



March 19, 2021

Town Manager Hayes and the Sudbury Select Board,

Over the winter months, Liberty Lodge and the Meeting Hall continued to serve as meeting sites for many resident groups. The Girl Scouts have proven themselves a particularly hardy bunch, as they were our most frequent visitors regardless of some less than favorable weather at times. We have also seen families enjoying many winter activities on property, including sledding, snowman building, snow-shoeing, and cross country skiing.

The Sudbury Community Food Pantry continues its use of the garage for sorting donations collected at the elementary schools each month. We have also put out a bin each month in conjunction with the school collections for residents who do not have school aged children to drop off donations. Recently, we are thrilled to report that the Food Pantry has been overflowing, so residence #4 has become an additional storage location.

We hosted the Boston Children's Hospital Bloodmobile for a mobile drive on Friday, January 15. The drive was highly successful, and all 23 available slots were filled with donors.

We have many groups scheduled for the spring months ahead. In addition to our frequent users and small scale resident gatherings, local non-profit Lincoln Sudbury Adult Education is hosting a number of classes and workshops around the property, and a few local theater/dance/music groups are planning spring events. Each of these groups has submitted their plans to Town Manager Hayes, and they have been working closely with the Board of Health and the Building Inspector as appropriate. We have also collected and filed liability insurance certificates and waivers for all users.

We have created a public calendar in order to help residents book events at Liberty Lodge, the Meeting Hall, and the Treehouse. We understand that the Select Board and Town Manager are working on a set of user policies and a fee structure and look forward to implementing those as directed.

We are working to secure a contractor for the public access fence project, and are aiming to have the work completed by June 1st. After a season of full year public use of our dirt parking lots, we are planning to improve the lot surfaces to make them more durable in wet conditions. This work will be done internally, and we're looking forward to putting our recently acquired backhoe to use! The tennis courts are due for resurfacing; this work will be done in late May, after the LS Adult Ed classes have completed.



Spring cleanup will begin shortly, and will be an ongoing project through the spring. As in years past, Boy Scout Troop 77 will join us for a day in April, which is always an enjoyable partnership.

Summer plans are well underway, and we are pleased to report that camp is almost completely full for the 2021 season, with the exception of the remaining scholarship spots. To date, we have awarded 29 Sudbury residents scholarships for the summer of 2021. The majority of these campers are attending for the full 8 weeks, which is in line with Sudbury Social Worker Bethany Hadvab's guidance on how we can best serve Sudbury's residents in need.

While awaiting further State and CDC public health guidelines with respect to Covid-19, we continue to plan for all scenarios. We expect to employ most (if not all) of the risk mitigation strategies used in the summer of 2020, including keeping cohorts together (and not mixed with other cohorts), wearing masks, distancing, frequent hand washing, and equipment cleaning and disinfection between groups where needed. Some elements of our program will most likely have to be modified or shelved altogether for this summer, primarily the ones that involve mixing campers from different groups. Regardless, we are excited to give our campers the meaningful and richly rewarding summer experience we know they need now more than ever.

We are very excited about a potential new partnership with Sudbury Public Schools. On Friday, March 12, 2021, Camp Sewataro Directors Amy Podolsky and Emmy Niinimaki met (via Zoom) with Stephanie Juriansz, Director of Student Services for SPS, and Jeff Lappin, Assistant Director of Student Services at SPS.

It was a lovely and exciting conversation! Ms. Juriansz and Mr. Lappin had called to discuss the potential of providing some inclusive opportunities for middle school students who receive services through the SPS Special Education department. These students participate in the Extended School Year (ESY) program in the summer, and the piece that is missing for them is social interaction with "typical" peers, who are not in school in the summer. Currently, one of the teachers runs a camp program for the ESY students off-site in Hopkinton, but again, these students are not interacting with students outside of their program.

Together we explored the idea of providing camp slots for approximately six campers from the ESY program. The hope is that, if Sewataro is able to provide those camperships (ideally 2 weeks per camper), then SPS would be able to provide the support and structure for these campers, by providing one-on-one aides for each camper in this program.

# SEWATARO



SUMMER AS IT SHOULD BE...

Since our Senior Camp program is full for the summer of 2021, and since we would like Ms. Juriansz and Mr. Lappin to first see our program in action so that we may discuss what such a future program would look like, we have invited them to visit with us this summer. After that visit, we can further flesh out what such a program could look like, and how it would be set up. If all goes according to plan, Sewataro would reserve these spots in September 2021 for Summer 2022.

Amy, Emmy, Scott and the rest of the team believe that this would be a wonderful partnership. Using approximately six of the fifty Sudbury-reserved scholarships for these students would allow us to continue to provide more access to more campers in need. We are all looking forward to exploring this relationship, and are hopeful that we will be able to provide a terrific summer opportunity for the students of the ESY program at SPS.

We have been incredibly fulfilled to see so many Sudbury residents utilizing the property for such a wide range of activities. We look forward to warmer months ahead, and once again watching our neighbors reel in a fish, kick around a soccer ball, enjoy a family picnic, or hike the grounds. Thank you all for your partnership.

-The Sewataro Team