

Troop 645
Committee Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2009

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Parent/Committee Meeting Minutes
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Attendees: Vladimir Zokvic, Marlaine Teahan, Gary Mandley, Joellen Mitchell, Roy Zigler, Jim Trappen, Bruce Mitchell, Julius Maurer, Jeremy K., and Rebecca Meszaros.

1. Welcome, Call to Order - 7:10 pm.

2. The September minutes were approved.

3. Senior Patrol Leader Report

Jeremy K, Senior Patrol Leader, gave a report on the recent camp out and of upcoming scout events.

Jeremy reported that the October 16-18 Camporee went well. It was a bit chaotic at first, he said, but things were straightened out. Seven boys attended and they did well with the activities and had fun. Tear down on Sunday morning went fast.

October 26 - Jeremy and Mitchell M. will contact Mr. Fucciolo or Mrs. Reverman to see if they would be willing to come and talk to the troop about trees. At the end of this meeting, the scouts will be playing Deal or No Deal.

November 2 - Scouts will work on rank advancement. There will also be a game at the end of the meeting.

November 9 - Scouts will learn how to make wreaths, bows, and grave blankets for the upcoming Christmas tree sale. Patrols will also work on finishing their patrol flags.

November 16 - Scouts will learn about cold weather camping preparation and do menu planning for the upcoming camping trip.

November 21-22 - Campout at Optimist Park in Charlotte with shelter building as the theme. Those scouts who do not want to do shelter building will have the opportunity to sleep in the cabin that is there. In the morning the scouts will be harvesting trees from the Spitzley Farm and setting up for the sale at Eaton Federal.

4. Reports from Committee Members

A. Quartermaster/equipment status - It was reported that several of the propane tanks were out of gas for the last camping trip. It was suggested that the quartermaster keep a list in the trailer and when something needs to be replaced, it is written down on the list. Mr. Zigler said he would fill the propane tanks and take care of filling the bus with gas.

There was a question of keys to the scout building. The troop was informed that they have two sets checked out. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Zigler will look into this.

B. Advancement - Paula Martin

Mrs. Teahan reported for Mrs. Martin who was not present. She wondered if the patches scouts receive from council campouts should be awarded at the Court of Honor

instead of right after the campout. This would ensure that there were items to be handed out at the Court of Honor. Mr. Zokvic said he would ask the scouts for their input on this and then make a decision.

C. Outdoor Activities - Marlaine Teahan

Mrs. Teahan shared with the committee some of the possible campouts being discussed and looked into. She reported that if the scouts would like to do a campout in December at Kiwanis it would \$150 to rent half of the Dart building which would be heated. The boys would work on an introduction to the snowsports merit badge. January would be the winter camporee at Kiwanis. For February, lugging and skiing in Grand Rapids, Brighton or Muskegon were suggested. She is looking into Mystic Lake for March and Sleepy Hollow for April.

Mrs. Teahan expressed concern with the cost of some of the campouts. She wondered if all of them should cost each scout \$50. The committee discussed that this is why the scouts are fundraising, so they can participate in campouts, but perhaps some of the younger scouts do not know that. It was suggested that Jeremy as SPL talk about this to the boys. The committee also decided that they would have a parents meeting on November 30, a regular scout meeting night. The troop has the gym this night. Fundraising and how money is used would be discussed with parents. Afterwards would be a fun night for scouts and parents.

Mrs. Teahan was glad to see the leftover food after the October campout distributed among the boys, but wondered if some of the dry good could be left in the trailer for future campouts. It was suggested that a list of dry goods be created and left in the trailer.

D. Website - Mr. Zokvic will email Mr. Teahan with information to be put on the website. Anyone who had photos of troop events should email them to Mr. Teahan, jim@teahan.com. Approved minutes will also be sent.

E. Treasurer - Tom Campbell

Mr. Campbell was not present so there was not a treasurer's report. Ms. Meszaros wondered why the troop did not have a petty cash fund as suggested in the Committee Handbook. Most committee members agreed that the current reimbursement system seemed to work well in place of a petty cash system.

Mr. Mitchell will follow up with Mr. Campbell in regards to the bank CDs that are due for renewal next month. He will email the committee to let them know the status of the CDs.

F. Scoutmaster - Vladimir Zokvic

Mr. Zokvic reported that the campout this past weekend, October 16-18, went well. Mr. Trappen and Mr. Mitchell helped out. For the CROP walk, Mr. Zokvic walked with three other scouts. Four other boys who are scouts were present but did not walk with the troop. Nine scouts visited Peckham to finish the disabilities merit badge.

Mr. Zokvic wondered if any committee members had a problem with one patrol's

name - The Black Plague. No one did. The patrol though is thinking of changing the name to fit the patrol badge which is a bat.

Mr. Zokvic would like to begin a "scout of the day" activity, perhaps at each scout meeting. This would be an activity that would allow the scouts to get to know one another better. The scout of the day would either make a short presentation and/or be asked questions about himself by his fellow scouts.

The troop will again be participating in the rake-n-run activity organized by St. Michael Parish this next Sunday, October 25. Mr. Zokvic will send out an email to let scouts know about it.

Mr. Zokvic also mentioned the merit badge blitz which is happening next month. Money and registration is due next week.

G. Parish Representative - Deacon Andy Tardif
Deacon Andy was not present.

6. Fundraiser/Community Service

A. Popcorn Kernal - Joellen Mitchell - Mrs. Mitchell reported that popcorn sales have been very slow. The troop ended up with only two weekends to sell at Lowes instead of four. Mrs. Mitchell will possibly organize a take and sell for this weekend. She will email scouts and let them know.

B. Community Meals - Mr. Maurer will follow up with the Methodist Church in regards to dates for scout participation. Mrs. Teahan will get dates for the troop for the community meal at the Lutheran Church.

C. Football Clean up - One football clean up left for this Friday, 10/23 at 4:30 pm. Mr. Zokvic asked the committee if they thought the troop should continue doing this fundraiser next year. The committee discussed how this is a good fundraiser for the troop and that they need to let parents know about it and how much money is raised. Everything is in place for next year, it just needs someone willing to facilitate it. Mr. Maurer suggested that the troop purchase some brooms so that boys could sweep the trash to the aisles and then it would be easier to pick up the cans and the trash. More trash cans and cans for bottles are needed.

D. Christmas Trees - Mrs. Trappen discussed where she is at in regards to the Christmas tree sale. She is on track for the sale next month.

E. A/W Fundraiser - Mr. Zigler wondered why the troop was not doing a regular spaghetti dinner fundraiser at A/W. He said he would follow up with A/W and see if he could get something set up for the troop.

7. Old Business/New Business

A. Discussion on how use/control Troop Incentive(s) - It has been proposed that there be \$100 set aside in the budget for a troop incentive. The committee is unsure of how to use this. Mr. Zokvic brought to the committee the idea of scout bucks that a scout suggested to him. This would be imaginary money a scout would earn for doing various things like attending a meeting or a campout. A scout would then be able to use

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his scout bucks to “purchase” various items or participate in an event, such as a pizza party. Mr. Zokvic asked the scout who proposed the idea to create a list of what different activities would cost in terms of scout bucks.

B. Leader Training and Scout SPL Training - Mrs. Teahan completed committee member training and Mr. Zokvic and Mr. Zigler will be doing outdoor training this weekend. Mr. Zigler has also completed assistant scoutmaster training. Mr. Frysinger is willing to do SPL training at a scout meeting. Perhaps a separate meeting for the boys will be organized so that they can do in depth with this training.

C. Charter Renewal - Mr. Mitchell has the material and is working on this.

D. Scout recruitment - It was suggested to remind parents about a campout two weeks or so before. This would also allow scouts to let friends know who would be interested. Only a registration form needs to be filled out a few weeks before hand for a friend to attend.

E. Annual Report - Mrs. Teahan wondered why the troop does not submit an annual report. It is the understanding of the committee that they do not bring in enough money from activities to warrant an annual report.

F. Unit Commissioner - Mrs. Teahan encouraged the committee to find out who our unit commissioner is and see if they could attend our next meeting. The role of the unit commissioner is to help the troop/committee run the best it can.

8. The next meeting is Monday, November 23 at 7 pm.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.