

Committee Meeting Minutes – May 14, 2009

Submitted by Debi Moreash

Present: Mike Mikac, Deb Moreash, Michael Frantz, Mark Moorehead, James Willette, Mary Axelsen, Gary Weber, Dianne Propernick, Bob Meiers, Heidi Hutchins, Wendy Lea, Tom Marshall, Tim McCormick, Tom Kiefer, Lonnie Stewart

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

Agenda Item 2: Scoutmaster's Report, Mike Mikac

Dave will get the leadership and patrol rosters to Michael F. and to Deb M. for posting. Mike asked the committee to nominate candidates for the National Youth Leadership Training Course (formerly called Silver Axe). The committee nominated five Scouts and Mike M. will contact them to see if they are interested in attending one of the sessions. The troop will pay half of the cost if they attend.

Agenda Item 3: Treasurer's Report, James Willette

James gave the state of the Troop funds. After all summer camp payments are made, the troop should start the new Scout year with about \$4,000 in its account. Some money may need to be expended on new troop equipment.

Agenda Item 4: Advancement Report, Michael Frantz

Council approved the charter this week. Advancement Day is in June and LeAnn Rickert has volunteered to organize it, and Wendy Lea offered to help and be one of the adult attendees. Michael presented a list of Scouts who will be 18 in less than one year, and also a list of Scouts who have not advanced in rank in one year. Mike Mikac and Debi will meet with the Life Scouts at our last troop meeting of the year, May 19, to talk to them about their Eagle projects.

Agenda Item 5: Chairperson's Report, Mike Mikac

Mike announced that the troop needs a new Scoutmaster to replace David. Dave has offered to train someone for the first half of the next Scout year. Everyone nominated someone else to be the new Scoutmaster but no one volunteered to take the role. The Committee came up with some ideas to fill the position: Co-Scoutmasters who share the role, a rotating Scoutmaster position with a new leader serving for 2-3 months and then a new leader assuming the duties. Any suggestions will be appreciated and volunteers for the position will be even more greatly appreciated!

Mike will organize and run the annual planning meeting on August 1.

James offered to secure the meeting place (Tempe police substation) one month prior to the meeting. Mike asked for volunteers to start collecting calendars for school districts and holidays.

Agenda Item 6: Outdoor Chairperson, Deb Moreash

May Lake Roosevelt – Gary Weber – The turnout for this trip is much lower than expected and Gary said a lot of Scouts canceled at the last minute due to final exams and other commitments. There are only 2 boats going and he is short a driver. Mark Moorehead offered to drive Scouts if needed (thanks, Mark!). The trip will probably be underfunded due to the small amount of sign-ups and the troop may have to help pay for the house rentals and gas costs. Gary is going to try and rent the SRP houses next year earlier in May and also see if there is a date available in June after school is out.

July Holcomb Valley – James Willette and Sam Thompson announced that 7 Scouts and 2 adults have signed up for Holcomb Valley. They paid early and received a 10% discount on camp fees.

Camp Geronimo – LeAnn is coordinating the Geronimo trip. She has asked for some senior Scouts to attend to help with leadership. Unfortunately, Geronimo is scheduled the same week as Holcomb Valley, which many of the older Scouts are attending.

Sailing/Dive Trip – Trip leader Tom Kiefer. The trip head count is currently 14. There will be a group meeting of all Bahamas trip participants the week after our final troop meeting where we will go over details. We will have another meeting/get-together approximately a month before the trip (maybe a swim party at the Kiefer home).

Family Campout – August 21-23. Reservations have been made for the group sites at O’Leary Campground at Sunset Crater. Nearby sites include Sunset Crater, Wupatki Indian ruins, Lockett Meadow. We need 2 trip leaders to volunteer for this trip.

Deb will be sending out the annual trip survey in June.

Agenda Item 7: Recruitment, Heidi Hutchins

Heidi proposed that the troop print some color brochures for recruiting purposes. Mary proposed that the troop purchase a banner to hang on the church to let people know about our Scouting program at the church. Both ideas were approved. The Committee expressed great appreciation for the great job Heidi and LeAnn and Chris did with recruiting new Scouts this year. Heidi mentioned that she hopes one of the new parents will take over this role next year because they have closer ties with the Cub packs.

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Agenda Item 8: District Roundtable Report, Bob Meiers

Bob gave out info on Advancement Days and Friends of Scouting.

Agenda Item 9: New and Old Business, All

Michael Frantz discussed the Intel donation letter and the approval process. We are still not sure if the troop will receive the money or not, but Michael got signed letters from Council and sent them to Intel. 15% of the money will be donated to Friends of Scouting.

Michael F. proposed that if parents secure donations that are in excess of four times the cost of dues, that the dues be waived for that family's Scout. If they don't have a son in the troop, he proposed that the dues waiver be applied as a scholarship for dues based on need. Mike M. is going to call Mark Kittredge to see if that requires a bylaws change.

Mike Mikac proposed that on future outings the group give a 15-minute grace period after the scheduled departure time and then leave.

The troop trailer was discussed and possibilities discussed on where it should be stored. The quartermaster dad, James Willette, agreed that the equipment should be stored at his house for easier access before and after outings and he agreed to have the trailer stored at his home. James will bring an inventory of the equipment to the planning meeting in August and a proposal for new equipment purchases.

A possibility of selling the trailer and purchasing a smaller trailer was discussed. Mary suggested the troop buy a shed to store on the church grounds for troop equipment and the troop flags. She will check with someone at the church to see if that would be permitted.

Mike Mikac suggested the troop purchase a 5-gallon LP tank for use by the troop. The committee agreed and Mike will purchase it.

Agenda Item 10: Meeting Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is the planning meeting on August 1. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated tonight!

TROOP 697
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