



TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 22, 2007

Present: Phil Reece, Belinda Cowdrey, Terry Nichols, Tim & Lori Mason, Vicki Lambert, Dannette Holifield, Lois & Ed Blondin, Eric Schmidt, Sandy Schwartz, Derek Dwyer, Bill Ziemke, Greg Poulisse, Jim Marlow, Craig Louthain, Ken Hoxie, Paul McCaffrey, Bill LeFevre, and MaryAnn Bushaw

Meeting started at 8:20 PM

Treasurer's Report: Greg distributed a sheet and recapped it.

Next Committee Meeting: The next committee meeting is June 26th, 2007.

Past Events

Extrication Conference (May 19-20): (4/17) Lois Blondin is running it. Lois put out a sign-up sheet tonight, 18-shifts are available. She still needs a lot more help on Sunday. (5/22) We spent \$860 on food; we need to return some. We earned \$1309.85 in profits. The judges' order sheet worked really well; they filled-out the sheets and brought them to us. One Adult ran the money box each shift. Craig bought most of the food up front. Most of it came from GFS. Lois made notes and listed things she will do differently next time. We only sold 29 Breezes [that (\$58) still needs to come out of our profits]; do not offer those again. Buy smaller jar of sauerkraut. Only one shift had a "no show." The 4-6:00 shift may not be needed. The competition finished near 4:00 each day. This is dictated by the number of teams competing. Bill will know a month in advance about how many teams they will have. They only had 14 teams this year; 17 in 2006. Each team stretches out about 30 minutes. Leftover pops, chips and candy will be brought to Wet Wednesday at Magic Waters where kids can buy it from the troop at prices near "cost." The judges and hard-hats consumed \$381.50 in food and drinks. The fire station gave a donation, but the cashier did not write down the amount. The department couldn't find their grills, so the Blondins brought theirs.

Future Events

We welcomed Tim and Lori Mason to their first committee meeting.

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. (3/27) We hope to get answers by the end of this week. Sandy will need a co-worker or coordinator. Eric volunteered to help. (4/17) Nothing new.... (5/22) Crew and Troop people signed-up. There's now a problem with the merchandising shifts. Program positions are fine. Only need 4-people for each merchandising shift. Sandy is waiting for information regarding the problem. All workers need wristbands; Sandy will buy wristbands now and deduct cost from their shift proceeds.

Troop Meeting (June 5): (3/27) Troop Hike. Sandy said that something is being planned in Belvidere so that we can go to Paul's Ice Cream Shop afterwards. We will discuss it later. (4/17) Nothing new.... (5/22) The routes, and other details, are still being planned; information will be posted later.

BMX Food Tent (June 14–17): (2/27) Phil will need help with it. (3/27) Greg Poulisse agreed to run it. Greg will be looking for volunteers. Also, contact Paul about some food supplies. (4/17) Paul said he would be able to get the syrup for the Smoothies from his supplier for .75 a cup. We will need to provide our own blenders and cups. Paul has a sample of the base. To be discussed later in a subcommittee. (5/22) We need to use Baskin-Robins because Paul says the new syrup is not that good. Greg says some shifts are signed-up; he didn't have his sheet. Need to get the new information on the website. Greg needs help for Wednesday and Thursday, due to a prior commitment. Belinda can do Friday, Vicki can do Sunday.

Summer Swim (June 20): (2/27) Sandy is checking into renting the 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. (3/27) We're going to 'Wet Wednesday' at Magic Waters on June 20th in place of the Tuesday, June 19th meeting. (5/22) Phil asked Sandy for an announcement. Terry wants to put out an announcement for the month of June. He requests those who are doing those events to get him their information; it's all going to be on one sheet.

High Adventure (June 23 - July 1): (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) There is nothing new. (3/27) Your next payment is due on May 8th, \$130 for Scouts and \$50 for Adults. (4/17) One adult dropped-out and we need to fill that spot with an adult or scout. All swim tests and Class 3 medicals need to be done before going. 23 are going; 6 adults and 17 scouts. There is still one opening. We are still paying for 24 people. (5/22) The troop needs to

provide tents and cooking gear; backpack-type packing. They will provide ice, water and backpacking-type food, except the program meals at a few sites. We need to provide (2) 5-gallon containers per crew. We need to pack light and make sure things are waterproof. Ed will work on a list of items people need to bring. There is still 1 spot open. The cost is \$427. If no one from here goes, we can open it up to anyone who might be interested. Chisholm will charge us for the spot, regardless of its occupation.

Cherry Valley Bicycle Parade (July 4): (4/17) We should be participating this year. All should be in town. Terry will check to make sure it is actually on Wednesday, the 4th. (5/22) It's still in our plans.

NAYLE (National NYLT) (July 15 - 21): (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. (3/27) Our 2 scouts have their dates. They're waiting on the others to receive their dates before they organize their transportation. (4/17) Nothing new.... (5/22) Phil and Craig are working on the travel arrangements for Alex and Matt. Craig is driving them out and back. They are estimating \$400 per Scout for travel expenses, based on the IRS rate of 42-cents per mile. This is approximately \$80 dollars more. Motioned and accepted the additional \$40 per Scout.

Summer Camp @ Canyon Camp (July 15-21): (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. (3/27) Your next payment is due April 18th – that's your balance. (4/17) All Adults need to complete a Class 3 medical form and a physical exam within the last 36 months (if you're under 40). We cannot do pre-camp swim tests; Canyon does not accept them. We recommend that everyone does a practice swim test. Payments are due by April 30th. (5/22) There's a lot of work to do in the next four weeks. 34 Scouts signed-up. 6 ½ Adults are going. Tonight's meeting informed boys and parents. Sign-up for merit badges started tonight.

Electronics Merit Badge (July 24 & 31): (4/17) *Who is running it? No one here knows.* (5/22) Jim will look at becoming a merit badge counselor. Sandy suggested changing it. Several of our Scouts already have this one. Derek should poll the PLC for other merit badge ideas. Several were suggested here.

Wood Badge Training (Aug. 24-26 & Sept. 21-23): *Phil and Ken are signed up and paid. Nothing new....*

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.* (3/27) *Nothing new.* (4/17) *Is it full? Terry said, "no." Bill paid for the 7-minimum per trek, although 22 of our members have paid a deposit. We have room for 3 more Scouts.* (5/22) *We have room for 24. The next payment is due in October; approximately \$200. Payment after that is due in March 2008. (1 too many adults, and 2 too few scouts are signed-up.) They allow 2-4 adults per crew. Scouts are considered youth up to age 21, but must be 14+ and First Class. Health restrictions are enforced once you get there, even if your doctor permits you to go. Traveling will be by train.*

Training:

Leader Specific: (3/27) *Golden James still needs to have it as well as Brian Murphy.* (4/17) *Jim did his New Leader Essentials at 4/12 Roundtable; **BRIAN DID NOT.** A new course starts Wednesday, April 25 at Calvary Baptist Church on Linden Road. Most committee members have done it already.* (5/22) *Golden Jim did the 3 middle sessions this Spring.*

Fast Start: *Do it online then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it.* (5/22) *Belinda did Fast Start and Youth Protection online. Golden Jim did those and many others online (every one available; in all programs). Their copies were given to MaryAnn. Make sure **you** do it through the **council website** and not the national one!*

Youth Protection: *Do it online then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it. Training is good for two years. Make sure **you** do it through the **council website** and not the national one!*

First Aid/CPR Certifications: (4/17) *25 people completed the Adult CPR/AED (not First Aid) course in the 3 classes offered. It's a 1-year certification. Golden Jim is working on his Instructor Certification, and plans to offer courses later in the year.* (5/22) *Golden Jim is now certified to instruct. The next class is scheduled for Thursday, May 24th. Another instructor will be coming with him. He suggests that knowledgeable people can get the information ahead of time and do the "challenge" (take the test without further instruction); it's not good for first time people.*

Miscellaneous Business

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. (3/27) Terry is trying to get them from new Scouts when they fill-out their applications. (4/17) Terry is working to make sure new Scouts are done. Lois says the older scouts who are active have theirs. A Class 3 form needs to be filled-out by all adults, regardless of age. If you have had a physical exam within the last 3-years, you can attach it to your new form. Adults need to update their form every year. (5/22) Lois is still missing some for Summer Camp. Parent signatures are required every year, while physician signatures are required every 3 years on the Scout forms.

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. (3/27) No update. (4/17) Bill is working on the permit this week. (5/22) No permit yet. Bill sent a letter to Chief Wilt. The firemen are talking about it, though Bill was out-of-town. Once the permit is issued we have 1-year to complete the building. The bulldozer is lined-up; we still need to get materials.

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. (3/27) Sandy will call Ed and get it on the calendar. (4/17) A new parent asked who, but the new patrol does not have a patrol coach yet. (5/22) We have a new patrol coach – Tim Mason. We nominated Belinda to train this position UNDER PROTEST! She accepted.

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. (3/27) It is here and used tonight. Terry will call Pastor Nancy about a presentation later. (4/17) Terry has not talked to her. (5/22) Terry sent emails to Pastor Nancy and Secretary Nancy. They were both very pleased!

Troop shirts: (4/17) Dannette suggests we get Troop Hooded Sweatshirts. Dannette will work on researching this. Terry is gathering sizes and orders for replacement Troop Activity T-shirts. (5/22) Dannette showed a sample Hooded Sweatshirt; the cost was \$17. It's suggested we do it for the fall. Belinda ordered and received Activity Shirts. They're distributed! Our cost was better than last year.

New Business on May 22

Broomball (June 12): (5/22) Lois talked to the Riverview Icehouse. \$110/hour (full size rink), \$100/hour (small rink). The game is played like ice hockey. Special shoes available, but they can wear tennis shoes. Lois is checking to see if we could borrow equipment from North Love Baptist Church, because Riverview does not have any available. We'll use a street hockey-type ball. We need to check to see if they have helmets that we can use. The rink is available until 7:45 pm. A motion that the Troop

pick-up this cost -- was approved. The large rink will be reserved, contingent upon availability to get equipment. We will require everyone to wear helmets; this follows the Guide to Safe Scouting policies.

Flag Day, Thursday, (June 14 Thursday): (5/22) this is being held at Cherry Vale Mall. They want groups to come and show off their flags in the center court from 11:30 to 12:00. It conflicts with the opening day of the BMX Food Tent. (Someone suggested the Milky Way Patrol go to represent us.) People must be there by 11:00 am.

Blackhawk Regatta (July 28):

Spud Hut (Aug 7 – 12):

RiverHawks Game (August 7): (5/22) Scout Night is August 4th, during Festa Italiana; No! It's suggested we do it on August 7th. Our calendar shows it on our schedule for August 21 and 28 (questionable). We need to check a Riverhawks schedule.

Alpine Slide Campout (August 10-12):

Family Court of Honor (August 14) Potluck Dinner: (5/22) we do not have a place reserved yet. Sandy will check to see if we could reserve the Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve pavilion.

Rebels Overnight (October 5-7): (5/22) Sandy needs to reserve MacQueen F.P. for this year. Sandy would appreciate help because she will have her Webelos Den there. Our scouts will staff it by invitation only.

Stamp Show: This weekend. It is all free. It happens every year. We can plan this for the future.

Leadership Medallions: (5/22) Dannette will take care of that. She and Terry will work on getting the new leaders their correct patches. We should be able to get this done within the next two weeks.

Courier is in the mail. (5/22) Scholarships are awarded, but Eagle Scouts must apply. MaryAnn got a Cub Scout award (3-years old). Roundtable is at 6:30 on June 14, at Belvidere Park (see *Courier* for details). Our OA candidate, MaryAnn Bushaw was approved. Terry asked Blondins to get address information for Eagle Scout letters to Politicians (some addresses are in the *Courier*); letters mailed to Washington DC are delayed 3-4 weeks for chemical testing.

Adjourned at 9:47 pm