

**Boy Scout Troop 33
Takoma Park Maryland
Monthly Committee Meeting
Minutes**

August 20, 2018, TP Church Parlor Room, 8-9:30pm

Present: Johan Hammerstrom (Scoutmaster), Victoria Eisenberg, Nicole Philips, Jim Vorhies, Elisa Irwin, Rob Leventhal, Sonja Kueppers (Interim Chair)

Welcome - Sonja Kueppers, Interim Chair

Review/Approval of Minutes of June 18 Meeting

Jim suggested an amendment to the minutes to clarify that the \$4000 figure was profit.

Jim moved that the minutes be approved as amended, Victoria seconded, approval was unanimous.

Report from Scoutmaster - Johan Hammerstrom

- Horseshoe Review

Development of youth leadership and enhancement of the implementation of the patrol method were goals this year. Johan would give a C+/B- on that for the week. There are things at Horseshoe that make this particularly challenging, so there were times when it went well and times when it didn't.

We now have 5 patrols, 8 scouts per patrol. There will be 16-18 scouts coming in from Webelos in the spring.

Rob reported that his son Andrew had a great time, and was thrilled that the troop did so well on the various activities.

Nicole remarked that the boys in the patrols don't really know each other well, which reduces the sense of camaraderie. She suggested that perhaps it would be good for patrols to do fun things together that are not directly scouting related.

Elisa commented that for the last five years, we've frequently heard that it will just take time for the troop to be more youth led.

Johan remarked that it's a delicate balance between what the adults should be doing and what the youth should be doing. He feels that it's appropriate for him to be sending out the e-mails, because the young men need to be focusing on other leadership skills, e.g. organizing the content of the meetings.

Johan said that Colin had identified during camp that the boys need to learn more about how to be good patrol members.

Johan reported that the organization of food worked better at Horseshoe this year, and that the patrols did a better job of cooking in the allotted time. He feels that developing the habit over the course of the year helped.

Johan commented that it is difficult to find patrol leaders. Elisa suggested that making clear what the time commitment is would be helpful. Johan feels the 8th and 9th graders would be the ideal patrol leaders. All of the boys want to be SPL (Senior Patrol Leader) or ASPL (Assistant Senior Patrol Leader).

Nicole suggested some of the boys should go to NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training). Johan said we did send one boy this past year. Apparently this year the PLC (Patrol Leaders' Council) members didn't want to go. Next time he will work more with the parents to make sure everyone is informed about this opportunity.

Victoria remarked that we may need clearer expectations for the adults who come to Horseshoe.

Elisa was dissatisfied with the way gas/toll money was collected for drivers to Horseshoe this year. Maybe we should either not do it, or use some of the money from the mulch sale to help with shared transportation costs. Victoria suggested that we should maximize the number of kids per vehicle. Johan remarked that the method used was in the guidebook, and that they didn't really feel that they had the time/energy to change it. Nobody was really happy with how it went, so the method of compensating drivers for Horseshoe should be revisited closer to next summer.

Elisa wants to be able to send an e-mail to the whole troop, and comments that she doesn't have a troop roster. Sonja & Johan will meet to discuss these issues.

Victoria thought it would help to make sure troop committee minutes get posted to the web site. (It should be noted that this already takes place, though it is possible that the timeframe may need to be revisited.) When the minutes are sent out to parents in preparation for the next meeting, perhaps policy changes established at the previous meeting should be specifically noted in the body of the e-mail.

- Assateague Planning

Assateague Family Campout will be September 14, 15, and 16. We have reserved three sites, and will take same approach as last year. Scouts will take 1.5 sites, and families will take other 1.5 sites. If the family side of the campout will have shared food, someone needs to volunteer to coordinate it.

Elisa asked if a service project at Assateague will count as a conservation service opportunity for rank advancement. Johan said yes, for 1 hour.

Johan will follow up with David Droddy to get notice out on the campout, and see if he is willing to be coordinator on family side. If not, each family will be responsible on their own for food.

- Equipment Room

The church is giving the troop sole access to a new closet area underneath the stairs, which needs to be waterproofed. Maria Wiseman is overseeing this.

Johan reported that Maria tells him the work will be complete by the beginning of the calendar year. This will enhance storage and inventory control of gear. The new closet will also move items out of a closet located near the library, which the church is eager to use for other purposes.

- Pancake Supper

Johan wants to start selling tickets soon. He will check in with Anna, Shellie, & Minya to see if they will work on this project again this coming year.

There is a question of whether the boys should be rewarded for selling a lot of tickets. There was extensive discussion of this topic, including the idea that perhaps the troop should solicit donations of scouting-related prizes for top sellers. No clear decision was made.

Elisa proposed that a scout should serve on the Pancake Supper committee.

Victoria wants to make sure that Scout meetings during the Pancake Supper ticket sales period also offer scouting skills segments, to keep the young people interested in coming to meetings.

Johan hopes that the ticket coordinator will own the process of when and where to sell tickets.

Victoria recommended the availability of a credit card reader, especially on the day of the event. She suggested investigating Square, Venmo, and Paypal, some of which could also be used for pre-sales. Johan says troops aren't permitted to do donation based fundraising, so any distance sales of tickets via the Internet would need to be set up carefully. Perhaps tickets that are sold to someone who can't use them could be donated to people who would value a free meal.

Treasurer's Report - Jim Vorhies

The troop has \$32,000 in the bank, which is about \$10,000 more than usual. He explained that we didn't buy much in terms of camping related items, and didn't make major improvements at Schmitt this year. However, the remediation in the new closet has not yet been paid for, which will be about \$8000.

Adjourned at 9:27 (Next Meeting September 17, 2018, 8pm)

Troop 33 Committee Officers

CHAIR – Howie Schaffer

CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE – Liz Hoge

TREASURER – Jim Vorhies & Dave Lanar

SECRETARY – Sonja Kueppers

- **Communications — Vacant**
- Webmaster – Charlie Hairston & Eric Smith

EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR – ** Maria Wiseman & Gary Cardillo, Co-Coordinator

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR – Vacant

- September Renewal & Webelos Crossover – Bert Brandenburg
- **Recharter Coordinator – Vacant**
- Clothing Coordinator – Howie Schaffer
- **Training Coordinator – Vacant**

ADVANCEMENT COORDINATOR – Matthew Rees

- Merit Badge Co-Coordinator/Merit Badge Day -- Marian MacDorman & David Goldberg
- Eagle Coordinator --Dave Lanar

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR – David Droddy

- Summer Trip Coordinators – Kevin Balfe & John Mark Nieman
- Ski Trip Coordinator – Kristen Dill
- Soap Box Derby Coordinator – Rick Swan
- Health Form Coordinator – Rebecca Woodings
- Camp Horseshoe Coordinator – Bryan Frey

FUNDRAISING/PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR – Vacant

- Pancake Supper – Anna Golovko, Shellie Williams, Minya Zeru
- Mulch Coordinator – Dave Lanar & Eric Smith
- Scouting for Food Coordinator – Wagner Family
- **Service Projects (Church/Community) – Vacant**
- **Centennial Coordinator – Vacant**