



TROOP 181 BSA COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 25, 2008

Present: Phil Reece, Belinda Cowdrey, Dannette Holifield, Tim Mason, Lori Mason, Sandy Schwartz, Bradley Cowdrey, Ryan Lambert, Brian Murphy, Craig Louthian, Mary Ann Bushaw

Meeting started at 8:09 PM

Treasurer's Report: Greg handed out the treasurer's report.

Next Committee Meeting: April 29, 2008, the calendar has it scheduled for April 15th.

Past Events

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. (01/15) Jessica was not at the meeting, but gave information to Terry from the Fall sale. We're still waiting for money from one family. \$3,643 was collected, and \$1263.53 was posted into Scout Accounts. 21 Scouts sold popcorn. We do not yet know the date for the Spring sale, but believe it is some time in March, and it will be a 2-week window only. Jessica is still trying to find this out. MaryAnn suggested that those going to Philmont sell popcorn at a bank on a Friday evening or Saturday to help raise money for their trip. (02/26) Nothing. (03/25) Terry was not here, we do not know if the one family is paid up.

007 SHOOT OUT (Oct. 12-14): (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. (01/15) Nic has the letter and will be emailing it to Terry for approval. (02/26) Nic will double check to make sure it was mailed out. (03/25) Terry verified the thank you letter was sent out.

Popcorn Sales (March): Handed out last week. (03/25) Forms were due tonight.

District Awards (March 1): Terry has nomination forms available. He said we should start thinking of people we would like to nominate. We will need to vote at the next committee meeting. He will review the qualifications at that time. The District Dinner, where the awards are presented, is April 6th. (02/26) Needs to be turned in March 1st. Votes need to be turned in tonight. The spirit award does not have to be a registered adult. It could be a parent that has been helpful. Mary Ann discussed the qualifications.

Votes go to Terry and Mary Ann they will tally and write up recommendations. (03/25) Pushed District Dinner attendance.

Troop 23 Semi-Biannual First Aid Meet (March 8, 2008): *There is an announcement on the website. It will be on March 8th at the Discovery Center this year. Food will not be needed. The event runs from 12:30 to 4:00. We will leave from the church at 12:00 noon, and return around 4:30. (02/26) Changed to Memorial Hall. The time stayed the same. Announcement is on the website also. We, the Troop pay \$4 per participant. (03/25) Received first and third. 14 Scouts went.*

Kiwanis Annual Pancake Day (March 15): *It is unknown when this exactly is. MaryAnn will talk to Bryce and try to find out. [Post-meeting comment: The Kiwanis website shows it will be on March 15.] (02/26) 3 are signed up. (03/25) 2 Scouts and 2 Adults attended.*

Climbing Campout (Mar. 15, 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. (01/15) Sandy brought a printout of some other options. Crystal Lake - \$30 per Scout, no merit badge option. Need qualified belay'rs and chaperones. Another option is in Warrenville, IL; they have an overnight program. The cost is \$45 with an additional \$20 if you want the merit badge. We must have 6 in order to participate in the merit badge program. They provide counselors. We could have it from 10 pm. to 6 am, 11 pm to 7 am, or midnight to 8 am. There are no chaperone fees. We can bring as many adults as we want; there is no charge for the adults. No food is offered. This one was voted on and approved. Sandy has set it up for Saturday, March 15th into Sunday, March 16th for the 10 pm to 6 am time period. We can bring-in food. It was suggested that the troop help pay for the cost. It was decided that the troop would pay \$15 per person. That would bring the cost down to \$30 for non-merit badge climbers and \$50 for merit badge candidates. Sandy will make up an announcement for this. (02/26) Cancelled due to lack of participation. Looking for an alternative. Suggested checking in to Dolphin Swim Club or Skating Rink. Also looking at climbing at Belvidere at Rivers Edge. (03/25) Cancelled, went roller skating again. 21 went.*

Tie Slide Night (March 25): *Sandy needs help. Mary Ann and Dannette volunteered. (03/25) It went well. The boys made a lot of them. We had good attendance.*

Future Events

OA Adult elections (March): *Ed, Lois and Paul are the only ones eligible at this time. None have shown an interest. So no one will be nominated this year.*

NYLT Commitments (April): *To be discussed next month. (02/26) Will look at leaders after the next troop elections. 2 have showed an interest. Alex discussed. May be pushed back to August because of all the snow days. Alex will give us information and he receives it. It will be held at Camp Lowden this year. (03/25) There is a rumor that this was changed to June 15 – 21, the same week as Philmont. One scout is committed and one considering.*

Great Lakes Naval Base (April 25–27): *Sandy tried to get information and got nowhere. It was mentioned that Phil had a relative who helped us last time but that he is no longer there, or in the Navy. It was suggested that Phil get some information so this could be planned. If unable to get any information, we will*

have to go with the alternate plan of a campout somewhere south of here. (02/26) Terry said that we are cleared to go that weekend but has not lined up the activities yet. Small tours are available also. Each activity has an individual charge. If the boat tour is there we will be able to get a special ride also. \$3.85 per night, \$3.75 for lunch and Supper and \$2.25 for Breakfast. The stuff we did last time is not available this time.

(03/25) Confirmed in barracks and not gym

Jelly Belly Tour (May 9–11): Sandy is taking care of it. (02/26) Announced at Family Night. (03/25) Scheduled and camping at Illinois State Beach Park on Lake Michigan.

CVFPD Midwest Extrication Competition (May 17-18): Lois is willing to organize it again this year. We spent between \$900 and \$950 on expenses last year and took in \$2489.85. That is a profit of approximately \$1500. Terry asked if points were ever given to those who worked it. Sandy thought there was something in the notes back during that time. Lois will check with Ed. {Post-meeting comment: Ed has a list of participants, and will award 200 points for the shifts.} (02/26) Bill says they are still doing. Lois will still organize, Lori to help. (03/25) Nothing new.

Philmont (June 16-28, 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 want 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) (01/15) The next payment is due in March; we still need money from everyone. We need 2 people trained in Wilderness First Aid. Eric is already trained. Lois is going to take a course. It was suggested that we have a 3rd person as a backup, he can be a Scout. Lois is volunteering Zachary, since she is going anyway. As far as refunds go – a previous boy who dropped-out was told he would not get his deposit back unless he recruited someone else to take his place. Another scout canceled tonight. This policy will hold for anyone else who drops out. It was suggested that we give a cutoff date for refunds. The date chosen was March 1st. After that time no refunds would be given. We are still looking into transportation costs. This was discussed at great length. Amtrak is averaging around \$230 (weekdays) to \$332 (weekends). Children under 16 would be half price with one paying adult. It was suggested that we check into airfare. Nothing can be finalized until after the drop-out cut-off date. Most likely, transportation cost will not be refundable, so we need to make sure who is going before any tickets are bought.

(02/26) \$50 is never refundable but the first payment was refundable until March 1st but they could find a replacement that could pay their fee. We are now confirmed with 12 (5 adults and 7 youth). 2 Youth have until the end of the week to confirm. \$3570 check needed. Lois is scheduled to take the Wilderness First Aid. Eric is going and is Wilderness First Aid trained already. Class is being held March 11th, 18th, 25th and April 5th all day training. We can recruit outside of the Troop. Suggested it be brought up at Roundtable on March 13th. We paid minimum. Can add more in up to 24. Adults are paying ½ of Philmont fee and all of the travel (\$255 + \$350 to \$400). Voted on and passed. 16 and under are half price off the train price. Will do the cheapest travel options. Looking into a charter bus also. Need to be at Philmont on Monday, the 16th. Philmont is 12 days. Done June 28th. (03/25) One crew still looking for 1 more person, preferably two.

Summer Camp (Jun 29 – Jul 5): (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. (01/15) It was brought up at our troop meeting tonight as to whether we wanted to go to Ransburg, or still look into the other options. The scouts voted 19-1 in favor of Ransburg. We are looking at the week of June 29th – July 5th. June 29 is the day the Philmont campers come home. Sandy is going to check to see if some people could come late on Monday. We would like to keep the week of the 4th, because that is when they went last time and there were not as many campers there (only about 350 vs. 700 for other weeks). Sandy will be sending in our reservation and deposit check. (02/26) Going to Tesomas Summer Camp near Rhinelander, WI \$242 per scout. \$50 by March April 29th final payment due. We do have to pay for Adults also and reserve their spots. Swim test can be done in advance. We have to provide our own tents. Paul suggested we go through the trail in May to check supplies, etc. Medical forms need to be copied because they keep them. Need copies of Insurance Medical Cards for people going also. Coming late the first day is OK. Half of the Philmont group is planning on going to Summer Camp also. Can bring another trailer with bikes. We are in the Mokeken camp site. The campground is very large and bikes would be nice for getting around. Points will pay for the balance after \$25. Voted on and passed. The additional \$25 that was collected will go in to their Scout accounts. Voted on and approved. One was opposed. We are short on tents for Summer Camp. How many more do we need? 4 or 5 tents will need to be purchased. Terry suggested we buy 6 tents. Suggested we change the trailer check to April, **before Committee Meeting.** (03/25) 21 scouts are going 5 more are questionable & 7 Adults. Need to get physicals and medical forms. Sandy will discuss this with Jennifer. Steve Fedor can not go but Tim will pull trailer for us. We will discuss tent information at the April meeting. April and May we need to do swim test for camp. The announcement for Summer Camp needs to be posted to the web site.

On The Waterfront (Aug 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. (01/15) Lois has not submitted anything yet. Sandy will take over this pursuit. (02/26) Jennifer will help Sandy out with it. (03/25) Sandy sent a letter requesting our preferences. There is a waiting list.

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. (01/15) It's tabled, because we're running long. (02/26) Tabled.
(03/25) Still tabled.

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:

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> 02/26 Mary Ann has a list of who still needs it. Mary Ann will call them and check with it. (03/25) Tim has signed up.

First Aid/CPR Certifications: (01/15) Eric mentioned that this was a pre-requisite for Wilderness First Aid. He is trying to schedule a class through the Belvidere Fire Department. He asked who needed it and if any days were bad for people. He will be looking into Mondays and Thursdays in February. The class will take two nights to complete. (02/26) People are waiting for their certificates. (03/25) Certificates are received. Others still wanting to take it.

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. (01/15) See notes under Philmont. The March dates will be held at Christ United Methodist Church and the April date will be at Camp Lowden. (02/26) See notes on Philmont. (03/25) Lois is there and Eric is teaching.

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. (01/15) http://www.blackhawkscouting.org/woodbadge/wood_badge_brochure.pdf. Phil has one ticket item done, three others are moving along quickly and he needs to jump-start another. He would like a decision on Adopt-A-Highway. He is looking at doing either Illinois Highway 15 (Cherry Valley Road) which is not very busy, or Perryville south of Harrison, includes our tree lot corner, nice advertisement, but busier. Are there any other suggestions? We will have a sign posted, which can have two lines of 15 characters and he is suggesting "BSA T-181/CVFPD-CVUMC. It was decided that Perryville would be the better choice. Some liked the sign but wanted to know if we need to get permission from the Fire Department and the Church, since we are putting their names on the sign. It was guessed that we are responsible for a 1-mile stretch of road. Also, that is a 1 or 2-year commitment with a clean-up at least 4 times a year. (02/26) Phil is still working on his ticket items, 3 of 5 done. Forth one needs dates from Terry and Sandy put into the schedule and will be completed by end of summer, fifth one is moving slowly. (03/25) Same

Wood Badge For the 21st Century C-25-08 (Aug. 22-24 and Sep. 19-21, 2008): (01/15) We discussed prerequisites: Fast Start, Youth Protection, New Leader Essentials, and Leader Specific need to be completed prior to attending Wood Badge. A scouter needs to pay \$50 to register. We have a one-person credit from the previous course. Tim is considering taking it. Sandy will be working staff. (02/26) Tim is considering taking it. Needs to have Leader Specific training done first, the dates listed above should not be a problem. Tim will work on it. (03/25) Tim signed up for it.

Miscellaneous Business

Health Forms: (01/15) Terry said updates for 2008 need to be started. It needs to get done timely, so that it is ready in time for summer camps. (02/26) Lois is still working on it. (03/25) No one here to discuss.

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. (01/15) Bill said the newest information is that it will happen --eventually. The Fire Department wants to build a new pole barn first and then move everything out of the old building before letting us move in. It was asked if we could go back to our original plans (allow Troop 181 to build our own building). Bill said he thought that was doubtful but that he would ask. (02/26) Bids are out for starting one in the Spring. They decided on the size. (03/25) Nothing new.

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. (01/15) Did not discuss. (02/26) We need to separate them out. How are we going to keep track? Suggested Den Chiefs get same points as a troop meeting. Leave it up to the Scout to report their activities to Ed otherwise they will not get their points. Another suggestion, have a form that must be signed off by a leader at the event. Suggested the points go the same as our troop activities. These will not start until the new point year in March. Work on it for future. (03/25) Could not discuss.

Philmont Fundraiser: Sandy mentioned that her Cub Pack is going to be selling candy bars. She is offering those wanting to raise money for Philmont are welcome to participate in their fundraiser. (02/26) A Culvers Scoopie night can be done for this. Money will only go to the people who work it. Ed will check to see if we can do more than one. Candy bars are still an option from Pack 429, 50% profit. Group will need to decide. (03/25)

Philmont group did not want to sell candy bars. Venture crew is working at Airfest and will offer those slots that they can not fill.

New Business

Troop Shirts: they need to be ordered. Belinda will take care of it.

Recruitment: *Den chiefs are key for recruitment of new Scouts. Last year 13 Webelos graduated in. Potentials are good for next year. Suggestions for Webelos overnights announcements out before school is out so that they have plenty of time for planning for it within their Packs. Suggested that we get Den Chiefs in the various Packs to help with recruitments for the future. (03/25) Need to get letters out to Packs of Webelos 1. Mary Ann thought we could get this information from the district. The packs did not receive it early enough last year. The packs we are interested in are 429 (Caleb and TJ), 129, 141, 600 (Jordan), 121, 464 (Alex)*

Pioneering Scout Meeting (April): We need a place for the Pioneering scout meeting in April. We also need to collect wood. Need someone to set up Anderson Woods. Lori was volunteered to check in to securing this for us. Phil will get her a phone number to contact. April 8th and 15th.

Six Flags Scout Day (May 3): *May 3rd. Handed out last week. (03/25) This will be pushed in April.*

BMX Food Tent (Jun 12 – 15): *Belinda is running. Lois is going to Philmont. Phil will guide Belinda on this. (03/25) Tim will help also. Post meeting note – Phil talked with Jake Karu, we are confirmed to do the tent and clean up.*

Zoo Trip (June): Looking at a Zoo trip as a possible campout. PLC will need to decide which Zoo and where to camp out.

Website: Lori agreed to help update the website.

Adjourned at 8:43 pm