

**Boy Scout Troop 33
Takoma Park Maryland
Monthly Committee Meeting
Draft Minutes
March 26, 2019, TP Church Parlor Room, 8-9:30pm**

Present: Liz Hoge (Chartered Organization Representative), Sonja Kueppers (Secretary), Eric Smith, Johan Hammerstrom (Scoutmaster), Matt Rees, Jim Vorhies (Treasurer), Dave Lanar, Nicole Phillips, Howie Schaffer (Chair)

Introductions & Chair's Report - Howie Schaffer

- Membership - Becky Goldberg & Erika Carter from the incoming Scout parents are working to get the new scouts registered. They have been trained on what needs to happen during the transition. 12 new Scouts have already been registered.
- Grant applications - The Takoma Foundation has issued a call for grants. Howie plans to reach out to Kristin Dill to see if she has a copy of our previous successful application. One idea is to dig new latrines at Camp Schmitt to support girls' troops' use of the facility.

Review/Approval of Minutes of February 18 Meeting - Sonja Kueppers

Minutes were approved.

Priorities

- Retention
 - Due to a variety of factors, boys tend to participate less actively as they get older. While there are some factors that have to do with changes in the troop organization in the last few years, there are other factors that are seen as unavoidable.
 - The boys we have now may not be able to imagine possible models to increase the engagement of older Scouts, so seeing what other troops are doing could be helpful.
 - Johan has been doing things just for the PLC, such as making Webelos Weekend a special campout just for them, and making ILST more fun.
 - 24 scouts are currently Eagle, Life, or Star. 8 aging out this year, 3 next year. 4 are Eagle, 13 are Life. The majority of these Scouts are pretty well engaged right now.
 - Action item: ask other area troops for input.
- Visiting Scout Policy

- We have scouts in the troop who have siblings in other troops. What kind of framework do we want to have for when the siblings can participate in a troop 33 event?
- There are certain activities that would work well, such as a merit badge day, and other activities where it would be very difficult right now.
- Policy: If someone wants to bring a visiting Scout to an activity, they should check with the Scoutmaster, who has the final authority to make a decision.
- Scoutbook
 - We will invite some parents to use the software as a pilot.
 - It may be beneficial to switch to using Scoutbook for e-mail communication due to new limitations on the Google groups setup we are currently using.

Decisions

- White Oak Acorn award nominations
 - Marian MacDorman and Maria Wiseman nominated and elected unanimously for the district honor

Committee Reports

- Treasurer
 - Mulch Sale
 - 2160 bags sold, income \$11,880, cost \$7,560, profit about \$4,320 minus expenses (truck rentals, gas). Total cost of trucks was about \$200.
 - May want to increase price to \$6 for next year. We need more older Scouts to come on the delivery date.
 - The last 150-200 bags still need to be delivered on Sunday which is a difficult day to plan around available scout labor
 - We have some legacy customers who are expecting to pay less.
 - Some requests have come in for Scoutscapes jobs. Howie would like to find a parent to oversee this.
 - Very limited information is coming back to Jim about campout expenses. Johan will ask David Droddy to make more regular reports to Jim.
- Eagle Scout Committee
 - Current group is coming along.
 - A Trail to Eagle meeting recently took place - 5 Life scouts attended.

- Membership Committee
- Advancement Report
 - 6 hours of conservation volunteer work will be available soon!
- Training Report
- Equipment Coordinator
- Outdoor Activity Coord.
- Fundraising
- Secretary
 - Mailing Lists
 - Google has changed the possible configurations of mailing lists to eliminate a feature we were using. This may require us to find a different solution, such as utilizing Scoutbook for communication.
- Centennial Committee

Report from Scoutmaster - Johan Hammerstrom

- There were 3-4 inches of snow on the ground for the Appalachian Trail hike. Annapolis Rocks was pristine. All 5 patrols attended, it was a good campout. (See attached report). There have been three winter campouts in a row - November, January, and March.
- The current leadership group is great - there are 5 patrol leaders, with a 6th on deck. 3 Troop Guides are working with 16-17 new scouts. There is also an SPL, 2 ASPLs, and a Quartermaster.
- Great scout turnout at recent Blue & Gold banquets -- 3 Scouts at Pack 23, 12 scouts at pack 33, which was the 80th anniversary of the pack with Jamie Raskin speaking.
- Upcoming events:
 - Campout coming up in 2 weeks
 - Signup for Horseshoe coming soon.
 - Philmont crews - shakedown hike in April on the Loyalsock Trail in Pennsylvania. Eternal thanks to Glenn Jackson for his dedication in training the Scouts.

Report from Chartered Organization Representative - Liz Hoge

- Is available to attend Troop Committee meetings on Tuesdays
- Asks that we not hold doors open with sandbags.
- New play equipment doesn't belong to church, belongs to daycare. Scouts should not stand on roofs of new play equipment.

- House & Garden tour will be centered on the church, maybe the Scouts would want to have a presence?

General Discussion

Opportunity for questions, discussion, and development of action steps. 2-minute rule to facilitate as much input/discussion as possible.

Adjourn at 9:35 (Next Meeting April 15, 2019, 8pm)

Scoutmaster's Report
Annapolis Rocks Backpacking Trip
March 2-3, 2019

I'm happy to report that the Troop completed its third consecutive winter camping trip this past weekend.

Patrols hiked 2.6 miles and 640 feet along the Appalachian Trail to the famed Annapolis Rocks campsite. There were a few inches of snow on the ground and a cloud bank had settled into the hills, treating hikers to a serene winter landscape.

Upon arriving at camp, Patrols selected backcountry campsites, pitched tents, established their cooksites, filtered mountain spring water and engaged in a variety of fun outdoor activities, throwing snowballs, and exploring the Annapolis Rocks.

Most Patrols took advantage of the site provided bear poles to hang their bear bags. The Husky Patrol, led by Boone, decided to build their own bear bag hanger from a tree.

After a cold but restful evening, scouts woke at 7am, broke camp and hiked 3.4 miles north on the AT through a light snowfall to the Thurston Griggs trail. This included several opportunities to practice safe stream crossings.

This was the final campout of our current PLC and I would like to thank all of them for their hard work over the past 6 months in leading the Troop. We have come a long way from our October trip to Trap Pond and many of our scouts have become seasoned hikers and winter campers.

My thanks to the adults who joined us: Colin Sellar, Lee Howard, Jonathan Peterson and Sonja Kueppers. Special thanks to David Droddy who joined as well and for organizing our trips. Thanks also to Eric Smith and Mark Leach for driving.

Up next...we take the new scouts to Camp Schmitt. Look for the sign up soon.

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 – Lee Howard