

March 8, 2017 Troop 216 Committee Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Annette Schoeberle. In attendance: Steve Dunning, John Evans, Diane Gill, Gary Gill, Steve Kupsky, Max Maier, Edgar M., Natasha McClintock, Mike O'Koniewski, Dan Ruark, Annette Schoeberle, Wes Searcy, Tim Valley, Mike Veith, and Phillippe Welsh.

Secretary Report: Previous meeting minutes were reviewed. Wes Searcy moved for approval, seconded by John Evans, motion passed unanimously.

Activities Chair Report: Diane Gill and Natasha McClintock reported on the following:

- A day hike on 26 March is feasible if the scouts are interested. Max Maier would organize the outing, which would start at 1 PM at the Watershed Conservancy Trail and go as far as the scouts want to go.
- The Beaver Dam campout is set for March 31-April 2. Permission slips will go out tomorrow. The cost is \$25 for the campout and \$23 for the high ropes course.
- April 21 was proposed for a campout and canoeing event. S bar F Scout Ranch is available. The Committee discussed various camp site options and settled on Swift. Dianne will call and try to secure the campsite. The Committee agreed to book two more camping/canoeing campouts, at Warren Levis on May 19 and at Camp Sunnen on June 9.
- There will be a Bike Rodeo at First Christian Church on April 22 from 10 AM to noon. Scouts can participate and can man stations for service hours. Stations will help with safety checks, training, and other bike-related activities.
- The Committee discussed the timing for putting out flags on veterans' graves at Woodlawn Cemetery for Memorial Day. It decided to ask the cemetery if Monday May 22 would be acceptable (in lieu of a normal troop meeting).
- We don't yet have a firm list of participants for the Boundary Water high adventure trip starting July 7.
- The Troop has set August 4 and September 8 as tentative campout weekends.
- The Committee discussed a possible family campout this fall but came to no decision.
- There is a service opportunity on Arbor Day, April 29. No details yet.
- Wes is working on setting up an aviation merit badge event.
- Most scouts will need new medical forms for summer camp.

Treasurers Report: Steve Dunning and Tim Valley reviewed the February 2016 treasurers report. Highlights included:

- The balance was down slightly due to expenses associated with Philmont and summer camp.

- There was little change in scout account balances.
- Quarterly due are coming up soon.
- We received a federal tax identification number for the Troop and established a new checking account with the Bank of Edwardsville. Our funds have been transferred over and now we can use debit cards.
- Annette will email a draft scout account closeout policy to the Committee for review.

Advancement Chair Report: John Evans reported the following:

- There still has not much advancement activity since February. Most activity taking place has to do with merit badges and blue cards.
- John (as in January) encouraged Edgar M. to work more closely with the Scouts on advancement, specifically those close to ranking up.
- John has given up on Scoutbook. He can't get it set up and it has terrible customer support. In any case, Troopmaster now has a web portal feature and will have all the features we need by April, including the ability to access it on smart phones. He will review its functionality in detail. Our current subscription to Troopmaster will cover us through the transition to the new version.
- The next Court of Honor is scheduled for April 3. Troop elections will be held in March.
- All scouts now have their new patrol and council patches.
- John would like scouts to take physical blue cards to summer camp this year to enhance accountability and so we are not reliant on electronic records, given the difficulties we had last summer.

Council/District Representative Report: Wes Searcy provided a report on upcoming events and council news to the Committee. Highlights included:

- There is no change in the methodology for Eagle Scout advancement with the merger with GSLAC. Packets are still submitted to the Belleville office for the Cahokia Mounds District.
- He did not have any news on efforts to bring a new Venturing Crew to the Church. The Youth Director has been very busy lately. Wes noted that time spent in Venturing would apply toward Troop requirements for participation.
- Our new Eagle Scout Board of Review venue is temporarily Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Collinsville until the Advancement Committee can find a new permanent home.
- Steve Kupsy noted that the Order of the Arrow election will be held on April 17. He also noted that there will be a Cahokia Mounds Spring Camporee on May 12-14.

Fundraising Report:

- Annette reported the deadline for Camp Card sales is April 7. Scouts can turn in the cards they do not sell.
- Mike O'Koniewski reported we now have the tickets for the Cardinals game fundraiser and he sent an email to Committee members for review. The fundraiser is not mandatory for scouts. Sales restrictions are that we cannot sell them for more than face value, near the Stadium, or on Stubhub. The initial price we will sell the tickets for is \$40 each for a profit of about \$20 per ticket (the face value is \$63). We will need cash or checks for the tickets Scouts take to sell at the end of the sale period, not before; the Committee will then pay the cardinals with one check. The deadline to return unsold tickets and pay the Cardinals is May 8. The balance goes to Scout accounts. Mike will work to make sure that tickets are distributed to maximize seating flexibility. Steve Kupsky brought up the possibility that the Troop needs to file special paperwork to do the sale; Annette said she will check on that.

Senior Patrol Leader Report: Edgar M. provided the SPL report.

- The escape room event went well.
- He will begin preparing the Troop for the Beaver Dam campout.
- He has started a series of presentations in Troop meetings having to do with camping issues that also apply to the Boundary Waters trip. Gary Gill suggested giving the presenters two to three weeks to prepare and to use the EDGE method. He also reminded Edgar to make sure the presentations are broad-based and do not focus specifically on issues related to Boundary Waters.
- Gary asked Edgar to do some summer camp preparation discussions.
- Steve Kupsky noted that in order for Order of the Arrow elections to be held, Troop attendance must be at least 50% of registered scouts on the night of the election. He asked Edgar to work to make sure we meet that level.

Quartermaster Report: Mike O'Koniewski gave the quartermaster report on behalf of Karen O'Koniewski.

- Karen would like to do a trailer inventory and she needs volunteers to help. After some discussion, the Committee decided to do it on March 18 before the Beaver Dam campout.
- John Evans reported that Stan Schloesser has sent over a couple of options for the new Troop logo. John will get Mike Veith's input.
- Annette reported she has received our new Troop flag.

Communications Report: Wes Searcy gave the report:

- We have figured out how to restrict the Troop Webmaster role to have access only to the areas they need to access, and not the whole Troop website.

- Annette asked if we can set up a subscription service or RSS feed to allow people to be automatically notified when the Troop website is updated. This question was taken for further investigation.

Scoutmaster Report: Gary Gill reported the following:

- He has developed agendas for the next several months to build scoutcraft in the Troop.
- He plans to have a Patrol Leaders Conference in April (following the Court of Honor on April 3) to plan out the rest of the year.
- Elliott H. is a Webelo joining our Troop.
- Troop 555 in Knoxville, TN, contacted him about our website. They have been looking for examples online to follow for their own website and they were very impressed by ours; they said it was the best they had ever seen and they particularly like the leadership guidebook. They may reach out for guidance.

Committee Chair Report: Annette Schoeberle reported the following:

- She received our latest Journey to Excellence ribbon for last year and she is working on our new Journey to Excellence application.
- We don't yet have our new charter document from the Council.
- Larry Miller noted that Eagle Scouts can receive citations from the Commandant of the Coast Guard and the Commander of the Illinois Legion. The Legion also has a \$1,000 scholarship for Eagle Scout of the Year, with applications due April 15 each year.

Charter Organization Representative Report: Mike Veith asked us to let him know if everything was going well and we assured him it is.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Motion to adjourn by Phillippe Welsh, seconded by Steve Kupsky, approved unanimously.