

Troop 645 Committee Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2008

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Attendees: Tom Campbell, Brian Hildreth, Vladimir Zokvic, Joellen Mitchell, Paula Martin, Kris Sunstrum, Craig Searles, Mike M., and Rebecca Meszaros.

A. Welcome, Call to Order - 7:05 pm.

B. Approval of November Minutes - The minutes were accepted with changes.

C. Senior Patrol Leader Report

Mike M. - Senior Patrol Leader gave the report of upcoming events.

January 5 - Team Firecracker will do the opening and closing. The boys will be working on the disabilities merit badge and discussing materials needed to make patrol flags the following week.

January 12 - Opening and closing will be done by the I-Patrol. The boys will be working on patrol flags and skills presentations. They will also do menu planning for the Winter Camporee at Camp Kiwanis.

January 19 - PLC. The PLC will choose an advancement to teach at this meeting. Reminder phone calls will be made to those who should be attending the PLC.

January 26 - Opening and closing will be done by the Elements Patrol. The boys will be working on rank advancement.

February 2 - Court of Honor. The boys will talk about what they have participated in recently. They will decide who will do this and what they will talk about at the January 26 meeting. Duties for set-up and clean-up at the Court of Honor will also be discussed and assigned.

Mike was asked if the new table set-up for troop meetings was working. He said it seemed to be working well.

D. Reports from Committee Members

1. Advancement - Paula Martin

Paula Martin reported that several boys are close to advancement. She said it was a good idea to work on advancement once a month at least. No Board of Reviews were completed in the past month.

2. Outdoor Activities - Marliane Teahan

Mr. Hildreth reported for Mrs. Teahan. He said that they are all set for the Air Zoo trip - they are getting the tour permit and were calling the Air Zoo today with the final count. There is no information about the Winter Camporee. Mr. Hildreth said the scouts will be camping that weekend even if there is no Winter Camporee.

3. Website - Progress has been made in making the website operational.

4. Treasurer - Tom Campbell

Tom Campbell reported that the troop had made \$2169 on Christmas tree sales for this year. He gave the committee a breakdown of expenses for the September and October campouts. Mr. Campbell also presented a preliminary budget for 2009 to the committee.

Mr. Campbell reported that the insurance on the troop trailer was paid. The troop paid for

it but will be reimbursed by the St. Michael Knights of Columbus. Mr. Campbell said that the contents of the trailer were listed at worth about \$1000. He suggested that the Knights of Columbus be asked for a \$200 equipment donation instead of paying the insurance and then eliminate the insurance.

The mailing address for the troop bus registration will be changed to St. Michael Parish Church. Teri Barringer in the church office is taking care of that.

Mr. Campbell suggested that the troop dues remain \$90 for a year for 2009 which would make three \$30 payments during the year. The committee approved this suggestion. Mr. Campbell also suggested that a minimum of \$50 be kept in each boys' account so that their accounts are not at a zero balance in the fall.

5. Scoutmaster - Brian Hildreth

Brian Hildreth reported that there was one Webelo scout from a Potterville den at the last scout meeting. It was made sure that he went to each table of scouts to participate in their activities. Vladimir Zokvic and Mr. Hildreth both talked with the boy's mother as well as Joellen Mitchell and Mr. Campbell.

Mr. Hildreth reported that the disabilities awareness merit badge counselors came to one meeting and left with him information about what needs to be done to finish the merit badge. Mr. Hildreth will schedule the required field trip and hopes to be done in January or February.

Mr. Hildreth reported that there are 19 boys and 4 adults going to the Air Zoo this coming weekend. All boys attending will need to have requirement #5 finished in order to get the merit badge. Mr. Hildreth will make reminder phone calls.

Mr. Hildreth said no planning has taken place in regards to working on the communications merit badge. Perhaps this will take place in February or March.

6. Quartermaster/equipment status - Alex H.

Mr. Hildreth reported that the troop trailer was cleaned by the scouts present at the last camp out.

7. Parish Representative - Deacon Andy Tardif

It was reported that the troop was too late to do a food basket for a family this Christmas but has been put on the mailing list for next year. The troop was also unable to send cards to recovering soldiers because specific names are needed in order to send the cards and these are not available. It was thought that having the parent/son spaghetti dinner and discussion of parental help needed could perhaps happen in February or March. Further discussion will follow at future meetings.

E. Fundraiser/Community Service

1. Community Meals - The troop is not participating in the December 17 community meal. Starting in January, Ben C. will contact patrol leaders so they can contact their patrols about participating in the community meal. If a boy signs up, Ben will confirm with a parent the

Monday before their assigned date.

Community Meals take place at the Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church on 411 Harrison Street. Troop 645 is responsible for the following dates: January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, and May 20, 2009.

2. Sea Base/Boundary Waters - After Christmas, Mr. Campbell will contact both McDonalds and A&W about setting up possible fundraisers there.

3. Fall Popcorn Wrap up - Joellen Mitchell reported that she still has two scouts to collect money from. She still has two chocolate popcorn tins and two caramel corn tins left.

4. Little Caesar's Pizza Kits - Mrs. Martin will have information about selling the pizza kits for the scouts at the January 5, 2009 meeting.

F. Old Business /New Business

1. Christmas Parade - Mr. Hildreth expressed disappointment at the low turnout for the Christmas parade.

2. Recharter - Mrs. Martin reported that this is coming along and there will not be a problem with it being late. Mrs. Teahan will be put on the charter, hopefully this week and then they will get Fr. Jim Eisele to sign it.

3. Parent Involvement - It was suggested that all parents need to participate somehow in troop activities or perhaps should be asked to pay a monetary fee.

The committee discussed how to help scouts advance by assigning an adult to each patrol. This adult could help the boys know what advancements they needed to work on at a campout and make a plan to do so. It was also discussed that each patrol needs to help each other out and function as a team.

The committee decided that each patrol would be assigned an adult to help them starting with the January 5, 2009 meeting. Kris Sunstrum and Craig Searles agreed to each work with a patrol. Frank Malusek, Julius Maurer and Mr. Koschay were proposed as possible adult helpers for the third patrol. Mr. Hildreth will follow up with this and assign each adult to the appropriate patrol.

4. Wood Badge - Mr. Hildreth is currently working on obtaining the Wood Badge and asked the committee if the troop would be able to pay for the materials he will need to build four troop kits to be used for camping. Mr. Hildreth will get the committee a list of materials and their cost for the next meeting for approval.

G. Next meeting is Monday, January 19, 2009.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.