

Boy Scout Troop 201

Minutes of Committee Meeting 11/8/19

I. Opening of Meeting: Pledge of Allegiance

In attendance:

Christina DePaola, Jeffrey Helgeson, Stephanie Hegelson, Danny Kim, David Martin, Laura Penfold, Beatriz Rapa, Mike Russo, Kevin Ryan, Eric Shaw

II. Reading of Reports:

A. Head of Charter Organization: Duane Penfold accepted the role of Charter Rep

B. Troop Committee Chair: Reminded committee of new BSA requirement for all adult leaders to physically sign background check releases or else they will not be allowed on the charter. An email was distributed to the adult mailing list within TroopMaster but it appears that not all the registered adult leaders are included. A separate mailing will be required.

C. Troop Secretary:

- No update - there are currently 59 registered scouts in the troop as of 10/29.

D. Scoutmaster: M. Russo presented the SM update:

- Eagle Scout Status:
 - a. Upcoming January ECOH (Dan R., Anthony G., Brandon A., Chris S.): American Legion has been reserved, dignitaries invited, and parent meeting conducted to organize food and prep.
 - b. Life scout completing Eagle BOR: Andrew C (May ECOH)
 - c. Life scouts awaiting their Eagle BOR: Alex B., Corry M.
 - d. Life scouts with near Eagle: Teddy K. (proj completed, need to submit app), Sebastian G. (Eagle app submitted), Brandon M. (proj completed, need to submit app), Prerit C. (proj in planning), Michael R. (proj in planning)
 - e. Life scouts with Eagle projects scheduled: Jared M. (11/9)
- Alpine trip report: good trip; 19 scouts participated - completed a 8 mile hike. The campsite was difficult to find (typical). Given the distance to the campsite, next year we should orient the trip as a full backpack trip rather than a duffel bag. Mr. Russo already gave Mrs. Pavlidis the update to make to the permission slip.
- Harriman trip report (from Mr. Ryan): good trip with 20 scouts participating. Did the usual older/younger scout breakout (including 6-8 of the newer scouts). Younger scouts group actually arrived at the campsite (Stockbridge) before the older scouts. The weather during the day was cool for hiking, the evening was colder but no real complaints from the scouts or adults. Next year, focus on encouraging the scouts to get up early on Sunday to start the water boiling. Also need to ensure that the older, senior scouts are not over distributing troop gear to the younger/newer scouts.

E. Troop Treasurer:

- Treasurer Rapa provided the troop the latest troop financials

- Currently carrying a balance of approximately \$ - which has historically been a buffer for the initial outlays for high adventure and monthly trips
- National has finalized the new annual participation fees for 2020: \$60 for scouts (\$33 last year), \$36 for adult leaders (\$33 last year). Council fees remain the same at \$26 for scouts and adult leaders. Mr. Martin reported that a complaint was raised by our Council that regardless of the new amount, it was finalized after most of the troops had already set the fees for the new year when the program year started (typically aligned with the start of school). The committee reaffirmed the prior decision by the committee to retain the fee level from last year and adjust the next year's Troop fee based on the revised fee amounts from National/Council.
- Reminder that as discussed in the previous meeting, all trips after Alpine would raise the fee by \$5 to amortize the excess cost of cabin trips across all the trips. Note that this nominal increase is aligned to our goals of maximizing scout participation at all outings.
- Committee chair will send a communication to parents outlining the changes at national as well as the increased trip costs.

F. Fundraiser Coordinator:

- Confirmed that as the Committee previously agreed, we are keeping to the same fundraising goals set prior to the news of the National fee increase. Scouts are expected to sell 20 wreaths at \$12 (and 10 wreaths for additional siblings). Popcorn fundraising expectations remain at a minimum of \$75 and \$125 for the shotgun trip and \$500 for free participation in the Whitewater and shotgun trips. Mrs. Helgeson volunteered to assist with the wreath pickup day (reconfirmed for 11/23 despite Mrs. Chin's unavailability that day) as well as helping to coordinate availability within the schools to sell wreaths

G. Outdoor Activities Coordinator:

- At the greenbar meeting, the scout leadership chose rock climbing for the holiday party
- Wreath pickup will be at 11/23
- At the greenbar meeting, the scout leadership chose Seabase and Northern Tier as their preferred High Adventure summer trip options (and maybe Feb for Seabase) for 2020. Mr. Russo to start the trip vetting with the Troop at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Martin noted that Summit should be raised as a much lower-cost option given its close proximity (e.g., no airplane cost)
- Philmont 2021 lottery is approaching - given the size of the troop and based on the previous participation, Committee approved securing a slot for 1 crew (12 people including adults). Mr. Martin noted that there are other local troops that are going to Philmont in 2020 that invited interested individuals to join (e.g., seniors who will not be around for the 2021 cycle)
- Advancement weekend (Dec 6-8) at Schiff is the next trip

H. Training Coordinator:

- D. Martin was volunteered to serve as Training Coordinator and reminded the Committee to complete their role-based training offered online as well as in person by our Council

I. Advancement Coordinator:

- A number of SM reviews are pending

J. Religious Emblem Coordinator: L. Penfold and D. Martin to coordinate with M. Russo on presenting the requirements and the official presentation at either the Nov 25th or Dec 2nd meeting.

K. Equipment Coordinator:

- Confirmed that the Committee approved the Quartermaster (J. Beacco) to purchase 10 tents @ \$150 each. The rain fly appears to be the most fragile component - Mr. Hegelson suggested safety pinning the top zipper to avoid zipping the fly down which results in more breakage

L. Website Coordinator: Please visit the troop website at: www.troop201ny.com. Mr. Martin has updated the calendar and is working on consolidating documents for new scouts to be more user-friendly by new scout parents.

M. New Business:

- None

Log on to the troop website at www.troop201ny.com for updates on the troop calendar and activities, and photos from recent events. Log on to the council web site at www.trcbsa.org for links to adult training, and information on programs offered by Shelter Rock District and the Theodore Roosevelt Council.