

Troop 33 – Takoma Park MD
Monthly Troop Committee Meeting
February 18, 2018 Church Parlor
8:00 – 9:30
Annotated Agenda/Minutes

Attending: Nicole Phillips, Victoria Eisenberg, David Goldberg, Lee Howard, Matt Rees, Bruce Andersen, Eric Smith, Keith Tobias, Johan Hammerstrom (Scoutmaster), and Howie Schaffer

Introductions and Chair’s Report – Howie Schaffer

- Matt Rees submitted a policy for Expectations & Standards for Boards of Review. Committee members will review and comment for fuller discussion at March meeting.
- Revisions to the T33 Annual Parental Consent Form were presented. A motion was made by Nicole Phillips to approve the intention of the revisions and seconded by Bruce Andersen. It was approved unanimously and the committee chair was given authority to revise the consent form for future use.

Old Business

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Victoria Eisenberg to approve the minutes from the January 2018 meeting. It was seconded by Matt Rees. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Vorhies reported a balance of nearly \$30,000. Bottom line: our finances are in a strong position. However, a large deposit for Camp Horseshoe is forthcoming, as are expenses for mulch purchases, and renovation of the equipment room.

Eagle Scout Committee: no report

Advancement: Matt Rees reported that a merit badge counselor list has been submitted to the council. T33 Merit Badge Day was a great success and the coordinators and volunteers were graciously thanked. Matt also reported that quarterly Life to Eagle Trail check ins have commenced.

Training: no report

Archives: no report

Mulch Sales: A planning meeting was held with: Kristen Dill, Eric Smith, Dave Lanar, and Howie Schaffer. Tim Miller and Mark Verschell are also helping the committee. A signup form has gone out via email and we expect record sales. The mulch sale/delivery date is the weekend of March 17, 2018.

Scoutmaster Report:

Johan Hammerstrom reported on the success of the January campout at Camp Schmitt and that the upcoming ski trip is fully subscribed. Camp Schmitt remains in good shape. There is significant deferred maintenance required but the scouts did significant work improving patrol campsites. A priority in 2018 is to renovate the latrines which are at the end of their useful lives having significant structural issues. Howie Schaffer will travel to Camp Schmitt in early March to take photographs and assess the condition of camp buildings. March 10th is the date of the Blue and Gold Banquet for Pack 33 when 12 scouts will cross over to the troop. The PLC is planning the welcoming ceremony and the whole troop has been invited to help set up the church gym and participate in the ceremony. Johan believes he has a volunteer lined up to serve as Camp Horseshoe Coordinator and will confirm before next meeting. Johan also raised the need for a Soap Box Derby Chair and said he would talk to Tim Miller about his interest in serving or supporting a volunteer. It was noted that Shellie Williams took extensive notes and created documentation of the planning process in 2017.

New Business

- Order of the Arrow. Bruce Andersen raised the question of how OA participation can be a bigger troop priority with more boy and adult leadership. Discussion will be ongoing.
- Ad Hoc Technology Committee. Bruce Andersen made the suggestion that the troop reconvene this committee as the website and other technology tools are shared resources between the pack and troop, yet there has been little coordination or strategy recently. No action was taken.
- Support for Scout Family in Need. Bruce Andersen raised the issue of the financial need of a troop family that lost a close relative recently and how funds for funeral expenses are greatly needed. The committee agreed that an email could be drafted and sent to TroopAll after checking first with the family to determine if the help was welcomed.
- Howie Schaffer reported that he and Johan Hammerstrom met with Liz Hoge, who is the incoming Chartered Organization Representative and also an experienced Girl Scout leader. Issues discussed included relating details on new BSA family scouting policies in the Cub Scouts and the uncertainty of future policy related to girls in Boy Scouting. Liz will relay the information to other leaders at their next monthly meeting and share a reply in writing with their input and suggested guidance for future steps.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm. Next meeting: February 19, 2018, 8 PM in Church Parlor