

Troop 56 Committee Meeting 2/1/22

Present: Ed Henley, Michelle Holmes, Gail McCullagh, Penny Haney, Gerry Katz, Sue Kriegsman, Susan Stewart, Chad Holland, Sen Blankinship, Paul Lyons, Mike Ravicz, Jim Wheaton, Kathy Kelts, John Green, Richard Klibaner, Britt Rideout, Hitesh Trivedi, Andrew Hartness, Syd Cash, Larry Parnell, Erik Blankinship, Pankaj Bansal, Neil McCullagh

1. Welcome to Newcomers
2. COVID policy reminder – March 1 due date for booster; N95/KN94 or 94 masks required – available at door of meetings; Cubs have different policy – surgical masks allowed
3. Need for volunteers
 - a. Registrar – Susan Stewart will do new intakes, but need re-chartering person for fall – Mike Ravicz can support
 - b. Others – let Jim know if you want to volunteer
4. January Ski Trip – 20 people, very cold, met 5am – hit no traffic, lodge empty, close parking spots; quite a few brand new skiers/snowboarders; everyone took lesson; on slopes until scheduled time ended; very well organized by Diane
5. February X-Country Ski Trip
 - a. Meet in Henderson Carriage House parking lot 4:00pm; depart 4:30pm
 - b. COVID rapid tests right before trip in parking lot OR test at home before coming and take photo of test strip
 - c. Day trippers – no need to test
 - d. Continue mask policy: N95 or KN95/94 masks inside unless eating and sleeping; spread out in farmhouse; one-pot meals
 - e. Eat snack/lunch before getting in cars; pizza Friday night – could be 7:30/8pm
 - f. Will rapid test and call family to come get any Scout testing positive
 - g. Winter camping will be on 2nd night: 0 degree predicted; 2-3 Scouts per tent unless Scouts choose to tent individually; check mycovidrisk app by zip code
 - h. Costs for adults: 1/20th of total cost. Adults do own food.
 - i. Neil will join Sunday; ski until 1pm
 - j. Back to Cambridge by 4-5pm
 - k. No phones/electronics for youth!
6. Activity Calendar Spring 2022
 - a. Scout Sunday? St. James meeting online or outside – so let's wait until next year; have not done Scout Sunday in past but can be good recruitment; Feb=Scout founding anniversary 2/8ish; to show appreciation for church sponsorship/making facility available to us cost-free; buttress relationship with church
 - b. March trip – Michelle, Ed 3/25&26 – camping at Red Gate Farm
 - c. Hiking workups for Philmont - TBD
 - d. April/May plans – April 29-May 1 troop trip – Mt. Cardigan or Monadnock full troop with Philmont split-off; Memorial Day weekend shakedown for Philmont
 - i. Adult advisors for April: Diane & Syd for non-Philmont group; Neil & Gail for Philmont crew ;Cubs can join; need some youth trip leaders
 - e. Crossover – May 2022 possible- join Tues meetings; Webelo 2's cross over ceremony does not have to be at Court of Honor; dates and final plans TBD.

7. Financial
 - a. Treasurer: check with your youth about dues – parent portion
 - b. Spring fundraiser – Previous trash bag supplier not doing Scout fundraising anymore
Other ideas? Email Kathy Kelts: some proposals- Cubs sold 88 Acre Bars successfully; troop has done flowers for Mother's Day
8. Philmont – Scouts doing surveys; later date because Cambridge Public Schools not getting out until 6/27 or 28??
 - a. Wilderness First Aid – SOLO offerings, 4 Philmont need to take; must be 14 years old
9. T.L Storer offering programs; NEBC offering STEM camp April vacation
10. 7/31-8/6 Summer Camp at Griswold – Diane
11. Service Projects – food pantry and church service on hold due to COVID
12. Recruitment – revisit in March
13. Training
 - a. Woodbadge: several adults taking course, 2 3-day weekends
 - b. ILSC/ILST
 - c. NYLT
 - d. WFA
14. Advancement: several Scouts working on Eagle; Court of Honor early June
15. Kavita/Neelu: Reminder: Trips completely youth led for leadership learning;
 - a. Adults cook & eat separately;
 - b. Final list of trip attendees done 2 weeks in advance for pack check Tues before trip – essential for safety, meal planning, tent & travel arrangements;
 - c. Youth leaders meet 1-4 hours/wk with adult leader for month before trip;
 - d. Roles for adults: find drivers, reserve space, permission slips, medical forms;
 - e. All communications to youth and adult leaders – questions to youth leader.
 - f. Youth leadership of trips doesn't count toward advancement? Does count for some merit badges and Eagle.
 - g. Youth need more training to take over more responsibilities for trips;
 - h. Adults responsible for transportation, safety, aligning activities with Scouting values; helping Scout leaders say no to Scouts who want to join a trip without the preparation; Adult=advisors, not leaders.
 - i. Scouts don't regularly use email!! They use texting and social media. Do we need to find different medium? Remind app, Slack, WhatsApp – but not all Scouts have own phones or email accounts

Next Committee Meeting: Tues 3/1 7pm