

Troop 645
Parent/Committee Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2008

Attendees: Kris Sunstrum, Tom Campbell, Brian Hildreth, Marlaine Teahan, Vladimir Zokvic, Deacon Andy Tardif, Joellen Mitchell, Paula Martin, Julius Maurer, Sam K., and Rebecca Meszaros.

A. Welcome, Call to Order - 7:06 p.m.

B. Review of Minutes

The September minutes were approved as written. It was also approved that the committee will try to approve the minutes via email if the minutes are completed in a timely manner. This will enable the minutes to be put onto the website sooner.

C. Senior Patrol Leader Report

Sam K., newly elected Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, gave the report of upcoming events.

October 27 – Scouts will begin working on the Disability Awareness Merit Badge

November 3 – Ben C. will present cold weather packing for new scouts

November 10 – Rank advancement. Scouts with First Class or higher will be helping other scouts with advancement requirements.

November 17 – Disability Awareness Merit Badge

November 24 – Patrol Leader Committee

December 1 – Finish Disability Merit Badge with merit badge counselor

November camping will be November 21-23. Scouts will be camping at Lincoln Brick Park and will be working on Dutch oven cooking, shelter building, and hiking.

Sam also reported that there was low attendance at the PLC this month. A priority is to work on communication among scouts and adults. Mike M was re-elected Senior Patrol Leader and Jacob Z. and Sam K. were elected as Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders at the last scout meeting. The Senior Patrol Leader will be reviewing the other positions held by scouts at upcoming meetings. He will be meeting with those scouts to determine if they still want the positions they hold.

D. Reports from Committee Members

1. Advancement – Paula Martin

- a. Advancement – Mrs. Martin reported that Chris C. and Erik B. both achieved the rank of star at the October Board of Review. Mitchell M's Board of Review for First Class has been rescheduled. There was discussion on how to better aid the boys in advancing. Mr. Campbell expressed concern that he is not seeing advancement in terms of the amount of money spent on merit badges and advancement badges. Deacon Andy also expressed concern that boys are not advancing.

Mrs. Martin reported that she had made phone calls to all the boys to see where they were. It was decided that ten minutes before and after each scout meeting, those involved in advancement, eg. Scoutmaster, assistant scout master, would be available to the boys. Mr. Maurer agreed to provide a white board for the meetings where it could be posted for the boys to see who was available to help with advancement that night.

- b. Court of Honor – Mrs. Martin reported that she tried to make the Court of Honor held October 6th more festive, like an awards banquet. She suggested that the scouts be required to help with set up and clean up. The Scout Master and Senior Patrol Leader will be responsible for making sure this happens. It was also suggested that there be a check off list of tasks that needed to happen before scouts could leave for the evening after the Court of Honor.

2. Outdoor Activities – Marlaine Teahan

Mrs. Teahan reported that the troop had tour permits for the trip to watch rocket launches in Jackson on October 11 and the camping trip to Optimist Youth Park in Charlotte on October 18-19.

Mrs. Teahan is working on the tour permit for the November camping trip to Lincoln Brick Park. She also had information on a potential December camping trip to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo and Ft. Custer. The committee discussed whether or not to book a weekend at the Kalamazoo Air Zoo for the boys to work on the aviation merit badge or go to a large scout gathering in the spring to do so. It was decided to try for the December weekend. Mrs. Teahan will get more details and an email will go out to parents informing them of the outing.

The following omission was added to the minutes after discussion at the November 24 Committee Meeting:

The committee discussed that scouts would be notified that they need to confirm participation in the Air Zoo outing by November 10. The committee also discussed that both scouts and parents will be made aware that they will still be responsible for paying their share of the cost if they back out and do not attend the outing due to the high cost of the outing.

Mrs. Teahan and Mr. Hildreth are working diligently together to secure monthly camping activities well ahead of time.

3. Website – will be finished by this weekend.
4. Treasurer – Tom Campbell

- a. Scouts' Accounts - Mr. Campbell reported that there would need to be some changes made to how each scout funds the activities they are involved in. Mr. Campbell reported that there are some scouts with large, negative amounts in their accounts. Mr. Campbell has made some phone calls to the parents of these scouts to inform them of the situation. The committee discussed the possibility of parents having to pay up front for activities before their scout can participate. Mr. Campbell will continue to send notes home with scouts as to the amount available in their accounts and email the same to parents.
 - b. CDs – Mr. Campbell reported that one CD from Eaton Federal Savings Bank has already been moved to Fifth/Third Bank and the second one will be moved by the end of the month. Vladimir Zokvic and Joellen Mitchell are signers on the CD.
 - c. Mr. Campbell reported that after consulting other area Boy Scout committee treasurers, he will stay on for two to three more years as treasurer. Mr. Campbell would like an assistant to work with him, though. The committee will continue to look for someone to assist Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell will have a new budget ready after popcorn sales and Christmas tree sales are finished.
5. Scoutmaster – Brian Hildreth
- Mr. Hildreth reported that all scouts who attended the Rocket Launch outing enjoyed it. He suggested that next time the scouts bring their own rockets because there were engines available to use and the scouts would have even more fun if they were participating in the launches. He thought it would be a possibility to do this activity again.
- Mr. Hildreth reported that there is new leadership in the troop with the recent elections. The Senior Patrol Leader remained the same but there are two new Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders. They are still working out new patrols. Mr. Hildreth reported that they will be going through the troop positions and seeing who still wants their current position.
- Mr. Hildreth reported that the troop drove out to Optimist Youth Park for the October camping trip. Mr. Hildreth was concerned with the number of motorists who did not respect the boys when they were biking to and from the Country Mill. He also expressed concern again that the same three parents participated in the campout. He reiterated his need for another Assistant Scoutmaster.
6. Quartermaster/equipment status – Alex H.
- Mr. Hildreth reported that the trailer has been swept, vacuumed, and the floor painted. They will need to purchase a hand broom and shovel because these

items are missing from the trailer. Mr. Campbell said he would get them donated to the troop.

7. Parish Representative – Deacon Andy Tardif
Deacon Andy had to leave the meeting early, so Mr. Maurer reported that the first meeting for the scouts working on the Religious Emblem Award went well. Currently four scouts are participating in that. The next meeting is Sunday, October 26 at 9:40 am.

E. Fundraisers/Community Service

1. Community Meals – Next opportunity to help with this is November 19.
2. Sea Base Fundraisers – no fundraisers have been planned at this time. The boys who will be attending this need more money.
3. Fall Popcorn – Mrs. Mitchell reported that the fall popcorn sales are not going well. The troop will probably end up with less than \$2000 in sales. Show and sells are not going well and boys are discouraged because no one is buying popcorn.
4. Food Drive – November 8 – Mr. Maurer and Mrs. Clark have met to organize this day. They will be placing ads in the Lansing State Journal and the Grand Ledge Independent as well as over 30 flyers to area businesses. Mrs. Clark is in contact with other area churches. They are also in contact with other area scouts (cub scouts and girl scouts). They will try to deliver the food the day of the event to the Grand Ledge Food Bank. Mr. Campbell agreed to get the sign for the bus to advertise the food drive.
5. Food gathering at scout meetings – Mr. Zokvic proposed that scouts begin to bring non-perishable food items to the scout meetings for the food bank. The food items that are collected at each meeting could be put into the collection box located in the main entrance of St. Michael Church. An email will be sent to the parents to let them know of this effort.
6. Football Field Clean-up – It was reported that there has been a light turn out for football clean-up, about 8-10 boys. Clean-up would go faster with more participation. There are two more clean-ups scheduled for Saturday 10/18 and Saturday 10/25. Potential clean-up dates are 11/1 and 11/8 due to playoffs.

Mr. Hildreth reported that his truck has been full each time with recyclables. He is still working on getting a recycling bin for the stadium which would make the recycling easier.

7. Little Caesar's Pizza Kits – Mrs. Martin will bring the information regarding this fundraiser to the next meeting.
8. Community Service – Rake and Run – the scouts will participate in the rake and run organized by the St. Michael youth group Sunday, October 26 from 3-6 pm. Mr. Hildreth will organize the scouts separately due to the minimum age required for the youth group - 7th grade, so that this way all scouts can participate. Scouts will need to wear Class B uniforms.

F. Old Business/New Business –

Lee W. will be finished with the troop October 31. Mr. Campbell will contact his parents to see what to do with the money that is still in Lee's account. The committee agreed to purchase something with the money from his account that Lee needs after talking with his parents.

The Christmas parade is Friday, December 5th. The scouts will be participating again in this event. Mr. Campbell will coordinate with the city.

G. Next meeting is Monday, November 24, 2008 at 7 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Committee Secretary

Date

Committee Chair

Date