

Troop Committee Meeting Minutes

1-13-08

Attendees: Vance G., Patrick S., Walt A., Denise A., Don P., Bob P., Cricket C., Tammy Z., Ali A., Eric M., Ron C.

Meeting called to order at 4:05 p. m.

Opening comments: Vance G. - Thanks for coming and welcome to Ron as the new Scoutmaster (cheering!)

Approval of minutes from previous meeting as posted on the Internet

Treasurer's report: Cricket

Bob P. asked for vote to allow Ron C. as new scoutmaster to sign checks – unanimous approval.

\$4151.14 in Scout bank account

\$1782.30 in individual Scout accounts

\$2082.76 from resale - Sold 91 items. Boys made \$5.00 each. \$450 went to individual Scout accounts

8 boys sold ducks, adding a total of \$210 to their individual Scout accounts

\$422 total sales for tickets for Pancake Breakfast. Scouts earned a total of \$196 for their individual accounts.

Discussed involvement of troop in wreath sales and duck sales. Should a percentage go to general troop account or should it stay as it is, with profits going to individual scout accounts – those who participate?

Eagle fund letter – bylaws state each family should contribute \$20 to contingency fund as this goes toward Eagle Scout Courts of Honor and advancements. Bob Peters offered to send a letter to this effect. Recent Eagle costs of about \$350 leaves this fund at \$41.00 after recent advancement of three Eagles (\$100 each). Vote to borrow \$300 from Equipment fund (leaving about \$1000) until fees arrive from families this year. Unanimous approval. Possibility of one more fundraiser this year?

Vance and Cricket will work together and check the roster to make sure everyone's up to date on fees. Explanation of how kids are notified of monies owed. \$108 total per Scout is owed each year. Boys are responsible for relaying information but that doesn't always happen. Cricket said parents need to come in and listen to the final comments of meetings – used to be a bulletin board by the door with upcoming events and necessary forms/fees.

Rank Advancements:

Kim C. had prior commitment – need to find out who’s done rank advancements and badges for upcoming court of honor.

Web Site:

Vance G. has updated Web site with pictures and continues to work on calendar.

Training: Bob P. is available to help adults or Scouts; whoever needs help with new positions or guidance with assignments. Has history of past events and past organization details. Vance says Bob’s a walking encyclopedia and is a valuable resource. Bob is still taking classes, which takes up much of his “spare” time for a while. Both sons are signed up as assistant Scoutmasters – wants to drag each one in once a month. Vance said same with Josh but he’s taking night classes this semester.

Equipment:

Ron P. is coordinator – Bob P. says they need to talk to each patrol individually and find out what they are missing – some don’t even know what it is they need. Parents can donate excess cooking equipment (frying pans, etc) to the troop if they’re recycling after upgrades. Need to check Crocs’ former box. Need to spray paint the handles of each patrol’s equipment to match for easy identification.

Scoutmaster’s Report:

Ron C. has stepped up to be Scoutmaster – “no one will ever replace Bob but I will just do the best I can.” Need to get positions filled and go over calendar. Cricket has been treasurer, fundraiser and organizer for summer camp for last 4 years and we need to relieve her of some of that. Looking for:

- a.) Summer camp coordinator - makes reservations for came, attend meeting at the Scout shop, collect money from Scouts, make payments as they come up and preregister for merit badges while keeping in contact with parents, etc. Cricket volunteered David C. (her husband) although he cannot make it to camp this year. This year’s choice for camp is Whitsett again.
- b.) Equipment coordinator – still Ron P. – responsible for replacing propane tanks, mantles, broken glass in lanterns, etc. Need to make a checklist. Quartermaster might have inventory list – Vance will check.
- c.) Outing coordinator – making camp reservations, acquiring permits, getting drivers and making sure we have enough spaces for kids, making directions, paying fees for camps and services, being in contact with Scoutmaster and treasurer, getting funds as necessary. Checklist is made and all ready to use so it’s not too daunting.

Doesn't need to be one person all the time but can alternate outings or months.
Walt A. volunteered.

- d.) Fundraising coordinator - printing tickets, ticket sales, collecting money, getting menu, amounts, etc. Bob volunteered Cricket as she has experience and knowledge. She will delegate as fundraising tends to hit in clumps. Jenny C. will do ducks next year and Holly said she would do wreaths. Denise A. volunteered for pancake breakfast and Bob P. was volunteered for spaghetti dinner; Eric M. offered to help. Talk of Scouts selling tickets – little guys sell better. The younger/smaller/cuter they are, the more people buy. Discussed cosponsoring events with Cub scouts but that has not worked out well in the past. Car wash at Auto Zone or Coffee Stop? TUMC is a bit too out-of-the-way for good turnout. Selling crafts at craft fairs? Possible for Farrels to coordinate car wash?

Calendar:

Jan 26, 27 – winter camping Mt. Pinos. Ron C. won't be able to attend but will help send everyone off that day

Feb 10 – Court of Honor with annual banquet. Church is reserved. 3 p.m. start time.

Feb. 24 - Ski outing organized by David Coorough @ Big Bear?

March 15, 16, 17 - Rock Climbing @ Joshua Tree (Black Rock instead of Indian Cove)

Changed date of Spaghetti Dinner from April 19 to April 12.

April 5, 13, 27 – Day Hikes. Some possibly suitable for Webelos

May 17, 18 – Little Jimmy backpacking

May 24, 25, 26 - Memorial Day 3-day backpacking trip for older boys if there's enough interest.

June 28, 29, 30 – High Adventure Outing in Sierras?

July 7 - Deep Sea Fishing. Ron C. has been corresponding with LARRC Limit of 10-15 kids under 15 to avoid licensing problems.

July 13-19 - Whitsett camp? David C. needs to reserve that week. Second choice is the following week.

August 10 - Family Picnic

August 23, 24, 25 - Fiesta Island

September outing will be moved to the first weekend in October to accommodate busy schedules (school, etc.) Possible to meet some merit badge requirements for Wilderness Survival - maybe at Trask or Angeles Crest

October – Pancake Breakfast moved to September 20. October is Archery month. Ron C. will contact archery club.

November – Rockets. Santa Fe Dam weekend outing? Dry Lake? Must confer with rocket club.

December – Hobbies. Boutique sale at TUMC – Scouts could make and sell tree branch pencils or other simple craft items as fundraiser

Outdoor activities:

Ron C. has a friend who is very interested in this and wants to get him involved. Bob P. and sons Chris/Steven may help with rock climbing.

Questions and comments:

Patrick S. will be phased in as new troop committee chair over the next few months.

Discussion about how to best relay weekly information to parents – email? Resurrect bulletin board? White board? Parents need to come inside for it to work.

Outings – should be first come, first served. Need to consider campsite coordination, room in vehicles, menus. Need to have a cutoff time before outings for permission slips and pack inspections.

Venture Crew will rest at least for the coming year as most kids are too busy now. Aaron G. is still interested but is also still involved in the troop so he won't miss anything. He paid his dues but was not able to be involved and was hoping for a partial refund. Bob P. may start up a co-ed Venture crew in the future.

Need to enforce proper uniforms without embarrassing kids in front of others. Older boys are the examples for younger kids. Uniform check at next Scout meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p. m.