

BSA Troop 918 Committee Meeting Minutes – 22 Aug 2016

ATTENDEES:

Len M, Committee Chair
Maureen W, Secretary
Gary B, Chartered Org Rep
Gordon C
Danette R
Jerry G

Chris C
Ted N
Deb W
Paul S
Greg W, Treasurer
Dave N, Advancement/Membership

SECRETARY REPORT – MAUREEN W: Meeting minutes for 6/20/16 Committee Meeting were approved by the Executive Committee and posted on Scoutlander.

CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – GARY B:

- Distributed flyers and informed meeting attendees about P.R.A.Y. Program (formerly God & Country Program) being offered by OSLC; program is open to all youth in grades 1-12; all religions invited.
- To accommodate a new class, Room 5/6 will now be locked. A room key will be left where Gary Bishop told us it would be. Certain adult leaders have keys to the Scout closet in Room 6, but there is another in the church secretary's office.

TREASURER REPORT – GREG W:

- The accounts summary was presented, reviewed, and accepted.
- Popcorn Proceeds Proposal
 - Popcorn sales over the past years have gone from \$12K to \$10 to \$8 to \$5K (2015); this is partly due to market saturation. Greg thinks it may be due to the lack of incentive for the Scouts.
 - Currently, per our handbook policy, each Scout was required to sell \$250 popcorn which is ~\$100 in proceeds; Scout gets ~\$50, Troop gets ~\$50. The Troop & Scouts evenly split any additional proceeds for popcorn sales. The troop therefore gets operating funds from a) annual dues, and b) its share of popcorn sales proceeds. It should be noted that the current troop financial situation is healthy.
 - Tentative Proposal: Scouts get 100% of proceeds from sales AND annual dues are raised by \$30 to account for what we normally get from popcorn sales. (Dues would then be \$100/yr.)
 - Discussion
 - Paul S noted that he heard at a recent Roundtable that Boy Scout fundraisers can't be 100% for Scouts; some money has to also go to Unit. (Subsequently verified.)
 - We haven't been stringently following the \$250/split policy.
 - Ted N pointed out that continuing the current policy also enforces an important value in Scouting – that Scouts should do things in support of the troop, not just themselves.
 - Maureen M recommended keep what was previously in handbook and prorate the "fair share" portion for sales less than \$250 (This was an unwritten part of the existing policy).
 - Camping trips could be supplemented by additional fee (i.e., cabin camping, Maple Tree, expensive trips).

- Final Proposal: All funds less \$1 go to Scout Account and Troop dues increase by \$30; Scouts keep all popcorn funds, less \$1. Scouts would then ultimately have the option whether to participate in popcorn sales as a fundraiser, or just pay the additional dues.
- A vote was taken - 4 in favor; 6 opposed. The proposal was rejected, but we appreciate Greg considering and proposing options.
 - The Troop will continue with and reinforce the existing policy requirement of Scouts selling \$250 popcorn or pay a prorated fee of up to \$50.
 - Keep price of camping trips at \$25/\$15 except for events where there is an abnormal entry/participation fee (i.e., a \$50 battleship tour)
 - It was agreed that this needs to be spelled out clearly for parents. Len will be sending an email to all parents/Scouts.
- Popcorn Sales - Len/Robin
 - In 2016, items for sale are changing.
 - Can only return up to 10% of popcorn purchased
 - Planned Show and Sell Dates: 9/17-18 & 9/24-25
 - Len has requested to have Show & Sells at several locations; waiting on confirmation.
 - Encourage selling at home to friends neighbors
 - Open to suggestions of other places for Show & Sell

ADVANCEMENT REPORT – DAVE N: (absent at the time)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – DAVE N:

- Rechartering can start as early as October 1, 2016. It would be beneficial to be done by the end of November.
- Current Youth Protection Training is important for registered adults. Len will be pushing the issue.

OUTDOOR PROGRAM REPORT – DEB W:

- Discussion of results from APLC meeting. Len shared that part of the discussion was to plan the calendar with more activities/locations that accommodate more of the patrol method practices, Scout skills, outside camping, and leadership opportunities.
- September 2016 – Battleship NJ called to cancel. We need to figure out alternative. Options:
 - Deb verified two sites available at Calvert Cliffs on 9/24-25
 - Elk Neck State Park has Youth Campsites; availability unknown
 - Downs Park availability
 - Thomas Point Park through Quiet Waters Park may have availability
 - Kinder Park Camping
 - Scouts voted on and selected Calvert Cliffs as first choice, Elk Neck as second.
- November Camporee
 - Deb would like a volunteer to handle Camporee registration;
 - Cost is \$20/Scout, \$5/Adult + Troop needs to provide food;
 - It was decided the Troop would charge for the Camporee the same amount as other weekend camping trips (\$25/Scout & Adults/\$15); Troop will cover the additional cost of food.
 - Adults and Scouts have the option to purchase a Camporee T-shirt for \$10
- Deb requested a volunteer to handle Summer Camp registration. Summer Camp will be 7/2-7/8, 2017; Len will speak with Ed Knox.

- January: Lock-In date set for Fri, 1/20-1/21, 2017. No charge for Lock-In, but bring snacks. Troop provides pizza. Gary checking with OSLC.
- March: Scouts decided at APLC that Merit Badge Madness will be an “individual” event – not a troop campover – to accommodate more conventional camping in March.
- Patuxent Research Refuge—hoping to book for Mar 24th weekend.
- Philmont Trek: Chris C. reported that Philmont was a great trip.
 - The Crew shared Council patches with group from Washington state and he would like to ask for the Troop to cover the approximate cost (\$30). This was approved.
 - Scout Kevin Dowling, the General Manager at Philmont started Troop 918 as an Eagle Scout Project! The Crew met with Mr. Dowling in Philmont.
- SeaBase Trek: Ted N reported that Sea Base was a successful trip.
 - Scouts have a new affection for grilled spam. Lots of photos.
 - Johan or one of the Scouts can speak at COH.

SPL REPORT – JEREMY W: Since last report, the Troop has had one meeting & APLC.

- One meeting was Canoeing & Safety Afloat; a second meeting was supposed to be about “on the water” skills, but that fell through so those attending went through partials and advancement requirements.
- Moved the COH to end of September so some partials could be finished.
- At APLC it was decided to start a seven year cycle for Summer Camp so that Scouts can have a different experience each year. The hope is to have 2017 at Horseshoe in PA, then rotate through Hawk Mountain, Broadcreek, Henson, etc. All camps selected are within 2-3 hours. July 2-8th, 2017 confirmation still being worked on.
- July 5-19th – Philmont—all had a good time
- July 7-15th – Sea Base
- Patrol names will follow BSA-standard patrol naming conventions in the future. One month to discuss and figure out names.

[Cookies were generously provided at this point of the meeting.]

SCOUTMASTER REPORT – DARREN R: Darren unable to attend

CALENDAR REVIEW:

- Troop
 - No meeting Sept 5, 2016 – Labor Day
 - Next Troop Committee meeting: Oct 17, 2016
 - COH will be held on Sept 19, 2016

WEBMASTER REPORT – LEN M: Removed Schults from Scoutlander.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Behavior issues
 - Actions planned – patrol names, patrol configurations: Voted in at the APLC
 - Patrol names to be changed to BSA standard naming.
 - Patrols will be older and younger mixture
- Shed punch list/Garage cleanout – Greg working on

- Computer projector – Committee approved \$500. – Len working on
- Troop handbook updates (need to post/publish) – Maureen working on

NEW BUSINESS:

- Adult Leader Meeting/s – plan to resume
 - Get a better picture of the SM/ASM team for the coming year to ensure we provide the supervision and advising necessary for a good program.
- Adult coverage for upcoming campouts, etc.; who's covering the campouts, etc. needs to be nailed down. This will be presented at COH 9/19/16.
- John Gething presented Eagle Project idea. He has picked out a Room Sponsor program for Sarah's House.
 - Sarah's House provides emergency housing for abused women, children, & (now) men. They are taken in and put in a shelter room. Resembles college dorm, very plain.
 - John would like to improve the rooms. He plans to go to businesses looking for financial support.
 - Would like Troop 918 to contribute \$100 for expenses such as for plaques with sponsor business in each room. He would also like to provide rooms will be cork board/white board.
 - Project has already been approved by District.
 - John's request for a \$100 troop contribution for plaques was approved unanimously.

August 2016
Outdoor Program Coordinators Report

June Summer Camp (June 26-July 2, 2016) Rodney Scout Reservation, Beachcomber Campsite

(July 5 -July 19, 2016 (Philmont 12 day trek, plus 2 day acclimation) Expedition number: 707-L.
Arrived at Philmont, July 7, 2016 (lunch was first meal). Departure after breakfast on July 19, 2016. Blue Sky provided pre- and post-Philmont activities and acclimation to the altitude. Many thanks to Chris Chamberlin and our injured Mike Binnix!

(July 9-July 15, 2016 (Seabase) Assisting with this event: Johan Van de Meulebroecke, Tom Bateman and Ted Nanavati.

September Battleship New Jersey, Saturday, September 24, 2016 (one night only on ship)

~~We have 15 Scouts and 6 Adults signed up to attend. This has now been confirmed by the USS New Jersey, so we are a "go!" The adults listed are: Lloyd Gleason, Mr. Hoffensetz, Dave Newell, Mr. Stees, and Jon Wood.~~ Canceled by USS New Jersey encampment office.

October Antietam, October 14-16 2016

Confirmed at Rohrbach youth campground. Arriving Friday, departing Sunday. Space for 30 campers.

November Camporee 2016 at Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, November 11-13, 2016

"Heroes II, Boy Scout Camporee, Courage & Commitment." Registration opened August 8, Need volunteer to help coordinate. Cost is \$20 per scout, \$5 per adult. May be an additional charge for t-shirts.

December Broad Creek Cabin Camping, December 2-4, 2016

Deposit of \$97 towards Conowingo Cabin (18 bunk beds, wood stove, kitchen with gas oven/stove, sink, refrigerator. Tent camping for up to 40.)

January 2017 Lock-In TBD

February 2017 Yurt camping at Camp Henson, February 17-19, 2017 (President's Weekend) or following weekend? February 24-26, 2017 TBC

March 2017 Patuxent Research Refuge – North Tract for Camping, March 24-26, 2017, TBC

Merit Badge Madness TBD will be only a day experience – no camping

April 2017 Deep Creek Lake – Swallow Falls Tent Camping April 21-23, 2017
Confirmed camping at Swallow Falls Youth Camp Site #1 (25 campers)

May 2017 Camp Dancing Bear (Hereford, MD) Tent camping, May 19-21, 2017

July 2017 **July 2-8, 2017 Summer Camp at Horseshoe TBD – NEED VOLUNTEER TO COORDINATE**

Summer 2017 **50 mile canoe trip Tentative dates, July 28-31 or August 4-7**

Annual Patrol Leaders Council (APLC) All to be determined

September 2017 **Calvert Cliffs**

October 2017 **Catoctin National Park**

November 2017 **Camporee**

December 2017 **Assateague State Park (cold weather camping & surf fishing)**

January 2018 **Lock-In**