



TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 24, 2007

Present: Paul McCaffrey, Dannette Holifield, MaryAnn Bushaw, Ed & Lois Blondin, Tim & Lori Mason, Craig Louthain, Terry Nichols, Greg Poulisse, Eric Schmidt, Adriana Lopez, Ken Hoxie, Sandy Schwartz, Alex Reece & Matt Louthain

Meeting started at 8:15 PM

Treasurer's Report: A two-month treasurer's report was discussed. (see attached) Baskin-Robbins was paid, despite a small discrepancy in the number of cup; settled in our favor.

Next Committee Meeting: The next committee meeting is August 28, 2007.

Past Events

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. (6/26) Having some problems with the check being about 1/2 of what we thought it should be. We were paid for 10% of programs not "per hour" as promised. Several people got sent to the wrong areas, some stuck in parking lots waiting for shuttles. Many vendors were not ready for us. Check may have Venture crew money in it. Sandy is continuing to sort it out. (7/24) There were lots of time conflicts between the Airport's records and ours. After all was settled, Sandy is paying everyone \$6.26/hour (after expenses). Before we commit to next year, we'll review it again. Only older scout will be invited to work the children's play area.

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-Robbins 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. (6/26) Belinda and Lois have volunteered to run this event next year. Terry suggested fewer people for the shifts. We may want to consider only doing Baskin Robins, Pizza Hut and the snow cones; they are the most profitable and require the least amount of manpower. Hot dogs and pop corn did very poorly. Belinda purchased an awning to extend the tent. A ceramic plate was found as well as two extension cords. We are missing a 4 ounce plastic cup. Greg will do a full report next month. (7/24) We have not yet paid the BMX track. \$5585 was taken in. There was \$1506 profit. However, we are paying

BMX for their water sold. We thought the water consumed by us was free, so it wasn't recorded. We plan to subtract one water per person per shift before paying BMX.

BMX Litter Pick-Up (June 17): (7/24) Jake paid us \$550 this year; \$50 more than last year. 32 people worked a total of 51-hours; 2-1/2 maximum each. That's \$10.78/hour going into Scout Accounts.

High Adventure (June 23 - July 1): (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. (6/26) Terry did not respond to requests to give information on how it was going. (7/24) There was a mixed reaction to the events. Weather (unprecedented rain in Texas) was a big factor. Maturity of staff was an issue at some events. Terry submitted a detailed feedback report with the evaluation summary. Expenses were very close to the budget.*

NAYLE (National NYLT) (July 15 - 21): (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. (7/24) Matt & Alex gave a good report. Both scouts felt it was very worthwhile.*

Summer Camp @ Canyon Camp (July 15-21): (5/22) *There's a lot of work to do in the next four weeks. 34 Scouts signed-up. 6 1/2 Adults are going. Tonight's meeting informed boys and parents. Sign-up for merit badges started tonight. (6/26) Need to pay balance for new kids and adults. MaryAnn, Dannette, Sandy, Paul, Greg, Tammy (Terry has been added since the meeting) and 34 scouts. One scout will be sleeping in his own tent and Greg will be responsible. Camp is not too far, so problems can be dealt with easily. We may want to consider having each adult assigned to a group of scouts. (7/24) Thirty-five scouts and 7-1/2 adults went. 82 merit badges were completed, thanks to MaryAnn for pushing some scouts over the top. 14 ranks were completed, and some more still coming. "Open" merit badge sessions (no set time) were good! The OWL program was more free form – left more time for merit badges. Staff and counselors were very professional.*

Next Year's summer camps: Philmont requires a two week adult commitment (8-adults) – may affect adult availability at the basic summer camp. Our local camp (Camp Lowden) would not have offerings for our older scouts (but many of them will go to Philmont). Some scouts have suggested Ransburg again. We need to ensure we consider our offerings to all scouts to balance the concerns.

Current Event

Electronics Law Merit Badge (July 24 & 31): (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. (6/26) Several scouts earned electronics merit badge at the Learn and Earn. The PLC needs to look at other ones: Citizenship in Community, photography, painting, and graphic arts. (7/24) Law merit badge was added to the list. Several calls were made from Canyon Camp by adults. There is no Painting merit badge counselor in our District. Sandy recruited her brother, attorney Jeff Spears (we'll get him qualified as a counselor). John Vermie found attorney Jeff Heckinger, an official merit badge counselor, to come. They spoke in different areas of the room. Homework will be required – Sandy will email it to everyone.*

Future Events

Blackhawk Regatta (July 28): (5/22) *The crew is doing it. The troop may have problems with enough older scouts. Others can be guests.* (7/24) The location changed to Olsen Lake at Rock Cut State Park. No troop members signed-up on the short notice given at the July 17 troop meeting.

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.* (6/26) *Talk with Belinda about how to get tickets.* (7/24) The announcement has been posted on the website for August 7. Terry made some changes to the pricing and distributed notices tonight. The infield seating is \$9 per ticket. However, the troop will charge \$7.50 to families who sign-up for Festa, and absorb the difference.

Spud Hut (Aug. 7-12): (6/26) *On June 24th there were forty shifts open. Steve DeVlieger will be at our July 3rd meeting to offer our scout/parent teams the opportunity to work shifts.* (7/24) Four scouts and one crew member is signed-up with their parents so far.

Alpine Slide Campout (August 10-12): (6/26) *It still needs to be organized, Sandy and Terry will handle it.* (7/24) We'll charge \$8 for the campout; scouts will bring extra money for the slide. Sandy will email a cost schedule. We'll leave Saturday morning.

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.* (6/26) *The pavilion has been reserved. Do pot luck at 5:00 and ceremony at 6:30. Each family will need to bring chairs and food, we can have a fire.* (7/24) The pavilion was reserved. We'll start the potluck at 5:30pm.

Bike Hike (Sept 8-9): (6/26) *Eric does not deny organizing it. Look at shorter one for younger scouts.* (7/24) We're going to the Elroy-Sparta Trail. We're going Sat. morning and returning Sun. afternoon.

WEBELOS Open House (Sept 25): (6/26) *Sandy is working on the plans.* (7/24) It's in progress.

Wreath Sales (Sept 25): (6/26) *Tracy is considering it with Adriana; Paul will help coordinate. (Post-meeting note: Adriana agreed to help out.)* (7/24) Paul has transferred the information. Adriana has the paperwork and order forms.

Troop JLT (Sept 29): Terry will organize it.

Webelos 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.* (6/26) *Sandy is working on the reservation.* (7/24) Sandy still needs to call Justine.

Philmont (Jun 16, 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. (6/26) Nothing new. (7/24) Nothing new.

Training:

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!

<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=YouthProtect>

Fast Start: Do it online then let MaryAnn Bushaw know that you did it. Make sure **you** do it through the **council website** and not the national one!

<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=FastStart>

New Leader Essentials: 9/12 or 9/29 or 10/18 (details in the *Courier*)

Leader Specific: 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/20-21 (details in the *Courier*)

First Aid/CPR Certifications: None planned at this time, except Wilderness 1st Aid (see below)

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

Miscellaneous Business

Health Forms: (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. (6/26) Lois did not respond to requests to give any information on how it was going. (7/24) They're under control and on the bookshelf!*

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. (7/24) Nothing new.*

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. (7/24) Nothing new.*

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. (6/26) Still needs work.*

(7/24) Dannette delivered them and there's no more requested. Phil did not decline working on getting the patrol medallions.

The 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. (6/26) Ed did not respond to requests to give any information on how it was going. (7/24) The Courier is in the mail again. About 12 were handed to parents tonight.

Red Cross Wilderness First Aid (Sept 7-9): (6/26) Nobody knows what this is about. (Post-meeting note: It is an extensive 1st Aid course. Eric Schmidt took it last year. It's advertised in the Courier.) (7/24) It's pricy at \$130, but may be helpful for Philmont. Look in the Courier, page 4!

New Business

OA Fall Conclave (Aug. 17-19): See the Courier for a full page of details; page 7. Consider Operation Brotherhood Conversion at Canyon Camp. Congratulations to MaryAnn – inducted last week with Brad and Ben.

Annual Calendar Planning (Aug. 25): Please forward all ideas to Sandy. Our scouts need ideas to choose from!

Religious Retreat “God in My Life” (Sept 14-16): MaryAnn says nothing conflicts with it this year. She hopes that more than one scout from our troop will attend.

Shoot-O-Ree (Oct. 12-14): We hope to have some adults on staff; Ken and Terry are interested. Phil did not decline to staff it.

High adventure camp 2009: Paul is proposing a camp in Maine – details to follow.

Adjourned at 9:35 pm