

Adult Committee Meeting 4/4/23

Present: Michelle Holmes, Sen Blankinship, Kathy Kelts, Andrew Hartness, Jim Wheaton, Syd Cash, Paul Johnson, Sue Kriegsman, Gerry Katz, MaryEllen Galante, Richard Klibaner, Gaelle Llambi, Penny Haney, Marietta Sbraccia, Gail McCullagh, Hitesh Trivedi, Zach Cash, Robin Bonner, Ed Henley

1. **Welcome & Mask Reminder**

2. **Future Committee Meeting Times:** Switched to 7:30 a few months ago to allow Cub parents to attend and to allow Scoutmasters to join at end. Haven't achieved either of those objectives. Proposal to return to 7-8pm time. Approved.

3. **Advancement:** Cooking merit badge done; classroom part of Camping merit badge done – Scouts need to accumulate 20 nights of camping

a. Next Court of Honor: 6/13/23

b. End-of-year Adult-only Meeting for potluck, socializing, and finalizing trips/budget for next year: 6/20/23. To use church property must be Tues pm.

c. Order of the Arrow – “Scout honor society”: Jim Offered May & June dates for OA to come out to do elections; Scouts are eligible if First Class; elected youth who didn't complete Ordeal have to be elected again. In our Troop, Jim has worked with youth in the past to ensure everyone eligible was elected. OA has been Native American themed but currently re-thinking the cultural appropriation issues; some guidance to get consent/collaboration from local Native groups.

d. Eagle Courts of Honor - 5/13: Emily & Jeffrey Eagle CoH. Reminder that in the future, use of church property for Eagle CoH will require facilities fee paid by family.

4. **Training**

- a. Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troop (ILST) report: 9 Scouts with Jim, David & Syd. Very engaged, lots of topics covered. Might not do it as one-shot 4 hour format again. Moving forward, plan semi-annual training.

- b. National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT): any Scouts who did ILST are eligible; 2 weekend trainings or summer week-long; typically about 40 Scouts from several councils - encourage Scouts to attend!
- c. National level trainings: Leadership Academy; NAYLE – National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience – at Philmont

5. Communication

- a. Newsletter – Erik – very positive response from all!
- b. Website – Gaelle & Robin will run; what to use website for? As back-up for Google drive; info for new families – who’s who; needs to be informative and attractive to interested families; emphasize boys and girls together.
 - i. Include Scout photos on website? Page 1 of Health form has photo waiver; use photos with no names? Cubs have gotten more cautious about photos on Facebook & website; could use photos that are minimally identifiable; For identifiable photos of youth: ask family
 - ii. Scout youth webmaster: David Holland; consider adding a second youth webmaster?

6. Activities

- a. Wilderness Survival: 14 youth, 5 adults; 2’ snow cover, all built a snow shelter – a few came in mid-night but rest slept outside. For dinner made chili & loved it!
 - i. Challenges: youth behavior concerns – refusing to do dishwashing. Debrief with trainer – some Scouts felt it was not challenging enough. 3 patrols for trip – divided cooking tasks, but may have been too many patrols? Some Scouts vocally protested no-nut policy. Scoutmaster will reinforce this policy and dishwashing requirement. Some confusion about leadership – trip leader vs patrol leader??
- b. April – Syd & Gail, adult advisors – Catherine & Sarah, youth leaders. Campsite booked. Pawtuckaway camping and canoeing.
- c. May – Hitesh & Diane, adult advisors – Bennett &? need a female youth leader; 6 youth signed up. Whitewater rafting in Western MA.
- d. Passing on Learning from trip to trip – how to pass info on to next trip leaders? Scouts debrief after each trip, but where does the info

go? Propose Trip notes in the Google drive for youth-to-youth info sharing. Trip review form? Sen & Gaelle will set up Trip Review form in Google drive.

- e. 2023-24 Planning: Penny has gathered Scout and other ideas – back to Scouts and PLC for selection; need schedule of 2023-24 trips by week 3 of May for budget to be ready for June adult comm mtg. Get volunteers for all 10 months by June. Need to get youth leaders early in year – PLC should figure out trip leaders for next year before end of this year.

- 7. **High Adventure** – consider doing FL Seabase instead of Philmont and Maine High Adventure; add another trip if we have active leaders; Switzerland International camp? Summit Reserve? – done in addition to or instead of repeated summer trips; start discussing with Scouts now so that they can consider.

8. Financial

- a. Trust requests in for Maine High Adventure
- b. Fundraiser – First Aid Kit orders and payment due 4/25; kits delivered after 6/10.
- c. Equipment needs: Andrew purchasing

9. Leadership

- a. Elected youth leaders on outings: patrol leaders expected to still lead on trips so not all falls on trip leaders

10. Service Projects

- a. Post-meeting monitoring – check to make sure door is locked.
- b. Additional church request for service: sweep pea stones off flagstones into the seating areas. Michelle brought to PLC. Task list for clean-up. No one signed up to clean up after PLC.

11. Inclusion

- a. Food Allergy Policy – close to finished for formal approval at next committee meeting.
 - i. Remaining question: which adult is responsible for oversight of food on trips? Proposals: Another adult position - Allergy Coordinator - to review for each trip OR each adult trip advisor reviews health forms for allergies? Family of allergic youth could provide product list of allergen-safe foods in medical

binder as part of youth allergy plan OR trip leaders could send menu and shopping list to family to review. Decision: We will pilot the strategy of sending the menu and shopping list to families of allergic Scout trip participants for April, May, June trips this year.

- ii. Medical forms need to be flagged for allergies. Ask parents before each trip – or include on permission slip for every trip? Syd & Richard will add allergy check-off to permission slip. Permission slips will be handed in 3 weeks before trip. At parking lot before departure, parent of allergic Scout can check food. This requires a change of culture to signing up for trips in advance. Food brought from home (for dinner in car ride or for other reasons) also needs to be nut-free and checked for allergens.

12. Need volunteers for adult positions 2023-2024

- a. Jim departing in summer for Virginia – will need new committee chair
- b. Other changing positions??

13. PLC report: from Zach: Field trip instead of Scout meeting at church - May 23. End-of-year party at Flatbread/Saco Lanes 6/6; CoH on 6/13; PLC meeting tonight was Scout-run

14. Recipes for camping trips: Maryellen still soliciting recipes for camping trips for Google docs & binder for each patrol for meal-planning

15. Charles River clean-up April 22; 10am-12noon; Conservation service hours for those doing camping merit badge; need adult leader - Kathy

Next Adult Committee Meeting: Tues 5/2/23 7pm