

## **January 10, 2018 Troop 216 Committee Meeting**

Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Annette Schoeberle. In attendance: Kevin Buhr, Tim Valley, Diane Gill, Mike O'Koniewski, Tara Kuhne, Gary Gill, Reece W., Mike Veith, PJ Welsh, Steve Dunning, Steve Kupsky, Larry Miller, Natasha McCLintock

Cahokia Mounds District Director Kevin Buhr was introduced. He offered support of the District Committee and Commissioner to the Troop's request for guidance in the current transitional stage of filling upcoming openings of Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster. They would provide training to anyone new taking one of these positions.

Gary Gill asked if it would be possible to contact Webelo parents to inform them of the opportunities in the Troop leadership positions. Kevin had not heard of that being implemented but felt it would be all right. Gary asked that participants at the Roundtable meetings also be made aware of the openings.

Coming changes to Scouting were briefly discussed. Kevin explained that some Cub units will be open to girls in 2018 and Boy Scout units will open to girls in 2019. Units and chartering organizations will be solicited for interest in participation.

Kevin also shared that the Troop's chartering organization, The First Christian Church of Edwardsville, would be recognized at the upcoming District dinner on Feb. 3 as the first recipient of an exceptional chartering organization award as it is felt to go over and above in its support to scouting.

Committee members were pleased to hear of this recognition for the Church and strongly agreed that the Church is deserving of the award. It was noted the Troop just finished their first year being chartered by the Church. Mike Veith asked if there was anything the Church could be providing. Gary responded that the only thing would be more opportunities for the Troop to assist the Church.

**Secretary Report--** Dan Ruark was not in attendance.

- Previous meeting minutes were reviewed with PJ Welsh making a motion to approve the December minutes and Larry Miller seconded.

**Treasurer's Report—**Steve Dunning

- Steve Dunning provided printed copies of the December Treasurer's Report and reviewed deposits and checks/debits along with the opening and ending balances for the month.
- Gary Gill asked if the treasurers would be able to assess the Troop's cash balance against cash flow and operating expenses, and they indicated they would.
- Steve Dunning said that Order of the Arrow dues should be paid to a treasurer as soon as possible.

### **Activities Chair Report-- Diane Gill**

- The Beaumont January 19-22 cabin campout has 5 scouts and 2-3 adults signed up. Webelos of Den 5 have been invited to camp on Saturday. Three Webelos and their fathers are planning to attend. Reece was asked to plan the menu.
- Reece has provided a list of interested activities generated from the recent PLC. Diane will be working with others in scheduling these events onto the calendar and avoiding dates of potential conflict.
- Gary suggested working with Reece in reviewing the details of the desired summer camps to make a decision soon.
- Discussion of the Philmont trip included that the crew limit of 12 has been reached with 8 scouts and 4 adults having given deposits and making payments of the first installment of the Philmont trek cost. A parent meeting should be scheduled soon. Gary suggested that alternates will be considered for filling a crew opening if someone is unable to go.
- Annette Schoeberle shared an opportunity to attend Powder Horn April 26-29 at Beaumont Scout Reservation. It offers many activities and training courses.
- Kevin Buhr indicated that is the same weekend for the District's Camporee being held at Silver Lake Park in Highland.
- An idea for February was camping at Warren Levis with opportunities to do lumberjack-type races, fire building, and monkey bridge construction.
- Gary stated he will be planning a series of informal Saturday morning hikes for anyone that would like to show up for general exercise or in preparation for Philmont. He will begin walking at 9am this Saturday January 13 from the airplane at Township Park.
- Natasha asked Reece that the Scouts' interest in doing High Ropes be surveyed. If they wish to participate, it needs to be scheduled as soon as possible.

### **Advancement Chair Report-- Advancement Chair Report-- John Evans was not present.**

- Gary reported that Edgar's Eagle Court of Honor was held in December.
- John had informally surveyed scouts and parents at the past Monday meeting and found there was support to upgrade to the web-based Troopmaster. A motion to purchase the upgraded version made by PJ Welsh and seconded by Steve Dunning.
- Annette has gotten the Journey to Excellence information she needed and will submit.

### **Council/District Representative Report-- Steve Kupsy**

- It is possible to plan a year of troop activities in alignment with Journey to Excellence.
- University of Scouting will be held at Granite City HS January 27. Steve is attending and offered to help with transportation of Scouts. He added this is a good event for both Scouts and adults.
- Wilderness First Aid Training will be offered at Beaumont on Feb 17-18, Mar 17-18, Apr 13-15 and Mar 2-4 at Camp Joy.

**Fundraising Report--** Mike O'Koniewski

- Camp Cards sales will be Feb 7 - Apr 6 at \$5 each with 50% per sale going into Scout accounts.
- Mike will receive the Cardinals tickets in February for the Friday September 14 game against the Dodgers.
- Natasha McClintock mentioned a possible fundraising opportunity with H&R Block.

**Quartermaster Report--** John Evans/Karen O'Koniewski were not present.

- No outdoor activities occurred so no change in equipment status since last month.
- First Aid kits were inventoried by the Scouts and much was found to be expired and thrown out. Annette will look into a bulk order of replacement supplies.
- Gary mentioned he has an account with Hiker Direct if anyone would want to place an order.
- Annette added that Sierra Trading is a source of outdoor equipment also.
- No news regarding the trailer painting.

**Communication Report--** Steve Dunning

- Updates have been made on the website. Steve is interested in posting any news or updates anyone might have.
- Tara Kuhne noted the modifications suggested for the uniform information in the Parent Guidebook.

**Senior Patrol Leader Report--** Reece W.

- A mini-Patrol Leaders Conference was held during a recent Troop meeting. An email will be going out soon related to making a decision of summer camp and the potential upcoming activities discussed at the PLC.
- The patrols will begin giving presentations. One topic suggested was map and compass basics.
- Gary said he is noticing more cellphone appearances during meetings, some of which is appropriate for retrieving information; however, it is noticed that not all phone use is meeting related.

**Scoutmaster Report--** Gary Gill

- A thank you goes out to Mike O'Koniewski for taking care of communications with Webelo den leader and families.
- Shane Smith has brought an orienteering opportunity to the Troop. A \$50 fee covers the all Scouts and adult leaders in the Troop for one year. The next event is at Beaumont Scout Festival March 24.
- Gary would like to see an increased number of Scouts participating in outdoor activities and asked Reece for help with that.

**Committee Chair Report--** Annette Schoeberle

- Scout Sunday is February 4.
- Three Eagle Scout Scholarships are available from GSLAC, ranging from \$500-\$1000. Application deadline is February 1.
- It was noted that the Merit Badge Counselor list at the Council level continues to have ongoing problems with accuracy. One idea was to possibly track that list within Troopmaster. Steve Dunning has updated our own list on the Troop website.
- Another note of thanks to Mike O'Koniewski for reaching out to Den 5. He will extend an offer for them to attend a Troop meeting on February 12 and/or 26.

**Chartering Organization Representative Report--** Mike Veith indicated no report.

**Old Business--**none

**New Business--** Larry Miller

- An Eagle Scout Senior Scholarship is available through the American Legion and Larry has information on that.
- A service opportunity for the Scouts is assisting during the VFW's poppy distribution May 25 and 26. Locations are to be determined but likely will be at local grocery stores.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:32pm by PJ Welsh and seconded by Steve Dunning.