

Executive Summary

NYPENN Board of Directors Meeting – September 13, 2025

The NYPENN Board of Directors met via Zoom. The meeting focused on financial sustainability, property management, and fundraising efforts to ensure long-term organizational health and continued service to members. Key Highlights:

Budget Approved for Fiscal Year 2026:

The board unanimously approved a balanced operating and capital budget. Key factors included:

- Completion of a pension buyout, saving approximately \$460K annually.
- Reduction of 12 staff positions.
- Allocation of funds to send delegates to the 2026 National Council Session.
- Continued focus on increasing cookie sales and diversifying revenue.

Fundraising Updates:

- The “S’more to Give” fundraiser, scheduled for October, is currently behind in item collections. The board discussed potential barriers and committed to a final fundraising push.
- Participation in *Mohawk Valley Gives*, a one-day online giving event, is ongoing, with board members encouraged to promote giving through personalized donation profiles.

Property Management:

- The board discussed property appraisals with a goal to reduce long-term maintenance costs while unlocking significant financial resources and maintaining summer programming.
- Responsible logging of high-value trees at Camp Amahami will help generate revenue in alignment with conservation standards.

Camp and Facility Improvements:

- Seasonal property closures are underway.
- Key upgrades have been completed at several camps, including new equipment and infrastructure improvements.
- A grant is being written to fund a swimming pool at Camp Comstock as part of a statewide initiative, offering a new resource for both campers and the local community.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB):

- A teambuilding session encouraged board members to reflect on their personal stories and perspectives, fostering deeper connection and inclusion.

Board Engagement and Transparency:

- Emphasis was placed on maintaining open communication with membership.

- Board members expressed appreciation for staff leadership and innovation during a challenging period.

The meeting concluded with a strong sense of unity around difficult but necessary decisions to ensure the organization's mission can be sustained and expanded in the years ahead.

Next Board Meeting: **November 22, 2025**

For governance information or to schedule a meeting with a board representative for your Service Unit, reach out to: boardofdirectors@gsnypenn.org.