the medical room comes from the kitchen skylight. Both of these leaks are caused by skylights according to Ernie.

I have a friend (Mike Corbett) who lives on 7 Lakes Dr. easily do this work and is nearby and an unemployed elevator mechanic who worked in New York City. He could do this work for me as a favor. I would like this nice fellow to see the camp as he might be of great use to us. It is up to the board to make a decision as to what to do. Ernie Kreis has plenty of roof flashing rubber and a package of shingles costing \$40 would do the job. I trust that Guy Lingley who has a great knowledge of the construction industry could put his knowledge to use in this endeavor as I believe winter time is coming and buildup of snow and leaking roofs and no one had camp is a disaster in the coming so something must be done before the cold cold winter. It is my understanding that the park superintendent stated that he has 23 Roofs to shingle and who was first is a good guess since the park has no money thanks to covid.

2. The sinks in both bathrooms need to be replaced as in they are worn so bad as to incur excessive amounts of germs to do the difficulty of sanitizing antique sinks. I suggest the club purchase three shiny sinks "similar to ones in the outhouses" for each bathroom and dispose of the unsanitary wash Tubs being that this is Covid19 time and sanitation and cleanliness at this Covid19 pandemic time, should be the primary importance. It would also assist in attracting new club members see that we are up to snuff as far sanitation.

3. I would also like to suggest that the club at the option of WI-Fi as part of our phone package to also attract new members. I have spoken to other members for college professors and they would like WI-Fi so that they could do some work at Camp writing books and magazine articles etc. etc.

4 My suggestion to Don Gable that caretakers be asked to perform some sort of work at Camp like raking leaves dusting furniture and windows or anything they feel comfortable into doing. Don has taken me up on the suggestion. Don should also make a new list of things to do since the old list is very confusing to read..

5. Conversations with other people around the lake indicate that Nawakwa people are a bunch of complainers and complain about everything to everyone on the lake. This club must do something to improve its image. Public relations etc. etc.

I hope all is well at Camp, and I intend to be on this ZOOM meeting which I never did before and it will be a first,

Respectfully Ron Engasser

P.S. One other thing. THE ELECTRICAL WORK AT CAMP. My estimate is about \$600.00 or less. A new circuit breaker box is not needed. What is needed is a outlet behind the Kitchen Refrigerator. Lights in the downstairs staircase. Outlet on right side of fireplace. Outlet in the medical room to eliminate extension cords over bathrooms. Move outlet behind desk and relocate it on the right side. I had three estimates for the work, but since it involved the Park Commission ALL declined the work. I was told to go over the Superintendent's head, and see his boss. That's for others to do.

Ellen King

10:56 PM (21
minutes ago)

to me

Hi Susanne,

I have recently become aware of the Board's proposal to amend the membership requirements. This is a change in the By-Laws and must be brought to the entire membership for a vote. I have received a copy of Ray Kozma's document and I hope that it will be brought to the Open Board Meeting tomorrow. It is articulate and clearly explains why the current board does not have the authority to make this change. Unfortunately I cannot attend tomorrow's Open Board meeting but I do hope that the right decision is made. The Coronavirus has caused many people to have to wait for things much more important than membership in the NY Chapter of the ADK. Rules which have stood the test of almost 100 years should not be illegally bent in this instance.

Regards,
Ellen King

At a recent meeting, The Board of Directors passed a motion regarding the qualifications for becoming a Keyholder. Specifically, the motion created modified requirements for completing qualifying events to the effect that "current (or future) applicants who meet all of the requirements of completing qualifying activities for full membership as a Nawakwa Keyholder, except for fulfilling the hosted weekend requirement, will be given a Provisional Membership and provided with a key."

I oppose this Board-approved motion granting Provisional Keyholder Membership for the following reasons:

1. It is totally premature, and against our Bylaws, to grant Keyholder status to an applicant who has not completed all the qualifying events.

Article III of the Bylaws (the section on Membership), Section 3, subsection 2, clearly states that: **“An Applicant will need to complete the Qualifying, Orientation and Safety Activities to become familiar with Camp Nawakwa procedures, safety issues and Palisades Interstate Park regulations. All these activities must be completed prior to being granted access to Camp Nawakwa at other than registered events.”**

In passing this motion, the Board has, in effect, modified and amended the Bylaws.

Article XI, Section 1 speaks of how the Bylaws can be amended: After the Board has approved any proposed amendments to the Bylaws by a two-thirds majority of the entire Board, **“All approved changes must be submitted to a vote by Nawakwans at a duly called meeting or other method authorized under the law and will become effective immediately after approval by the majority of Nawakwans voting provided that at least 10% of the Nawakwans voted.”**

At the least, this motion must be voted on and approved by the Nawakwans before it can take effect.

2. Although Article 3, Section 3 of the Bylaws gives the Board of Directors the right to determine the **“Qualifying, Orientation and Safety Activities and their details”**, there are serious and good reasons to hold to the traditional five qualifying events required of applicants before attaining Keyholder status. We have run into serious problems in the past whenever we have tried to take short-cuts to Nawakwa status. The results have proven damaging to the spirit and welfare of the membership, as well as to the overall running of Camp Nawakwa. Short-changing the process so that individuals can quickly obtain keys does no good for the general Nawakwan membership. As well as harming morale, doing so runs the risk of having poorly formed applicants who know little of the Chapter’s history, traditions, and procedures for operating camp safely and with regard for Park regulations.,
3. In the revisions made a few years back to the formation of applicants, great emphasis was placed on the role of the Sponsors in helping to form *“new Key-holders who will take their place in the long-line of custodians of Camp Nawakwa and its traditions.”* [Policy on Applicants and Sponsors] I do not see any assurances that current applicants have two sponsors each and are meeting with them as required to become oriented and mentored into the ways of the Camp Nawakwa community, the history of the New York Chapter, and Park Rules and Regulations. This lack of sponsorship risks harming the overall running of camp and damaging the camaraderie and spirit of cooperation among members that we so rightly prize.

I truly believe that, if a person values becoming a member of Camp Nawakwa, they will understand the unfortunate, but necessary, delays to Keyholder membership brought on by the current pandemic. It seems to me, also, that the very delays, and the spirit of cooperation called for as a result, can only enhance such a person’s treasuring of membership in Camp Nawakwa. I urge the Board to reconsider its motion or to place this motion up for a vote by the Nawakwans.

Thank you,
Ray Kozma
September 7, 2020