

Executive Summary – Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2026

The Board of Directors met virtually on June 13, 2026, and approved the meeting consent agenda.

Organizational Growth and Community Engagement

The organization reported positive momentum in fundraising and community outreach. Recent media coverage and an open house event in Syracuse generated new donor interest, including a potential major gift. Similar outreach efforts are planned for other communities, including Utica. New partnerships and networking opportunities are helping expand awareness and strengthen community connections.

Board Development

The Board Development Committee reported continued success in recruiting and onboarding new board members. Efforts to identify additional candidates will continue throughout the year to ensure strong governance and diverse perspectives.

Financial Health

The organization remains financially stable, with finances tracking in line with budget expectations and strong cash reserves. The board discussed future planning for replenishing investment funds that have been used for major organizational initiatives.

Property and Camp Operations

Preparations for summer camp season are progressing well, with most staffing positions filled. Board members were encouraged to help share remaining job opportunities and visit camps during the summer.

Several property-related updates were shared:

- Improvements have been completed at Camp Hoover following member feedback at the Annual Meeting
- A new portable rock-climbing wall has been purchased to support programs and events across the council
- Efforts continue regarding the sale of unused property in Corning and the Horseheads office
- Construction delays at the Ranger House at Camp Comstock continue due to plumbing issues, pushing its opening to mid-summer

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)

In recognition of Pride Month, the board received updates on LGBTQ+ programming through Camp Beyond. Expanded offerings include camps, leadership programs, family events, and the upcoming Queerstock event. The board also viewed a presentation highlighting a Girl Scout Gold Award project focused on promoting LGBTQIA+ visibility and inclusion within a rural community.

Membership and Program Updates

Membership recruitment efforts are underway for the upcoming year, with fall kickoff events and open houses planned across the council. Board members were encouraged to participate in these outreach efforts.

The annual cookie program remained strong despite an overall decline in membership, achieving nearly the same sales volume as the previous year. Success was attributed to effective sales strategies and enhanced digital marketing efforts. Planning is underway for the 2027 season and budget.

Board Governance

Board members reviewed expectations for service, including meeting attendance, committee participation, volunteer engagement, fundraising support, and annual giving. Upcoming board and committee schedules were also reviewed.

Closing

The meeting concluded with a mission-focused reflection on a board member's daughter's experience as a new Daisy Girl Scout.