

Troop 33 – Takoma Park MD
Monthly Troop Committee Meeting
March 19, 2018 Church Parlor
8:00 – 9:30
Annotated Agenda/Minutes

Attending: Gary Cardillo, Maria Wiseman, Jim Vorhies, Dave Lanar, Nicole Phillips, Victoria Eisenberg, , Matt Rees, Bruce Andersen, Eric Smith, Kevin Balfe, Johan Hammerstrom (Scoutmaster), and Howie Schaffer

Introductions and Chair’s Report – Howie Schaffer

- Gary Cardillo gave a quick report on keeping doors shut to prevent a reoccurring problem with a homeless man sleeping in the church. He also praised the success of the recent ski trip and encouraged the troop to submit a proposal to the Takoma Foundation.
- Howie shared a feedback letter from Liz Hoge and other Girl Scout leaders asking the Troop to not pursue recruitment of girls into Boy Scouts. The letter outlined several reasons that Girl Scout leaders think Girl Scouting is a better leadership and socio-developmental program for girls. Howie shared a conversation he had with Michael Surbaugh, the BSA’s chief scout executive, who indicated that the forthcoming policy from the BSA will allow for the creation of separate girl troops operating in single sex patrols led by at least one trained female leader. The creation of girl troops will also require a separate charter and a separate troop committee. Troops that are “twinned” (a girl and boy troop sharing the same unit number such as 33) can share program resources. The committee had a wide ranging discussion and agreed that no decisions are needed in the absence of formal policy. The troop will continue to engage with all key community stakeholders on this issue.
- Howie gave a report on Camp Schmitt maintenance needs. \$5000 has been allocated in the 2018 troop budget for repairs and renovations. Tim Miller will head the Camp Schmitt committee and he will be at Camp Schmitt for Memorial Day to analyze needs, particularly replacing the two latrines.

Old Business

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Jim Vorhies to approve the minutes from the February 2018 meeting. It was seconded by Nicole Phillips. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Vorhies reported a balance of \$31,000. William Peters made a \$1000 donation to the Camp Schmitt fund and he was thanked for his generosity. Renovation of the new equipment storage room is expected to cost around \$6,000 and those funds have been set aside for that use.

Mulch Sales: Dave Lanar reported that the March mulch sale was a big success. A record number of mulch bags (more than 2000) were delivered resulting in an estimated \$4500 profit. The whole troop was thanked for the amazing community effort.

Eagle Scout Committee: There will be a Life to Eagle meeting at the troop meeting on 4/5/18 led by Dave Lanar and Matt Rees. Scouts have been given information outlining what requirements and merit badges are needed to progress in rank.

Membership Committee: Bruce Andersen reported that 12 new scouts have been registered arriving from the Webelos den in Pack 33.

Advancement: Matt Rees reported that submitted merit badge partials and completions from the February merit badge day have been recorded. He will follow up with any counselors who have not submitted blue cards. A March Skating Merit Badge session has been scheduled at the University of Maryland and eight scouts are registered.

Equipment Room Renovation: Maria Wiseman reported that the next step is a weekend work day to scrape and repair wall cement and plaster. Precautions for lead paint removal are also being taken into account. Once that happens, shelving, ventilation, and new door can be installed.

Training: no report

Archives: no report

Scoutmaster Report:

Johan Hammerstrom reported on recent scout elections for top leadership positions. He has confidence in the dedication of the new leaders and a training for them will take place on 4/14/18. The March 10th Blue and Gold Ceremony for Pack 33 was a big success with a large turnout of T33 scouts. The crossover ceremony was scripted by several scouts as part of completing Communications merit badge requirements. April will involve preparation for the next campout at Camp Schmitt which will be a first time T33 camping experience for several scouts. Brian Frey has agreed to be the Camp Horseshoe coordinator and registrations have begun.

Adirondack Trip Report

Kevin Balfe reported that the July 14-22nd canoeing trip to the Adirondacks is confirmed. One group of older scouts will trek nearly 50 miles by canoe. Another group of younger scouts and families will stay in base camp and enjoy local hikes, water recreation, and side trips. Kevin will work with Kristen Dill to begin registrations. 15 people have indicated interest.

New Business

- The Soap Box Derby Committee, chaired by Rick Swan, will meet in April for their first meeting.
- A motion was made by Bruce Andersen to approve a design contest among scouts and families for a logo for the upcoming 100th troop centennial. It was seconded by Dave Lanar and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm. Next meeting: April 16, 2018, 8 PM in Church Parlor