

Parent Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: 3/10/13

Present: Erik Autor, Mechelle Coppock, Joshua Cothorn, Chris Cozadd, Jim Custer, Julie Custer, Melissa Dana, Michael Keays, Kathleen Norman, Kathleen O'Connell, Jim Pala, Colleen Parker, Steve Unger, Steve Valley, Jock Whittlesey

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Melissa

Approved minutes from Nov 2012, Jan 2013 and Feb 2013.

II. Treasurer's Report – Kathleen O.

III. 2013 Budget – Kathleen O.

MD: There is a \$2,000 subsidy planned for campouts. Are you sure this will be spent?

Jim C: Need to track with the Treasurer as we go. Some will also go toward the Camporee.

MC: can pay facility fees, and then not pass that on to the Scouts.

MD: all in favor of this budget?

Unanimous vote in favor.

IV. Policy Regarding Adults Without Children in the Troop – Melissa

MD: Came up because of adult that pursued this, approached us at metro station mistletoe sale. Single guy, Eagle Scout, wants to give back to Scouting. Did all the training, came back with membership application. I explained our concerns in the past. Responses to her email were parents wanted to discuss this and adopt a policy. Michael drafted language that our policy could be:

a) No – then examine on case by case basis if want to make exception. (Could join Parent Committee or be a Merit Badge Counselor.)

b) Can join but cannot be ASM.

c) View all on a case by case basis.

Jim C: Better to have a policy, then request an exception to the policy.

EA: Prefer leaders who have kids in the troop. But we may reach the point where we have a shortage of leaders. If we follow the Child Protection Guidelines, should be fine. I recommend he volunteer at the District – they really need volunteers.

MK: Remember if you are an Eagle Scout you are charged with giving back to Scouting. But we need a pathway, one person who is the focal point.

EA: Folks at the District are those who aged out and get more involved there. We could have a step process. Have them start as Merit Badge Counselor, see how it goes.

Jim C: How is that different that having them on a campout?

MK: Two other agendas. Make themselves indispensable to the troop, then promote homosexual or atheist agenda, and the troop has to deal with it. They would be using the troop to launch their agenda.

MD: They should be welcome if they have gone through the background checks.

MK: Dialogue important. Should have one designated person to deal with this.
EA: Our preference is that uniformed leaders be parents of Scouts in troop.
Jim C: I think the threat is greatest with Merit Badge Counselors!
MD: In our troop, there is not a huge distinction between uniformed leaders on campouts. Last was one ASM and three Parent Comm members. I am in favor of this guy because he seemed like he wanted to help, has no kids and no family, so we could be helping him.
Jim C: Have policy that it is not allowed, then have them come to a Parent Comm meeting to see why we might make an exception.
MC: I'm hearing start with yes.
Jason C: Same thing, isn't it? "No" or "yes/but."
MC: It depends on that first contact. If policy is no, they will just walk away.
Jason C: All in first perception.
Jock: Should be welcoming.
EA: Refine Michael's language. See what reactions we get.
MD: Will send EA Michael's language. Come up with something we can send out to everyone.
Jason C: If we are following the Youth Protection Guidelines, we should be fine.

V. Mulch Delivery - Steve V.

2,318 bags sold. Getting four truckloads (4 x 900 = 3,600). See how sales go over next 24 hours. Need refreshments.
MD will e-mail Millie. Someone needs to rent two trucks from U-Haul.

VI. New Scoutmaster – Melissa

Jason C: Introduced himself. From Orlando, FL. Did Cub Scouts, but not Boy Scouts. Has been doing Boy Scouts with son Joshua for three years. Colonel in Air Force. Has leadership, skills, abilities.
Not enough opportunities for young men today to get out and try and fail and be mentored. Themes he'd like to promote: Leadership, Service, Character. Scout Oath and the Scout Law. Jim and I met on Saturday. Vulcan mind-meld.
Jim C: We will transition shortly after the elections for SPL, etc.
MD: Let's vote to approve.
Unanimous vote in favor of Jason as new Scoutmaster.

VII. Knollwood / Old Soldier's Home – Steve U.

He is checking out both places to see which might be better place to volunteer. Pick which is the most appropriate.
MC: Best service projects are always where you have direct contact with the recipient.
MD: Has been told that Knollwood does not really need our assistance. May be more useful at OSH.
Steve: Not sure. Knollwood may need us. OSH may be dangerous. He'll recon some more.

VIII. Eagle Scout Plaque – Melissa

EA: Jeff has idea of a perpetual plaque with names of our Eagle Scouts.
MD: \$250 for plaque. Will circulate picture.

IX. Recruiting -

EA: In my den alone have at least three Scouts coming up to 349. Jeff knows already 7 or 8.

MD: We have 35 Scouts now. We will be losing Liam, Seamus, Caleb. In 2014 more will be aging out.

MC: Eagle/Venture patrol would free up more spaces for new Scouts too.