

Boy Scouts of America
Troop 270
Michael McVeigh, Scoutmaster

Committee Meeting Minutes 11/4/2014

In attendance were Michael McVeigh, Steve McGuffey, Jaime Navarro, Brian Paquette, Duffy Exon, Ray Beckwith, Nick Beckwith, Jim Grace, Bob Cullen, and yours truly, Robin E. Woolsey, Man About Town aka Judge Woolsey.

1. **Treasurer's Report:** The checking account balance, petty cash, cash and checks not deposited, Council store account balance and Stater Brothers cards total \$10,212.08. Boy accounts, Eagle Scout Fund, Scholarship monies, Scout scrip monies, gas fund, and the trailer fund once subtracted leaves \$3,414.56 in useable funds. We will have a sizeable expenditure in re-charter and insurance fees coming up which will reduce the useable funds but leave us in good shape.

2. **Trailer upkeep:** The trailer floor will be covered with diamond plate sheets at the Man About Town's house on Saturday, January 3, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. This will be an adult leader project. Duffy Exon will procure the diamond plate and the trailer fund now totaling \$360.90 will be quite sufficient to take care of the expenditure.

3. **Upcoming Campouts:**

- a. January 9-11, 2015 will be the campout to Mojave National Preserve, specifically the Lava Tubes near Kelso. We will camp near there, possibly at Hole in the Wall or another nearby campsite. The Man About Town will be in charge of this campout. We cannot make reservations for the campsites as they are first come first serve.
- b. The Death Valley Campout will be February 14-16, 2015 with Ray Beckwith and Brian Paquette in charge. We will likely stay at the Texas Springs Campground near Furnace Creek which is centrally located in Death Valley. That campground is also first come first serve and if we cannot get in there, we will go to Mesquite Springs on the north end of the valley.
- c. Ladder Canyon campout will be March 20-22 with Bob Cullen in charge. Again, this is a camping area that does not allow for reservations and in fact there are no established campgrounds, rather they are makeshift and we hope to get the same good site that we had last time.

4. **Re-charter:** Re-charter needs to be completed by the 11/17/14 meeting, meaning that all Leaders and Scouts must have paid their re-charter fees. There are a number of leaders who are missing Youth Protection which needs to be completed by them. Youth Protection must be valid through 2015. Assistant Scoutmasters who are not involved much with the Troop will be moved to a Scouter position. Additionally, if an adult leader is missing Basic Training, they will need to be moved to a Scouter position. As to the boys, we need to push Boys Life Magazine and new scouts should receive a quote for the Boys Life Magazine in addition to registration fees. Statistics show that boys who receive Boys Life are more likely to be active in the Scouting program.

5. **Community Service:** We need to have signup sheets for any type of community service project we are involved in to be given to Steve McGuffey for recording at National Council.

6. **Patrol Meetings:** Patrol Meetings are being encouraged separate from the usual Monday meetings. The Blazing Dragons Patrol will be having a patrol meeting every other week at 6:00 p.m. at the Scouthouse. The other Patrols need to organize and establish the same routine.
7. Danielle Sovine is working on the Troop Welcome Packet.
8. Mr. Dillon has suggested that we organize a camping trip to the San Francisco Bay area and I believe it is in the Redwoods. Unfortunately, Mr. Dillon was not present and we will need to get further information from him.
9. **Opening and Closing of Scouthouse:** As to boys leading the meetings and the Troop in general, the Committee again discussed getting the boys involved in setting up and closing the Scouthouse each week. We need to increase boy leaders' talks and instruction time to lessen adult leader instruction. As to Scout Leadership positions, we need to establish the duties of each position and Steve McGuffey will obtain various lists of duties and whittle them down to a useable form for our Troop.
10. **Merit Badge Counselors:** The Committee expressed its thanks to our newest Merit Badge Counselors, Brian Paquette, Duffy Exon, Kenny Nicks, Melissa Perkins, Nancy Cullen and Steve Grimes. We need to put together a complete list of those leaders in the Troop who are Merit Badge Counselors and that is dependent on getting a comprehensive list from our Council.
11. **Journey to Excellence:** The Committee also discussed the Journey to Excellence Award given to Troops who meet certain standards in terms of rank advancement, registration, growth, adult leader training and boy leadership training. We need to aim for 70% of the Scouts attending Summer Camp, establishing a budget, conducting 6 or more service projects a year, fitness challenges, etc. These are all long term goals to work on and are not particularly required but would help us in terms of a properly trained and active Troop including both boys and leaders.

Next Committee Meeting: Next committee meeting is Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Scouthouse

Robin Woolsey, M.A.T., Recording Secretary