



TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 27, 2007

Present: Phil Reece, Belinda Cowdrey, Lois Blondin, Ed Blondin, Eric Schmidt, Sandy Schwartz, Dannette Holifield, Jim Marlow, Terry Nichols, Ken Hoxie, Greg Poulisse, Craig Louthain, Paul McCaffrey, Alexander Blondin, and Brian Murphy

Meeting started at 8:12 PM

Treasurer's Report: Greg gave the treasurer's report.

Next Committee Meeting: The next committee meeting is March 27, 2007.

Past Events

Tie Slide night (Jan. 30): (12/18) Sandy needs help. (1/23) MaryAnn, Deb Lindstrom, Ken Hoxie and Lois Blondin are working with it. Sandy still needs glue guns, extension cords, and power strips. Paul McCaffrey will work on getting fingerprints on wood. (2/27) It was a blast. Not a lot of people were here. A lot of materials were brought in.

Continuous Fire (Feb. 3-10): (1/23) Are we going? Not as a Troop meeting because we are swimming on February 6. If boys want to earn the patch, they must tend the Fire for a least one hour during the week. Scouts are encouraged to visit the Fire on the "buddy system." Troop and Crew 181 are manning the Fire on Wednesday, February 7, from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm. (2/27) 8 people showed-up. Eric stayed the whole 8-hours. It was really cold!

Russell Woods (Feb 9-11, 2007): (11/18) Terry will confirm the reservation. (12/18) Terry has not talked to Bill Prain yet. (1/23) Terry talked with Bill. Deposit check will be mailed out tomorrow. Good to go. (2/27) 13 scouts and 4 adults enjoyed it. It was the best sledding in 6 years. Our deposit was returned to Greg.

F.o.S. (Feb. 13, 2007): (11/28) Need someone to work with district for the Friends of Scouting presentation. Terry sent an email for February 13th to Jim Behrensmeyer. Phil will talk with Terry about it later. Phil discussed arrangements with Mark in detail last year. (12/18) Terry put our name in for February 13th. Jim confirmed our request. Phil was told they have a DVD available now. (1/23) Phil talked with Jim and we are ready to go. Craig is doing our presentation and coordinating it. (2/27) Approximately \$1900 was collected. The goal set for us was over 3,000. We raised less than last year. Family Night had lower attendance because of bad weather. We asked for payments for summer camps too.

Blue and Gold Banquets (Feb): (12/18) February 11th from Pack 400, 1-4:00pm. Greg needs a representative to accept boys into Troop 181. Pack 429 is February 24th. Pack 121 is on February 18th. Pack 600 has boys coming into Troop 181, date unknown. Paul will check into the date. (1/23) 3 Webelos will graduate from Pack 600 on Feb. 25. Webelos information letters were sent regarding our Troop. 2 boys will graduate from Pack 400. 3 may come from Pack 429; possibly 6. We may get 2, possibly 3, from Pack 121. A couple boys came to our Webelos Open House; they weren't from any of these Packs; Sandy will follow-up. (2/27) One more coming up -

- Pack 600 on Sunday. We could end up with 13 new scouts; we have taken in 9 so far. Possibly one more coming from another Pack. We will be shifting patrols around and adding another one on Mar. 20.

Future Events

Scouting for Food (Feb. 24 and March 3, 2007): (11/28) We believe Craig will be heading this up again, he did not decline. (12/18) Craig still has not declined running it. (1/23) Craig will run it for our Troop, but he is not doing it for the District. Craig will put together a generic notice. There is a conflict on the pickup date with the Merit Badge Learn and Earn and the Pancake Day. We will have to plan accordingly. The plan will have to be filed with the District so there are no overlaps. It needs to be put together by Family Night. (2/27) There were 5 groups go out. We covered more territory passing out bags this year. We finished before Noon. Craig and Terry talked about where to take the food. Craig contacted Belinda about taking it to her church's pantry. It has been set-up and will be delivered there on Saturday after collection.

Merit Badge Learn and Earn (March 3 and 24): (12/18) Terry distributed information sheets. (1/23) It's necessary to sign-up by February 1. So far, only 2 have signed-up for it. We need to make sure that those Merit Badge books are in our files. Ben Hoxie, Librarian, needs to check into this. (2/27) 8 boys are going. Phil and Ed are going to be counselors at it.

Scout Order of the Arrow (Mar. 13): (11/28) Dues are due now, December 1. They are \$13.00 annually. If you do not pay, you should take your pocket patch off. (1/23) The election is coming-up on March 13. (2/27) Nothing new.

Adult OA Election (by May 1): (11/28) We need to consider who is eligible for 2007. We can only elect one. It must be someone who is willing to be truly committed. (12/18) Terry needs to establish who is eligible. Sandy, MaryAnn, Lois, Ed, Paul, Dannette, and Steve are eligible. Sandy, Lois, Ed, and Paul are not interested. Greg is an inactive member but will pay his dues soon. Ken was elected in 2006. (See official requirements.) (1/23) Dannette, MaryAnn and Steve are still possibilities. Dannette declined. Terry will check with Steve. Phil suggested that we take a vote between the 2. We voted and MaryAnn was elected. (2/27) Terry will do the paperwork.

First Aid Meet (Mar. 17): (1/23) It will be March 17th this year. No place is secured yet. (2/27) It will be at the Loves Park City Hall this year, near Sand Park Pool. There's no place to buy food, so bring in lunch.

Show and Do (Mar. ?): (1/23) Terry has not heard anything regarding it. It will be at Camp Lowden if it occurs. (2/27) No information available.

March Outing: (1/23) No weekends available. Sandy was concerned about not having an outing for the new boys. However, the 1st Aid Meet is available. Eric suggested that something be done within each patrol. (2/27) No weekends available.

Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner (Mar. 25, 2007): (11/28) Terry mentioned Nathaniel IS an Eagle Scout. It has been confirmed. Anyone interested in the dinner needs to make reservations when it comes up. Nathaniel should submit pictures of his Eagle Project. (12/18) It is on our troop calendar. (1/23) We have a couple there. (2/27) Andrew and Nathaniel earned their Eagles in 2006. Banquet information is in the Courier.

Rockford AirFest 2007 (June 1-3): (1/23) Sandy is checking to see if we are interested in working a booth to make money for the Troop. Workers get free entrance into the Air Show also. We suggested that Sandy submit the letter on behalf of the Troop and get more information. The money will go towards Summer Camps. (2/27) No information as to what we will be doing yet. Question whether we want to have it replace something else. It was suggested to wait and see how it goes first.

NAYLE (National NYLT) (June 2007): (7/18) Alex and Matt have been elected to go to the national NYLT, with Nick as an alternate. Eight 2006 staff members from NYLT were elected to go; with four alternates. The event takes place at Philmont, the week after the local course. A letter will be sent by NYLT to the participants detailing the event. Alex Reece will inform this Committee in August. (8/22) It's is a one week course that over a 6 week period. '06 NAYLE was one week after NYLT. What is the transportation? Most drove, one took a train. They do not care how the scouts get there, just that they can get there. 3 boys may go; 2 elected ones and 1 alternate. It will benefit our troop if those boys will use their training for the troop's benefit. They have to write a "commitment." No one from this troop has gone before. The course fee is \$290. Our council will pay \$100. Terry suggested it will cost them about \$190 plus cost of transportation. He suggested that the scout pays \$50; and the troop pays \$140. Refund \$50 after they fulfill their commitment. Paul suggested that we come up with various options for transportation costs and offer to pay the equivalent to the cheapest one. The scout would pay the difference if they want to use a more expensive way. We voted to accept Terry's suggestion; will vote on the transportation costs later. We voted to keep original plan. (11/28) Bring up again in March '07. (12/18) Scouts received a letter; fee is \$305. Two are going and one alternate. \$100 scholarships were being put up by council NYLT. Transportation is not part of the fee. Phil was told transportation could be about \$200. NAYLE staff still needs to choose which week they want to attend. We need transportation cost by May. Budget transportation cost at least 2 months in advance. They are having a meeting in January. (1/23) The meeting did not happen. They are working on getting one set up. Train rates are \$243.50 from Rockford to New Mexico, \$162 back. Presented Greyhound, but most said not to consider that way. Could not get airline rates yet; they said it was too early. It is \$30 for a round-trip bus ticket in NM. More work to do. (2/27) Plane tickets would be between \$340 and 360 each from O'Hare to Albuquerque, bus extra. Train would be about \$330 each to Raton, bus extra. Car would cost about \$145 in gas each way, plus hotel room and food; would depend on number of people going. \$25 for bus. Motion to pay \$365. It was voted on and approved. 3 eligible, 1 alternate but only 1 knows when he is going.

High Adventure (June 23 - July 1, 2007): (8/22) The Chisholm Trail in the Longhorn Council near Dallas, Texas was desired. First choice is week of June 25 (Sunday through Saturday). Deposit is \$50 per person. We must reserve our group size because they have various size boats. The scouts must be 13 years of age and have their first class by the date of the camp. Part of the reservation is reserving the boat. The largest boat will carry 15 people. Suggested to ask scouts next week to see who wants to go. The deposit will be non-refundable, including adults. Sandy will call people. The experience cost is \$285 per person, but does not include traveling expenses. The information was just put out, so we need to make a decision soon. (9/19) 6 boys and 6 adults are signed-up and have paid their deposit at this time. Sandy is going to go ahead and reserve a boat based on those numbers. Last week of June is our first choice, 3rd week is our second choice. Sandy received a video and it was suggested that we show it to the boys at the Webelos Open House. (10/10) \$1200 deposit was paid by Sandy. She signed-up for (2) 12-person boats. She has not heard confirmation about the dates. (11/28) We got the week we wanted, June 24 -30. That is just the camp, not transportation days. We will need to take 2 days to get there and 2 days to get back. Policy allows kids in the car for 10 hours. Need to know how much to charge the adults. It's going to be approximately \$350 per person. [Troop 57 did this last year. They stopped in at a Boy Scout camp near Missouri and stayed for free which included food. MaryAnn is going to check with Troop 57.] Next payment is due February 13th on Family Night. We need to figure out how the points convert to dollars so boys will know how much more they need to pay. Bring up cost again in December. Check what the Whitewater Rafting cost were for High Adventure in the past. (12/18) Ed is working on transportation and accommodations. There's nothing else new to report. We still need to figure out cost for Adults. Leaving date is still unsure. Information will be ready for the January committee meeting. Notices need to be put out 2-weeks before family night. Ed received travel information from Troop 57 (they went there last year) – stayed at a Joplin, MO scout camp. It was 573 miles to the camp and 426 miles more to Dallas. The camp charged \$1.00 a night per person. They have showers and flush toilets. They also opened up the pool for them. They were furnished platform tents. The next day they drove the rest of the way to the camp. Troop 57 was given comparable accommodations on their return trip. (1/23) Scouts need to test for BSA Swimmer; 1st Class. All adults must have Youth Protection certification. We're leaving on June 23 at 7:00 am. We're staying in Joplin, MO, then 6 more hours. Return trip on 6/30 and 7/1; staying in the same motel. Treat it like a backpacking trip. Take tents. Camp provides food, but wants us to bring our own cooking equipment. We have 2 boats reserved; 4 adults and 8 scouts per boat. Estimated cost is \$427 per person. We need to figure-out adult charge. (Breakdown - Camp \$310, lodging \$28, \$22 traveling food, and gas is \$67 per person.) Next payment is due Feb. 13th, with final payment due on May 23rd. Checking what we charged for the

Whitewater Rafting trip. Motion we pay at least half. [The Whitewater rafting trip cost was \$550 for boys. The active adults cost was \$150, and the junior leaders were \$250.] (2/27) Nothing new.

Summer Camp @ Canyon Camp (July 15-21, 2007): (8/22) A suggestion was made for the second week in July. (9/19) We are reserved! Poulisses and McCaffreys are already signed-up to go. (11/28) Need to know which adults are going. Greg and Tammy Poulisse, MaryAnn, possibly Dannette and then Sandy have plans to attend. We just need to know how much points are worth. Next payment is February 13th at Family Night. [Post-meeting note: The Courier has us posted as July 15-21.] (12/18) Terry changed it to have this payment and the High Adventure payment due at the same time, February 13, Family Night. Cost is \$185. The camp is July 15 – 21, not July 8th – 14th. (Sandy's Day camp is July 30th, 31st, August 2nd and 3rd.) (1/23) Deposit from boys is set at \$25. Motioned and seconded and approved. That would make the points worth \$160. This money can be used for either this camp or the High Adventure trip. (2/27) 23 scouts are signed-up; without any new scouts.

Philmont 2008: (11/28) Eric talked about Philmont. Bill has a string of dates requested. Eric has 2 dates in for the Crew. If we're offered, we must pay \$50 or we lose our reservation. Our Council has 4 crews reserved to arrive June 16th. Someone needs to get down to the Scout office to sign up tomorrow. It has already been announced in the Courier. We need to get a contingency plan. Sign-up ended Nov. 26; will not hear whether or not we got it until the middle of December. Terry will check tomorrow. [Post-meeting note: Phil McCrery is taking request for those four crews until January 12, then, he'll decide.] (12/18) We have a reservation for 2008, with a June 16th arrival date. 24 people can go (16 boys & 8 adults). Phil asked Terry to announce it at the pizza party tomorrow night that T-181 is going. We'll discuss it at Family Night in February. (1/23) We can only take 8 adults, but have 9 signed-up and paid. 13 scouts have signed-up. Lois was willing to drop-out, if needed. Bill is paying deposits for 14 (the minimum requirement). First payment is due in October 2007. (2/27) Bill is not here, so nothing new.

(2/27) Welcomed Golden Jim Marlow, who's new to our troop and meetings.

Miscellaneous Business

TRAINING:

Wood Badge: Aug. 24-26 and Sept. 21-23, 2007: (1/23) Phil's deposit and application is in. Greg is having problems scheduling time off. Ken's application and money is in.

Leader Specific: (1/23) April 25, is Troop Committee Training. May 2, 9, 16, is SM/ASM Specific Training. And May 19-20, is the Outdoor Skills Session.

Fast Start: Do it online, call Beth Ann, then let MaryAnn know that you did it.

Youth Protection: Do it online, call Beth Ann, then let MaryAnn know that you did it.

First Aid/CPR Certifications: (11/28) Several need to be done before Summer Camp. 6 to 7 need refresher classes in January 2007. Eric will check into doing it in the middle of January. He said class size should be limited to eight. (12/18) Eric will put it together first week in January. (1/23) Belvidere Fire Department charges \$40 each. They still teach the old style; breathing and compressions. They want 6 per class; they can add another instructor if there's more. It takes 6 hours; either 2-nights in one week, or one Saturday. We pick our own dates. (5 re-certifications needed and 3 new ones too.) Some scouts need it also. Recertification is \$25. The recertification is a shorter class. Eric is meeting with them on Thursday. He'll be checking to see if those who just expired can still get a recertification. Phil took a list of names. Eric will email to Phil and he will email everyone else. Try to do it in the next 2 weeks. Announce it to the scouts at next week's meeting. (2/27) Phil needs to post it and Eric needs names. Terry needs to announce it to the Scouts too. Terry does not want to split-up the scouts and adults. Jim's wife is an instructor with the Red Cross. It was requested that Jim get more information from her regarding costs and availability, etc.

Patrol Medallions: (8/22) Paul's wife is meeting with a sewing rep tomorrow to see if they can do it. We are not sure yet whether or not she will need to purchase another card. The patrols may need to be renamed in order for these cards to work. Phil suggested that they should check to see if we can download the information onto a card. Paul's wife will make samples when she has time. (9/19) We could not do the patrols that we have now. The boys will have to choose patrol names from what are available symbols. It will be at least a couple of weeks to get these ready. (10/10) Paul passed-around a sample of a patrol medallion. Phil is working with him to get new pictures available. (11/28) We will get samples of patrol medallions in a couple of weeks. (1/23) Samples are available.

Health Forms: (6/27) Lois wants to be in charge of it. (7/18) Lois needs to work on it. (8/22) Lois has gone through them all. We have some that do not have health forms filled out at all. There are also some whose information has expired. Lois will be calling people to get those and to get updates. Terry suggested a summary onto a spreadsheet. She has also made up a list of non-active adults. Duplicate books made up for small group outings. There are about 15 to 20 that we need forms fixed for. Lois wants to return the outdated forms back to the respective families. (9/19) Lois has spoken to people of those she needs information for. Mostly, she needs forms from the new Squirrels. (10/10) She still has quite a few new people who do not have a form on file. Lois is continuing to work on it. (11/28) Lois still needs some. New practice: Class 1 and 2 medical forms must be filled-out as soon as someone joins our troop. (12/18) Still need medical forms and/or doctors' forms from some new boys. Lois has talked to them, but they are not bringing them in. (1/23) Lois is still missing a few new ones. We'll be handing out Health Forms at Blue and Gold Banquets. (2/27) Lois is still missing some.

Garage: (9/19) Eric and Bill are the only ones on the sub-committee for a Scout garage. They want help with planning it. Terry volunteered because he would like to see it happen. We could have our own personal space. We could hang tents when we come back from campouts and not send them home with scouts. (10/10) A 24 x 36' garage was approved at Township's budget meeting last night. They will get the permit. We would like to start it next Spring. It will go on the fire department property off 42nd Street. Tim Nease works for R&D Thiel, his father works for Hines Lumber. We need to make it known that we want to build the garage and see if we get anyone showing interest in helping with materials and labor. Phil will send-out an email. We could mention it at Family Court of Honor too. (11/28) Eric and Bill are working on it. (12/18) Eric has all the specs; he will type them up and send them to Bill. (1/23) Bill is working on the layout. (2/27) Everything was passed-on to Bill.

Patrol Coaches: (11/28) Eric suggested meeting with them weekly. Ed and Sandy will reorganize them. (12/18) Ed and Sandy will be having a meeting with the patrol coaches. (1/23) Not done yet. (2/27) There's still nothing being done. The earliest will be in May.

DVD player: (12/18) Would we like to donate a DVD player to this church? Yes. (Troop 181 can use it for movie nights and Youth Protection videos.) Greg will buy one after the holidays and turn-in the receipt. (1/23) It was purchased, but Greg will return it, and repurchase it, so we can get it Tax Exempt. Sandy is getting Greg a copy of the Tax Exempt letter. (2/27) Greg purchased it and it's at his home. Phil suggested it be done as a presentation. We suggested that it be presented to Pastor Nancy Rethford at the Men's Dinner.

Nominations for District Awards (Apr. 1): (1/23) Unit Spirit Award – nominee does not have to be a registered scouter. (S)he will automatically receive it. Outstanding Awards – Leaders and Committee Members must be registered and nominees go up against the whole district. We can nominate for 2 awards. District Award of Merit – 4-5 per District are awarded. Nominations will be taken next month. Phil asked MaryAnn to get a list of who, in our Troop, have it already. (2/27) Phil handed-out nomination ballots. Terry went over the qualifications again. Turn-in to Terry.

Scout Accounts: (1/23) Phil proposed that money from scout accounts be passed on to college expenses (another troop does this), instead of the Troop just absorbing it, assuming they stay involved with the Troop. There are 7 scouts, 17-years-old, who will age-out by December. There is only about \$300 in that category. This is a suggestion to get the older boys to continue to earn money for the Troop. If they go away, we carry their registration for 4-years if they are Eagle Scouts and go to college or serve in the military. Once they are age 21

they no longer can have a Scout Account. We need to decide if we want to grandfather it or start now. We decided to table this for next month's meeting. (2/27) For ages 18–21, Scout Account moneys can be used for education, military, etc. This will help keep them involved with fundraisers. Motioned we start it now and not grandfather it in. Motion was seconded and voted on -- Passed.

New Business on February 27, 2007

Northern Illinois Food Bank (April 14): Sandy is handling it. Permission slips will be handed-out the next two weeks. It will be 9:00am to Noon.

U.S. Grant Pilgrimage (Apr. 27–29): Verification: Yes, it is on the troop calendar.

Midwest Regional Extrication Competition (May 19–20): Phil cannot lead it this year. He needs someone else to take it over. Lois volunteered to run it. Craig volunteered to help her by buying the food.

Highland Games (May 25–27): Sandy talked about it. She suggested getting together with different troops, like we did with the Emergency Preparedness outing. She suggested we do our own camp-o-ree and go to Russell Woods or MacQueen Forest Preserve. Phil asked what help she needed. We will need a lot, but will talk about it in the future. Contact Mark Broman at Troop 123.

BMX Food Tent (June 14–17): Phil will need help with it. Greg Poulisse agreed to run it.

Summer Swim (June 19): Sandy is checking into renting Sand Park Pool, but we cannot get in until after 8:00 pm. So we talked about switching it to the weekend. Then, we talked about doing Wet Wednesday at Magic Waters on June 20. That will cost about \$5.00 per person.

Swim Tests – Only High Adventurers need to be tested, not Summer Campers. Canyon Camp will not accept troop records; they want you to do it when you get there. Chisholm Trail requires us to certify.

Adjourned at 9:05 pm