

**Boy Scout Troop 33 -- Takoma Park Maryland
Monthly Committee Meeting -- Draft Minutes
October 28, 2019, TP Church Parlor Room, 8-9:30pm**

Present: Howie Schaffer, Nicole Phillips, Dave Lanar, Anna Golovko, Jim Vorhies, Minya Zeru, David Droddy, Lee Howard, Sonja Kueppers

Introductions & Chair's Report - Howie Schaffer

- We are finalizing payments to church for storage closet renovation.
- Marian MacDorman has stepped down as Merit Badge coordinator. Robin Scofidio has volunteered to take over. Marian has requested not to receive any recognition. Howie moved that Scouts be asked to give her six tickets to the pancake supper; the motion passed.
- Howie suggested that the troop develop a cheer.

Priorities

- Pancake Supper Update
 - Currently short on ticket sales, need to work on other sales opportunities.
 - The church kitchen was double-booked, which is requiring additional negotiations to get enough time for our volunteers to prepare 230 pounds of sausages. Also, we were previously able to begin work at 6:30am, but now are not able to begin work until 8:00am.
 - Kristin Dill is running the front of the house
 - Minya will contact health department
 - This year many politicians want to come (Kate Stewart, Congressman Raskin, etc.) Howie will reach out to police dept.
- Centennial Update
 - Leads on all key dates have been established
 - Pancake Supper - Roger Griffis & Lee Howard - exhibit from scout archive, Nov. 9
 - Scout Sunday - Feb. 9, Liz Hoge will talk to church about doing something special.
 - Blue & Gold - New scouts coming in in a milestone year. Scoutmaster and Cubmaster will be leads on B&G, we may want to do something special there.
 - Memorial Day weekend @ Camp Schmitt -- alumni campout
 - Independence Day Parade - We may need to do more here. Soapbox derby cars could be decorated.

- Historic Takoma - Display
 - Sept. 12, 2020 - centennial banquet, report to be given in November.
 - Lee has been working on troop archive since 2015
 - Discovered that Troop 33 was originally in DC, but was dropped in June 1920. Our troop started that same month.
 - Lee found a Scoutmaster application from 1920 that didn't quite fit. He realized after some research that Howard Steven Deck, who was part of the church men's club, was the troop's first official Scoutmaster. He theorizes that this was a short-term thing to get the troop off the ground.
 - Lee presented centennial emblem, which he worked on with Kristin Dill. Centennial shoulder patch has also been developed.
- Summer 2020
 - Balfes will not run the Adirondacks trip this year.

Committee Reports

- Treasurer
 - Distributed budget plan for FY 2020
 - There are more kids in the troop than there have been in the past. How does this affect the budget?
 - Badge expenses have been going up in relation to the number of Scouts
 - Have not yet reconciled the Outdoor Activity budget
 - Budget will be reviewed again next month
- Eagle Scout Committee
 - Jonathan Andersen's Eagle Ceremony will be on January 18th, at 6pm at St. Francis International School.
- Membership Committee
- Training Report
- Equipment Coordinator
- Outdoor Activity Coordinator
 - Budget
 - David reported that he was ready to re-balance the outdoor activity account by writing a check for the amount in excess of \$400 to the troop.
 - There was some discussion of why a balance tends to accumulate during the course of the year.

- Mainly, the cause is Scouts and their families not asking to be reimbursed for their expenses.
 - Nicole stated her belief that each campout should have a zero balance at the end.
 - It was also suggested that any overages could be applied to making future campouts more awesome.
 - Jim suggested that overages could be used for camperships.
 - David proposed taking this discussion to e-mail.
- Deadlines
 - Wednesday or Thursday before the campout David really needs to know who is and is not coming, so he can assign people to cars.
 - If a scout registers late, that's fine, but the parent then needs to drive.
 - Currently there are three parts to registering for a campout: a permission form, an online registration, and payment.
 - Permission form covers the troop legally.
 - Online registration is mainly for David's benefit.
 - It would be helpful to consolidate the permission form and the online registration into one step.
 - Howie noted that he would like the entire process to be more boy led.
 - Sonja suggested that since the permission form has as its primary function covering the troop legally, it can be collected as late as in the parking lot.
 - Howie suggested we experiment using a consolidated paper form.
 - Nicole volunteered to help David.
- Fundraising
- Secretary
- Centennial Committee
- Advancement Report

Report from Scoutmaster - Johan Hammerstrom

- Camp Horseshoe General Debriefing
 - There was a real sense that the quality of the program and the camping experience was diminished. The removal of trees was a part of it, but there were other problems.

- Some Scouts were sure they had finished all the requirements for their merit badges, but we got partials back. The rigor may also not have been as great as it had been in previous years.
- The troop photo was not received without followup from Johan.
- They owe us about \$1000, which we have not yet received.
- The joy and life of Horseshoe wasn't there this year.
- We should have been told in advance that the campsite had been physically altered (missing trees).
- On the positive side, the Scouts had a great time, the PLC did a great job, and many older scouts were at camp.
- Racial harassment incident
 - There was a significant racial incident at Camp Horseshoe this year. One of our Scouts was repeatedly harassed by Scouts from another troop in a way that was clearly racially motivated. Johan is not convinced that the Scoutmaster from the other troop or the Camp Director really understood the gravity of the situation.
 - Johan would like the Troop Committee to take charge of steps forward on this issue.
 - The Chester County Council has not responded to the incident report Johan submitted to them.
 - Camp Horseshoe, and perhaps other camps, need defined procedures for dealing with this kind of issue. Staff need training.
 - Troop 33 needs defined procedures for handling this kind of issue also.
 - Johan would like to have training on how to handle these kinds of issues when Scouts report them to him.
 - Since then, it has come out that some of the Scouts stop going to their Merit Badge classes at Horseshoe because they aren't comfortable with how they are treated by the Merit Badge Counselor.
 - Is additional communication to the parents needed?
 - Would like to discuss this further at the November meeting and develop a path forward.

Adjourn at 10:02 pm (Next Meeting November 18, 2019, 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 – Bert Brandenburg
- Webelos Crossover – Rebecca Goldberg & Erika Carter Williams
- **Recharter Coordinator – Vacant**
- Clothing Coordinator – Howie Schaffer
- **Training Coordinator – Vacant**

ADVANCEMENT COORDINATOR – Matthew Rees

- Merit Badge Coordinator/Merit Badge Day -- Robin Scofidio & David Goldberg
- Eagle Coordinator --Dave Lanar

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR – David Droddy

- 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
- **Service Projects (Church/Community) – Vacant**
- Centennial Coordinator – Lee Howard