

Scout Collective 56 Troop Committee Meeting 9/24/19

Present: Liz McNerney, Kathy Kelts, Mary Ellen Galante, Colin Zick, Robin Bonner, Gerry Katz, Sally Watermulder, Jim Wheaton, Michelle Holmes, Susan Stewart, Jeni Pereira, Larry Parnell, Andres Ballesteros, Neil McCullagh, Gali McCullagh, Shannon Taylor, Andrew Hartness, Britt Rideout, Sabine Zeitz

Parking: for Scout and troop committee meetings, can park behind Henderson Carriage House.

Trips/Events

Summer Camp 2019: Overall, everyone had a great time, lots of merit badges earned. Great weather, only 24 hours of rain. Some issues: short a lot of individual gear - no pack check; some adult disagreements - for example, how often/whether youth needed to shower.

For next summer (2020): address question of how to coordinate multiple adult perspectives. Need for troop committee to create ground rules? Ultimate goal is to have youth deciding on rules and enforcing them; some consistency between adults needed. Maybe an adult & parent meeting and a pack check before summer camp.

Chuck/Council wants to close Storer, leaving only Wah-Tut-Cah; we should make reservation early to hopefully keep Storer open; if Storer closed, they would move us to Wah-Tut-Cah; need to coordinate Maine High Adventure and camp 2020; summer camp will be week of July 19-25.

Lake Tully/Canoe trip - September 20-22

Great weather, great campsites; tip test fun; sites very spread out; feels remote because no cars around; field and volleyball court; canoed to islands. Meals - complaint that shopping at Trader Joe's was too healthy! Andres noted considerable improvement in Scouts attending to tasks.

For next time: Have youth leader create and write out a duty roster ahead of time, and be very very clear about role, e.g., fire warden is the only one who puts anything on the fire. Adults redirect questions to youth leader. Biggest drawback: not prepared with utensils for cooking - suggestion to create list of utensils along with shopping list; OR a patrol

box with all utensils in it that would be taken on every trip; perhaps create “camping kitchen” boxes during a troop meeting;

Female leader needed for June canoe trip: Jeni volunteered. Possible to repeat Lake Tully to do a different route.

Bicycle trip - October 4-6: Sue doing pack check right now; Jeni driving; Stephan using Google street view to look at streets they will bike on; perhaps stopping at Mill - industrial revolution historic site.

Turkey Roast - November 8-10: Need male adult leader; Neil will help cook; David will hike; at Camp Sayre; Some question about dates: Sat-Mon?; families come down for the dinner; some question about Monday if parents have to work? Cub Scout pack got message that Camp Sayre was reserved. Need to follow up with Lizbeth. Sign-up sheet going around for families who want to join for turkey roast.

Cross Country Skiing - January 10-12: Colin: Joe Dodge lodge reserved; 12 youth spaces, 4 adult, lottery for sign up??? Andres will re-send last year’s letter regarding lottery.

Summer High Adventure: Britt will submit Troop/Crew application for Philmont 2021. For Maine High Adventure 2020: 11 spots - or possibly two crews if more youth are interested; two adult leaders for each crew - Gerry and David; possibly Sally? Need a female leader. Contract that families and Scout sign - monetary and teamwork commitments; Scouts must be age 13 by 9/1/2020. We need to research pre-requisites. We usually plan a July trip - water levels get low in August. Can be a 10 day trip; cost: \$750-\$850 - will discuss setting up payment plan; families pay and Trust reimburses a percentage (about half) - although Trust may not have fully funded Philmont due to including Somerville troop. Because of uncertainty related to Trust funding, have to plan to proceed without their support. The cost to families changes equity issues - who can afford to go.

Adult Chairs

Advancement: Court of Honor- October 8: Gerry stepping forward in the Advancement Chair role as Scott steps back. Jim notes importance of

supporting female Scouts to get 1st class officially so that they can participate in activities outside of the unit that require that rank - like Order of the Arrow, National Youth Leadership Training, etc. Gerry would welcome support from Scout adults with longer tenure to create program to ensure advancement for all.

Treasurer: Neil - dues= \$450/year; \$250 in fall.

Trust has changed their grant request process - standardized process with form; 1st due date 10/1 for submission, then 3/1/20 - need idea of High Adventure cost, including any needed Wilderness First Aid for submission by 10/1/19. Requests submitted in between the two due dates will be review at the leisure of the Trust. Sally will make some projections/ estimates about possible costs of high adventure. Also need to send thank you's for Philmont; summer camp done. Trust may be broadening to whole council rather than Cambridge only.

Fundraising: Christmas tree/wreath sale - next week, Neil will talk to Scouts about sales online via email; parents can support by creating spreadsheet with name and email of list of contacts Scout has sold to in past, additional friends, relatives, etc.

Quartermaster: Larry: coordinate recipes/shopping list/equipment; stoves and fuel have to remain in cinderblock room; Korbinian looking at 4 First Aid kits of troop - they will be in red drawstring bags and complete. Some costs were incurred - will report to Neil.

Registrar: Shannon - one new Scout this year. Everyone on contact list Shannon emailed around; ALWAYS copy and paste from spreadsheet for emails; website contacts may not be up-to-date.

SC 56 Clothing: question about when order will be placed. Probably one time in summer. Erin not present.

Activities: Sally - 6 Scouts signed up for canoe lessons last week; no one showed up - troop lost \$247; in addition Scouts did not learn needed skills. Some discussion about how to ensure that this doesn't happen again.

Medical Records: Susan - trip leaders please send trip lists ASAP before trip so she can get medical forms ready before the departure date.

Miscellaneous:

Reminder that Scouts should be the one sending all emails, cc'd to parents.

Jeffrey coordinating service projects for this year - Sustainability merit badge covering some service requirements

Liz - hoping to have building to meet in by next fall; hoping to consolidate both Scouts and Cubs meeting on same nights; probably Tuesdays;

Mary Ellen - organize a gear swap? Gerry can organize for next week. Bring some boxes of boots etc. up from storage.

Jim - need adult volunteer for Recruitment - maybe Andres? Intro to Leadership skills for Troop - NYLT? Shared between adults and Scouts - maybe David English will do it; online modules - could be done on a weekend day or on a trip

Jeffrey reminds about Eagle project this weekend!

Dates to Know**Court of Honor 10/8**

Next committee meeting 10/29; November meeting: December 3 (because Tues before Thanksgiving is not well-attended.)