

Troop 33 – Takoma Park MD
Monthly Troop Committee Meeting
January 22, 2018 Church Parlor
8:00 – 9:30
Annotated Agenda/Minutes

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

Introductions and Chair’s Report – Howie Schaffer

Action Taken: None

- Recharter was submitted without errors and on time. Thanks given to Bruce Andersen and Dirck Byler for their work to prepare the individual Troopmaster records and to prepare the paperwork for council. Lee Howard played an important role in encouraging troop leaders to complete required youth protection training in a timely manner.
- A user agreement for Camp Schmitt is being developed. An insurance review will be requested.

Old Business

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Nicole Phillips to approve the minutes from the December 2017 meeting. It was seconded by Bruce Andersen. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: none

Dues Collection: Annual Dues collection is complete. Bert Brandenburg did great work and was thanked.

Eagle Scout Committee: Reilly Caprioglio-Chase passed his council board of review. Jeremy Gagnon had a small and meaningful Eagle Scout ceremony. A “Trail to Eagle” meeting with Life Scouts was held to encourage them to accelerate their progress toward rank. Matt Rees is working with Dave to determine the merit badges needed by scouts tilting toward Eagle. Helping scouts get those badges will be prioritized.

Advancement: Matt Rees reported that a Court of Honor was recently held in January and that 12 scouts moved up in rank. Merit Badge Day is February 10, 2018. Thanks to David Goldberg and Marian MacDormann for all their work. The merit badge policy was clarified. Scouts seeking a merit badge should first talk to their scoutmaster. Parents should not inquire on behalf of their scouts. Individual initiative and personal responsibility is part of the learning process. For group merit badges and Merit Badge Day, the scoutmaster will announce in advance that registering online has been deemed a pre-approved for securing a blue card from the scoutmaster. Matt Rees also reported that a merit badge counselor training will be held in May 2018.

Training: Lee Howard reported that a request is being made to the leadership at Horseshoe Scout Reservation to offer more adult training during the week when T33 attends.

(continued on page 2)

T33 Committee Meeting Minutes 1/22/2018 – Page 2)

Archives: Lee Howard has reduced the items in archive storage from 650 to 400. This was largely done by finding new homes for items that are duplicates or items stored in the archives of other organizations. He is developing a guiding document of policies for collection going forward. Kristen Dill agreed to sell on eBay several vintage BSA posters.

Discussion of Troop Inclement Weather Policy

The troop committee discussed a motion to amend the troop weather policy to allow the scoutmaster and troop committee chair to have latitude and discretion to vary from the existing policy of cancelling events on days when MCPS cancels schools but local roads are deemed safe. While the committee was sensitive to the desire to not cancel troop events the consensus was that any variation from the clear policy would lead to confusion. Also noted was that weather usually only impacts 2-3 scouting events each year and that the impact is not significant on the overall troop program. A motion was made by David Goldberg to affirm the existing troop policy. It was seconded by Bruce Andersen. The motion passed unanimously. Howie Schaffer agreed to reach out to Charlie Hairston, webmaster, to have him update the date on the policy on the website to indicate the policy was affirmed in 2018.

Mulch Sales: A planning meeting will be held during the troop meeting on 2/1/18 to begin planning for the mulch sale fundraiser. The committee includes: Kristen Dill, Eric Smith, Dave Lanar, Tim Miller, Mark Verschell, and Howie Schaffer. More volunteers and welcomed. The mulch sale/delivery date is affirmed for the weekend of March 17, 2018.

Scoutmaster Report:

Johan Hammerstrom reported on the planning for the January 27th troop campout at Camp Schmitt. Philmont 2019 will have two crews of scouts and 4 registered leaders. The ski trip has enough registered scouts and friends to go forward. Thanks to Kristen Dill and Tim Miller for their leadership and planning. Johan acknowledged the contribution of Maria Wiseman as equipment chair and the dedication and effectiveness she has shown. He reviewed the remainder of the 2018 troop calendar.

No New Business

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