

May 10, 2017 Troop 216 Committee Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Annette Schoeberle. In attendance: Steve Dunning, Grant G., Gary Gill, Steve Kupsy, Max Maier, Mike O'Koniewski, Dan Ruark, Annette Schoeberle, Wes Searcy, Mike Veith, and PJ Welsh.

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

Activities Chair Report: Gary Gill (for Diane Gill) reported on the following:

- May 12-14: Cahokia Mounds Spring Camporee. The event is Lewis and Clark themed and will include an 8 mile hike from River's Edge to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. This event needs to be presented to the Troop for consideration.
- May 19: A campsite at Camp Warren Levis has been reserved for a campout/canoeing weekend. Permission slips are due at the next Troop meeting.
- May 22: The Troop will place flags at veterans' graves at Woodlawn Cemetery in lieu of a regular Troop meeting.
- June 9: A campsite at Camp Sunnen has been reserved for a campout/canoeing weekend.
- June 19: Medical forms are due.
- Max Maier noted that the American Legion will need help after July 4, picking up fireworks debris after the fireworks show. This is a potential service opportunity. Annette said she would contact Larry Miller about it.
- We were credited \$60 for unused canoe rentals by S-bar-F.
- Plans are being made to have a Patrol Leaders Conference to plan future events.
- We have seven Scouts and five adults signed up for the Boundary Waters high adventure trip. Gary proposed we discuss the trip with interested parents at the June 5 Troop meeting.
- Gary proposed we have a swim test session at the Esic YMCA on Saturday at 2:00 PM for both the Boundary Waters trip and upcoming canoeing campouts.

Treasurers Report: Steve Dunning reviewed the April 2016 treasurers report. He told the Committee he would email everyone a written report very soon. Highlights included:

- Current balance was \$14,951.27, down slightly from last month.
- There were debits of \$4,857, the majority of which (\$3,996) were for summer camp fees. Deposits totaled \$1,066.
- There is \$2094 in Scout accounts (including Camp Card revenue).

- Three Scouts are now in arrears on dues and are therefore not in good standing. One of the Scouts ages out soon.

Advancement Chair Report: John Evans was absent but he provided a written report.

Highlights included:

- Rank advancements are still slow.
- He compared the web-based version of Troopmaster with the desktop version. The web version has many additional useful features. The disadvantage is cost, specifically \$1.50 per Scout per year. We don't have to make an immediate decision on which version to use as our current license runs until February 28, 2018. The Committee tabled any decision on this for now.

Council/District Representative Report: Wes Searcy provided a written report and flyers on upcoming events and council news to the Committee. He noted that there is a major Venturing Crew event coming up on September 24.

Fundraising Report: Mike O'Koniewski reported on Cardinals ticket sales. Sales are much slower than anticipated. The Committee discussed a number of strategies for selling the balance of tickets and for mitigating losses if we could not. Key points included:

- Investigating the possibility of involving Troop 72 in the sales.
- Selling tickets a low or even no profit after the deadline to pay for the tickets passes.
- Wide discussion on how to handle the revenue from tickets sold by adults. No decision was made but the question will not prevent adult sales.
- The Committee commended Mike on the effort he is putting into making the Cardinals tickets sales as successful as possible.
- Mike Veith noted that he had added a note about the tickets to a recent Church bulletin.

In addition to ticket sales, fundraising in general was discussed. Points included:

- Popcorn sales were discussed. Six scouts sold popcorn individually last year. No consensus on whether we should do it again.
- Discussed how to provide incentives for fundraising. Options included recognizing top sellers at Courts of Honor.
- Cardinals calendar sales are approaching again.

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

- The Troop trailers have been moved temporarily due to construction on the building next to where they have been parked.
- Two tents have broken poles but we have the materials to fix them.
- All gear worked correctly at the last campout.

- The small trailer has a slight leak but it can be easily fixed with caulk.
- We need to waterproof the tents again.
- The Church has a lot of gear left over from its old Boy Scout Troop, including two tents and water jugs, both very similar to the ones we now have.
- New trailer decals are ready for use once when we are ready. The Committee decided to research costs to paint the trailers.

Communications Report: Wes reported that Christine Rasure's GSLAC emails have been very useful for populating the calendar on the Troop website. The Committee commended Wes on the calendar.

Senior Patrol Leader Report: Grant G. provided the SPL report.

- Grant proposed having the Patrol Leaders Conference at the next campout. The Committee accepted Grant's proposal but cautioned him to be sure to get input and ideas from all Scouts and not only those at the campout.
- The issue of noise at Troop meetings was discussed again. Conversations held at one end of the room, almost exclusively by adults, are making it difficult to carry out Scout business. Grant will make increased use of the Scout sign to quieten the room and he asked for adults to pay attention to those signs. The adults readily agreed. The adults also discussed trying to carry on leader business only at appropriate times during the meeting.
- Grant has had volunteers to fill all Troop positions and will now begin actively recruiting Scouts for positions.
- Grant has identified some key areas for improving meetings and Scout activities:
 - Plan menus better; maybe implement a menu planner.
 - Make more effective use of patrol time by making specific assignments of work to accomplish.
 - Delegate more work to other Scouts.
 - Add back some activities to spice up the meetings a little.
 - The Committee liked Grant's ideas.

Scoutmaster Report: Gary Gill reported the following:

- The Troop participated in the Arbor Day event the past weekend and was in a picture published in the online version of the newspaper. Between six and eight Scouts participated.
- The campout at S-bar-F went well despite lots of rain. Gary was impressed at the lack of complaints about the weather; having the kitchens set up under the rain fly helped. Max trained the Scouts well in canoeing and their work on the water went well despite wind and rain. The training included demonstrating swamping a canoe. They tried single pot cooking with varying degrees of success.

- Jeff Wrigley, the Church's associate pastor, has a potential Eagle Scout project if anyone is interested. It involves building shelves at the Church. If not done as an Eagle project, it can be a service opportunity.
- Gary is currently talking to another family interested in joining the Troop.

Committee Chair Report: Annette Schoeberle reported the following:

- She learned from Dr. Brooks that the Church has an email called "Constant Contact" that we could use to provide a short blurb and a picture about the Troop as a recruiting aid.
- Annette asked us to remember to give the newspaper pictures of the Troop decorating veterans' graves and other events as a way to advertise the Troop's good work and serve as a recruiting tool. We can also post an ad at no cost near the start of school.
- The June 12 committee meeting will have to take place elsewhere. Mike Veith has arranged for us to meet at the Masonic Lodge behind Walmart.
- No action has been taken regarding a new Eagle Scout plaque since the last meeting. She will get pricing for the style similar to our old one and for doing one ourselves.

Charter Organization Representative Report: Mike Veith reported on the following:

- The old Scout equipment in the church attic was free for our use.
- Because of the work being done on the Church-owned building next door and its eventual use, the use of the adjacent parking lot where we had been parking our trailers may soon no longer be available for our use. The Committee acknowledged it needed to have a plan for storing the trailers at another location.
- Mike has our new charter but he needs a frame for it.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Motion to adjourn by Steve Kupsy, seconded by Mike O'Koniewski, approved unanimously.