

## Minutes Camping meeting Topeka SW September 20, 2003

ATTENDING: Chris Stewart, Smokey McKinney, Tom Tinsley, T.J. Tinsley, Charlie Garretty, Bill Carriger, Jerry Myers

Jerry Myers opened the meeting with a prayer at 10:10 AM.

Smokey began with a review of future meeting times; **East Independence on 10/18** and 11/15 at a location to be determined. He suggested the December meeting be rescheduled to the 13<sup>th</sup> due to the holidays.

Smokey desires to review business plan, visits to site, materials and timelines, i.e., approaching the churches concerning fund raising, etc. Wants to have future meetings to focus on reports on progress. Committees need to focus on getting work done between meetings.

Chris reported on survey. It is on web site and has had little response. Eight questions were all that was proposed. He shared those and asked if there were any other areas those present wanted to add. Smokey suggested that we be more specific in requests and our current plan, especially facilities, and add a question about organization/structure. Concluded we needed to get survey out soon and seek response ASAP.

Bill distributed camp description. Prairie Trails is not necessarily the final name of camp. Organization name "Christian Camp Inc." does not have to be the name of the camp or vice versa. Prairie Trails comes from fact that several pioneer trails, including the Santa Fe Trail goes nearby. Smokey likes the name "Tall Grass." Chris likes "Cross Trails." Combines thought of "the" Cross plus the trails that cross nearby. Name will not be decided today.

Trips to the property. Smokey spent one weekend there already. Wet but good. Going back on 10/10,11. Others invited to join him that are interested.

Materials and Timelines. Referred to outline given out by Doug Portell. Smokey plans to hold assigned people accountable to report on aspects as assigned in the document.

- Smokey read description of camp as distributed by Bill. A few suggestions for minor changes were made, primarily concerning background and history. An updated copy will be forwarded when available. Charlie was asked to determine current status of "Little Blue" as a COC camp.
- "Why a Church Camp?" Smokey read a prepared statement. A draft statement will be sent later as an attachment with these minutes.
- Mission statement: "our mission is to provide a camping experience that helps our youth know God better. (Eph. 1:17)
- Charlie distributed a draft "Organization Philosophy" based on the CFS model (attached) with a Board of Elders to approve by-laws and Board of Director members. After some discussion Charlie was charged with presenting the pluses and minuses of "membership" vs. the CFS model at the next meeting. A strong desire was expressed to make a decision quickly when more Board members are available.

No other business plan reports were made. Jerry stated that some \$2,900 is available from last year's operation, Kip Pittman Fund, etc. Monies were transferred to Doug Portell. Bill feels "Kip Fund" should be reserved for some kind of capital improvement project(s).

Smokey suggested targeting next meeting for approval of business plan. Objective is to be prepared to start raising capital funds by early next year. A desire was to seek interested elders from all congregations to secure optimal support for camping capital campaign.

Smokey said we need someone to take responsibility to establish times to run campaign next Winter/Spring. Doug Portell was suggested.

T.J. led a closing prayer at 12:10

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Garretty