

Troop Committee Meeting – August 30, 2015

Attendees: Bob Langholz, Andrew Dorn, LeAnne Langholz, Robert McTaggart, Trip Jones, Nancy Dorn, Marc Taubenfeld, Bob Buchholz, Pat Sullivan, Lance Johnsen, Paritosh Pathak, Alejandra Salinas, Rafael Zapiain, Doug Trotman, Kathleen Parsons, Mojgan Withers, John Withers, Donna Gober

Meeting Began: 5:43 PM

Devotion & Invocation: Trip Jones

Minutes: March meeting minutes approved.

Scoutmaster Report: Andrew Dorn – Philmont and Summer Camp trips were both great. SPL is getting patrols together. Doug Trotman will be in charge of TFCs. TFCs will be integrated with other patrols this year; this will create more opportunity for interaction between older and newer guys, with teaching and learning opportunities. Three new scouts have joined, plus a 4th completing enrollment. Alejandra Salinas, Marc Taubenfeld, and Andrew became certified climbing instructors this Summer. During the summer, 120 merit badge Blue Cards, were signed, and 85 merit badges were earned. Tuesday meetings will be kept shorter vs. last year, particularly to help high school kids who are shorter on time. LeAnne Langholz – Need to keep a dedicated meeting time for TFCs to learn their skills. Mojgan Withers – Merit Badge Counselors were available last year, but with meeting running late, it often didn't work out. Andrew Dorn – Scoutmaster Conferences were completed for two Eagle candidates, and over next few weeks, will have individual planning meetings with all Life scouts. (John Withers – Consider inviting parents to that meeting also, because it may head off some confusion down the road.)

Troop Committee Chair: LeAnne Langholz – Troop's profile on HP Presbyterian web site is in need of revision. Anyone who would like to help with this is welcome. Mojgan Withers – There are probably several places where it needs to be updated, such as BeaScout.org, etc.

Campouts: Leanne Langholz –

- Sept 18 – 20: Trevor Rees Jones, climbing and rappelling
- Oct 24 – 25: Camp Hale, survival, reserved
- Nov 13 – 15: Texas Motor Speedway, reserved, Circle 10 Experience, many activities, 8,000 people attending
- Dec: Service month, no campout. Parent party tentatively scheduled for Sat Dec 5.
- Jan 30 – 31: USS Lexington, Corpus Christi, TX, not reserved yet
- Feb 19 – 21:
 - Order of the Arrow Boys: Pow Wow at Trevor Rees Jones
 - All Other Boys: TBD
- Mar 19 – 20: Patrol-a-Palooza, patrol competition campout, Camp Wisdom
- Apr 16 – 17:
 - Younger Boys: Swimming requirements or District Camporee at Camp Wisdom
 - High School Boys: Zip lining at Purtils Creek State Park

- May 14 – 15: “Fun” campout at Krause Springs near Austin, Longhorn Caverns, in Spicewood, TX.

Advancement: Mojgan Withers – This Summer, scouts earned 85 merit badges and 2 rank advancements. A few Eagle candidates are progressing. New awards available for boys include Outdoor Award, Camping Award, and Conservation Award. These are opportunities to make the boys better-rounded. These awards will be discussed with PLC. List of Eagle advisors needs to be updated. LeAnne Langholz – Boards of Review scheduled for September 26. May try doing Boards of Review on Tuesdays also.

Treasurer’s Report: Troop has about \$26,000 in the bank. Annual troop funding comes mainly from greenery sales. Reserves are built during years that we don’t make an advance payment for Philmont. Biggest expenses are the campouts, about \$3,500. About \$1,700/yr is spent for trailer storage. If someone in the troop can provide a secure place for storage, the troop could eliminate this expense. (Note: Credit card used for storage space is under Lance Johnsen’s name; this will require a change when bank account signers are updated.)

Popcorn Sales: Paritosh Pathak – Troop decided not to aggressively sell popcorn, but it’s required for the troop to do it. We may decide to sell only the items that don’t typically cause partial left-over cases, because troop ends up paying for whole case, while only selling a partial case. Mojgan and John Withers will check into options for not having partial cases left. (John was assured partial cases wouldn’t be a problem anymore.) Sales will start after 1st meeting and end on October 23rd.

Greenery Sales: Marc Taubenfeld – This year’s information was just received from the supplier. Orders typically need to be turned in Nov 1. Sales will probably start on the last Tuesday in September. Diane Egenes may be helping.

Recruiting: Bob Langholz – Lessons learned from last year’s recruiting efforts were presented. Level of organization during weekly meetings is not as good as other troops, but Webelo activity and Burgers with the Boys were hits. Need to add a “wow” event. Den Chief program was well received last year. (Den Chief training is available on October 3, and is very good.) Troop needs 9 or 10 new recruits per year to maintain its current size. All are welcome to bring forward ideas.

Other: April minutes were approved. A few volunteers are needed for the first meeting, to help with new parent questions and boys who may drop in. John Withers has some Eagle project ideas.

Closing Devotional: Trip Jones

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20PM