



TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 27, 2007

Present: Greg Poullisse, Nic Poullisse, Eric Schmidt, Terry Nichols, Judi Nichols, Ed Blondin, Bryce Russell

Meeting started at 8:20PM

Treasurer's Report: (see attached) No significant changes. It doesn't include tree deposits. Greg now has online privileges. Four deposits were made by Sandy, but they went into the Crew account. When Eric contacted the bank, it transferred one lump sum into the Troop account. Greg needs to account for them. Wreaths and Trees haven't been paid for yet. Greg is expecting more income from the wreaths.

Next Committee Meeting: Undecided – no December meeting will be scheduled at this time. Suggest the Committee Chair schedule the next meeting for January – as early as possible. The Treasurer will present a complete year-end report at that time.

Past Events

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. (8/28) We're waiting for the check (about 2-months). (9/18) Waiting. (10/30) Nothing new. (Post-meeting note: Troop 224 voted on payment amounts on Nov. 7) (11/27) We should have the check in the couple of days, per Phil.

Wreath Sales (begins 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. (8/28) There's no one here to talk about it. (9/18) Adriana and Tracy have everything under control. Belinda will research how many wreaths we need to order for the tree lot based on notes from last year's meeting minutes. She'll give the information to Adriana and Tracy. Wreath sales brochures will be handed-out next week. We need to offer Webelos attending a chance to sell wreaths for us and start building-up their scout accounts. Paul said this was offered last year and several took advantage of it. (10/30) About 10 scouts turned-in their forms tonight. Others were given another week. (11/27) How does this year's sales compare to last year's sales of \$5832? There was no one present to report.

Popcorn Blitz (October 6-9): (9/18) Jessica went to Roundtable and picked-up her items from Ida. She has a good handle on what's she doing. (10/30) 13 people turned-in order forms -- about \$2,000 in orders. More will be coming in tomorrow. (11/27) Jessica has reported \$1252.25 apportioned to 22 scout accounts so far. She says there will be a few more coming.

007 SHOOT OUT (Oct. 12-14): (7/24) We hope to have some adults on staff; Ken and Terry are interested. Phil did not decline to staff it. (8/28) Name changed from Shoot-O-Ree. Open enrollment - it is not limited. \$15.00. Run until Sunday afternoon. Offering Rifle Merit Badge and Shotgun Merit Badge. Terry is working on paperwork. Our registration will be starting in mid-September. It is at Canyon Camp. A BB-gun range was added to the camp this Fall at the OA Conclave. (9/18) Terry will put together an information sheet when the information

is all received. People must sign-up by October 2; to register at the scout office by October 5. (We may float payment (only) for a week, based on the late notice.) (10/30) 16 scouts and 3 adults attended. Rain became a problem again. The campout was laid-out very well. There were 12 events organized in a round robin format. No idle time. MaryAnn suggested some of our boys write a letter to Mark Broman, event organizer, with our positive feedback. She suggested that Nic do that. We do not have a Troop Scribe. Nic will make sure it gets to them. Merit Badges were not offered, because 215 scouts registered, instead of the 120 they planned for. (11/27) Nic says we still do not have a Troop Scribe. Therefore, he will write the thank-you letter to Mr. Broman.

Jaime Boone Yard Rake (Nov. 17): (10/30) Bill says, "Yes, we still need to do it." There was a suggestion to change it to Nov. 10th, instead of Nov. 17th. Den Chief training is Nov. 10th. We suggested the 11th. The majority voted for Nov. 17th. Bill will have an announcement typed-out for next week. (11/27) It happened. \$450 was divided by 20-people, including parents. Bill's accounting was posted to the scout account book.

Future Events

Swimming 2008: (9/27) We want to keep the same times and dates as last year. (10/30) Rockford College booked a new team this year and our time slot is not available. We can get it at 7:30, but cannot get it at all in January and February. We cannot get Jefferson until 7:30 in January and February; March through May are okay. The Poulisse's will check into renting East HS pool. Phil suggested Belinda check East, since she already has the contacts at the school board office. (11/27) We'll be swimming at Jefferson HS. East HS said "no." The first two months involve meeting at 6:30 pm, but not getting into the pool until 7:30 pm. Belinda sent a list of instructions. Marcus will lifeguard in January only. Then, we need someone else. (Nic said Derek was a lifeguard – we'll check it out.)

Climbing Campout (Mar. XX, 2008): (10/30) Sandy said there is a place in Bloomington. (Rockford's facility is gone.) To get the merit badge, it cost \$35 each for 10 or more. You cannot stay overnight there, but could campout somewhere nearby. Do we still want to do that? Sandy is asking for suggestions. Do we want Sandy to make a reservation? Open Climbing is \$12, plus Rock Gym for \$30. Suggested we do not camp because it would be too cold in March. Belinda needs to check to see if there is a place in Milwaukee. Rivers Edge is a climbing place in Belvidere. We'll table this discussion until next month. (11/27) No new information.

Philmont (June 16, 2008): (4/17) 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. (8/28) Phil went camping this past weekend to prepare for Philmont. The Hoxies still want to go. Philmont is like Venturing -- youth age goes up to 20 to be considered a Scout. Still room for 1 more Scout and we are over 1 adult. NYLT is a week before Philmont. The group is leaving on June 15th if going by train. Need to be there by the 16th. Next payment is due in October, which is \$200. Some are wanting to do a fund-raiser to help pay their expenses. When are we going to open it to people outside of the troop? It was suggested that we allow the Blondin's nephew to pay towards it and refund it if the position gets filled. (9/18) 14 scouts are signed-up; and 8 adults (Mr. Schmidt withdrew). We need 2 more scouts. The first payment will be due October 16. (10/30) Bill said we are going --because our money is paid up-to-date and the balance is due March 2008; we still owe \$255 per person. Transportation is additional, about \$200 extra. So far, adults and scouts have paid the same amount. Terry suggested we research how much adults should pay, based on our last trip, and bring it up at the next meeting. Phil will research it. We have 4 youth and 2 adult openings available. We are only committed for 14, so we have not overpaid. Bill received a letter from the Blackhawk Area Council offering scholarships to Philmont. They are based on finances. There are 2 kinds available. The deadline for submission is December 3, 2007. They require information from parents and the unit leader. Bill will make copies available. A new requirement for Philmont is: (Phil read this information.) Wilderness First Aid is now required for each crew, instead of general first aid. The last course was dropped, due to lack of interest, per Eric. Paul makes a motion, since it is a requirement, that the Troop should pay for the training. We would need 2 from

our Troop to be certified. Eric is certified, but not going to Philmont. [Post-meeting note: according to the Feb. 2003 minutes, adults paid \$250, travel extra.] (11/27) Ed is still chasing down payments. (\$560? + travel)

Summer Camp (2008): (7/24) 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. (8/28) Sandy suggests we offer information to boys, let them research the camps they would like to attend, and present it to the full troop of boys for a decision. We need to put that in the calendar. Need a commitment by January. (9/18) Do it. (10/30) January is normally when camps take reservations. It was suggested that something be brought up at the Family Night. Sandy asked Terry if we could add time in the Court of Honor to present 5 camp options. Terry told Nic to make sure it gets done. Put “disaster response” in the Spring Family Night. (11/27) Only two of 5 presentations were made at Family Night, so we voted for Ransburg. In a subsequent email conversation, Sandy believes we need to ask for the other presentations to be made and then vote again.

On The Waterfront (2008): (8/28) We were offered an On the Waterfront ticket booth this year. Lois couldn't find enough people to support it in 2007. She said that we could put our name in for adults to sell tickets and we would get \$10/hour. It is a fundraising opportunity, if we want to put our name in for 2008. Do we want to put our name in to staff it for the entire weekend? The vote was “yes.” (9/18) Lois will submit our troop for a place next year. (10/30) Lois has not gone down there yet. (11/27) Ed will talk to Lois about follow-up.

High adventure camp (2009): (7/24) Paul is proposing a camp in Maine – details to follow. (8/28) Caleb wants to go to Sea Base in 2009. (9/18) Paul says the trip goes down a river and ends up in the ocean, whale watching. Paul will check on enrollment deadlines. (10/30) Paul found 3 camps that do the same thing in Maine. Cost is approximately \$700 or \$800. (Sea Base was about \$1400, which included air travel and certification.) 3 Scouts would like to go to Sea Base. Paul will be bringing the information for our next meeting. (11/27) Ed wants us to consider whitewater rafting in WV too.

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: (10/30) Terry is working on it. He would like to have someone come here to do it for us during a Troop Meeting. We need to set a date. It takes 90 minutes. Phil recommended that we try and do it while we are at the Tree Lot. (11/27) A special session has been scheduled for Dec.4 at the church. Invitations were handed-out tonight, with another email going out tomorrow. Terry has a list of 27 people from our Troop as potential participants.

Leader Specific: Scheduled for: 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, and the weekend of 5/17-18/2008.
<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=training&a=htm&page=ldrSpec>

First Aid/CPR Certifications: None planned at this time.

Wilderness First Aid: Scheduled for: 3/11, 3/18, 3/25; 6-9:00 pm and 4/5 8-5:00 too) \$85 Rod Mathias

Wood Badge Training (C-23-07 Aug. 24-26 & Sept. 21-23): *Phil and Ken are signed up and paid.*

Nothing new.... (8/28) Phil was at it last weekend and he is going again in a couple of weeks. Phil will talk to Ray Warren to try to get Ken's payment credited to our account. Phil needs to work on his "ticket." He will take suggestions. (10/30) Phil is still waiting to see if Ken's money can be applied to a 2008 course, if someone wants to attend. (11/27) Post meeting note: Next course is C-25-08 August 22-24 and September 19-21 2008. http://www.blackhawkscouting.org/woodbadge/wood_badge_brochure.pdf.

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! (8/28) Phil wants Lois to check and make sure that all registered adults have a health form on file. Lois requested a list of all registered adults. Terry will make sure she gets the list. We will get specific medical forms for Philmont in January; the standard ones are not acceptable. (9/18) In process. (10/30) Steve still has the notebook. (11/27) Lois has the notebook now.*

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 ... (8/28) On Tuesday, at 4:00 pm, Bill and Eric are going to meet with the Chief Wilt to try and get it approved. Tim Mason offered to help us get a roof. (9/18) We may get an existing building: 30x40'. We would be able to use 30x30 feet of it with the fire department using a fence to separate their section. Eric says we used it before, several years ago. It needs to be cleaned-out, and we need to do some minor remodeling. It looks promising. (10/30) Unofficially, Bill said we will still get it. Bill is waiting to hear it from the Chief; he called today, but no answer back yet. The next question is: When can we get in it? He's just waiting for final approval. There is still some work that we need to help with. (11/27) There's no new information.*

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 ... (8/28) Belinda is working with the Mason's and the Pluto Patrol. (9/18) We have patrol coaches on paper, but we need to revisit their usefulness. (10/30) Nothing new. (11/27) It is felt that Patrol Coaches need an agenda, or guidance to be able to do their jobs. Two of them are doing very well; others need ideas and training.*

Tree Sales Permit: *(8/28) It needs to be ordered from the Department of Agriculture? Last year's was dated August, so Terry said we should do it now. Phil suggested talking to Steve Fedor. (9/18) Greg ordered it. (10/30) We have it, and it was given to Ed. (11/27) Ed will post it in the trailer. We should have bought more "roping" for the Tree Lot – Greg could have sold 5 more units (that we know of) if he'd had them.*

Merit Badge List: *(8/28) Eric will need to send his (Sherry's) Merit Badge list to Phil so he can put it on the website. (9/18) Belinda has a copy of the list from the District website. It was suggested that she email it to Phil to*

be posted on the Troop website. (10/30) Our list and district list do not always coordinate. Terry got a new list from Connie at Roundtable. Terry passed it around. Terry will contact Mrs. Snyder if it is not right. (11/27) To access the merit badge counselor list on the District website: username: member, password: 4thescout.

Christmas Trees: (8/28) Terry got a call from Harold Kingma. He said there was no change in price this year, so Terry Okay'd it. Terry suggested we buy more firs. Also, he suggested we consider 420 total. How many Frasers do we want? How many total trees do we want? A suggestion to keep the total at 400 but increase Fraser firs to 100 and drop pines to 300. Someone suggested we take preorders from our Troop families to see how many people would like to buy Fraser firs. Another suggestion includes: if you do not preorder, you pay the regular price off the lot. Someone suggested 100 for lot, plus preorder ours. The order needs to be placed soon. Eric suggested we have some type of Festival (carnival) to bring more people in. Eric mentioned that we may have sold more last year because of the timely heavy snow; and Greg added, people who normally would have cut them down didn't last year. Someone suggested selling hot chocolate. The carnival was voted down. Someone suggested we hand-out flyers to people when taking wreath orders. A motion for 120 Fraser firs passed. A motion to raise the total amount of trees to 420 was proposed, ordering only 300 scotch pines. (We did not have as many tree thefts this past year. Trees sold-out too soon and the snow was too deep.) Someone suggested shifts include new scouts mixed with experienced scouts. New Scout families should only sign-up for weekend shifts until after they have worked with an experienced scout family. Week night shifts should be staffed by families who have capabilities of lifting trees onto vehicles and scouts with knot tying abilities. Someone suggested that we work on knot tying skills during the Tree Selling Techniques meeting on Nov. 6, -- show how to tie trees onto cars. (9/18) Terry called to order the trees. Confirmation was received already. Greg will send 20%, \$1253 deposit. Do we need to order more netting and roping? Terry will take care of the netting, tags, and removal bags; based on notes from last year's committee minutes. Tree selling techniques is scheduled for a future meeting. The tree lot schedule will be handled by Ed and it will be available at the next Family Night. (10/30) The deposit was mailed. (11/27) We received 419 trees (10 of those free). We were shorted 16 trees. We still owe \$5089; we'll pay it when we hit the break-even point. When selling trees, we discussed rounding the price up to the nearest dollar to dispense with coins. The price of scotch pines has remained the same (\$4.50 per foot) for years. We should have bought more "roping" for the Tree Lot – Greg could have sold 5 more units (that we know of) if he'd had them.

New Business

Extra/Leadership points: (10/30) Several of our scouts put in extra time for OA, Den Chiefs, NYLT, and Webelos Overnighter. We need to look at allowing them to earn extra points. 11/27) No discussion.

Lake Ripley camp-in (Jan. 11-13): Terry will organize it.

Klondike Derby (Jan. 19): Eric will organize a staff only. All information is on the District website.

Woodcarving Merit Badge (Jan. 22): Ask Sandy to contact Blackhawk Area Woodcarvers.

Continuous Fire (Feb. 2-9): Our troop is swimming that week. Therefore, we'll announce that scouts may visit the Fire on their own and report their attendance to the Scoutmaster; the same as last year. Eric says we will have a shift to cover, the same as last year. He will report the date and times.

Russell Woods camp-in (Feb. 8-10): Terry will organize it.

Family Night / Court of Honor (Feb. 12): Phil will be presenting F.O.S. Eric will arrange for the American Red Cross to make a Disaster Preparedness presentation; about 20-minutes.

Scouting for Food (Feb. 23 and Mar. 1): Terry has information from Don Burrow and Chuck Pelman for arranging it. He'll try to recruit Craig and MaryAnn, the same as last year. Information is available on line.

<http://www.wanchanagi.org/?p=events&a=details&eventid=147>.

Adjourned at 9:10 pm