

## Parent Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: 3/13/12, 7:00 pm

Present: Erik Autor, Mechelle Coppock, Chris Cozadd, Melissa Dana, Jeff Englander, Andy Gilmour, Julie Griffin, Kathleen Norman, Kathleen O'Connell, Colleen Parker, Jock Whittlesey, Monique Wong, Wally Zampella

I. Eagle Project Presentation – Truman Custer  
Walter Mess Memorial Plaza. All voted in favor to approve.

II. Review of SPL Training – James Pala and Truman Custer  
James – Planning meeting of all past Senior Patrol Leaders. Preparing program to train the new PLC on the basics of running a PLC.  
Truman – Will review roles of leadership at the PLC meeting, and the roles of leadership outside of the PLC meeting (e.g. with patrols, on campouts, etc.). Will do this at the March 27 PLC; will watch them and then give feedback.  
Mechelle – I was there yesterday and they were so impressive. Monique prompted them well. Idea is this will be a semi-annual program with each new PLC. It is a great opportunity for previous leaders to be a resource for the troop.  
Chris – will there be written material passed on?  
Julie – PLC binder?  
James – that is a great idea.  
Melissa – perhaps we can add a skit to our new troop video on how the PLC is run.

III. Eagle Project Update – James Pala  
Walking rosary at St. James Church. There have been lots of complications, but have found a new site and it is ready to go.

IV. Approval of 2/14/12 and 3/3/12 meeting minutes – all in favor.

V. Treasurer's Report – Kathleen O.  
\$9,189 now with no outstanding checks. Have paid Philmont balance in full.  
Mulch fundraiser coming up – looking for \$5,000+ in profit.  
Surplus of \$694 from Ski Trip. We will reimburse the two boys who didn't go. The \$216 surplus left will go to troop general fund.  
Michael Keays \$432 reimbursement request for COH – all voted in favor.  
Navy Federal Credit Union is donating \$1,000 to troop again this year.  
Scout Bucks – I should issue boys an accounting of their balances, with sheet to explain the system.

VI. Merit Badge Coordinator's Report – Mechelle  
Family Life MB classes are done. Boys are now finishing requirements.  
Personal Fitness MB – Steve Valley and Melissa Dana will do this together.  
Communications – will go at the same time as Personal Fitness.  
May/June will be Citizenship in the Community – several possible Counselors.

Erik – all MB information is now entered with the Council, at the Council site (not TroopMaster).

## **VII. Old Business:**

### 1. Vote to Confirm Jim Custer as Interim Scoutmaster – Melissa

Jeff – Spoke at length with him, and Jim would like a new SM by June. Jeff asked him to go through July, in order to have existing SM cover Summer Camp.

Melissa called vote. All voted in favor.

### 2. New Patrols – Jeff

At meeting tonight, Dave McAllister presented the new patrols without discussing first with the SM, and all the boys went to their new patrols. The committee of boys who set up new patrols really changed things. Presented new patrols a bit too soon – should have presented as a draft.

Melissa – boys wanted this at same time as the SPL changed – that is why they did it now. Ian passed to Preston, and the only person Preston could find to help was Noah, so they worked on it together last weekend.

Jeff – the confusion tonight was a learning experience for Dave.

Wally – all new Scouts to Wolverines. Must have at least one 1<sup>st</sup> Class in each patrol.

Chris – regarding five new boys, will they all be in the same patrol?

Wally – full patrol of new boys was difficult last year. Pulling older Scouts from other patrols to mentor them was hard. But now only have five new boys, with 2-3 older Scouts to mentor them in same patrol.

Chris – cooking, for example. If you have two new boys in each patrol, they can each have turns completing the requirements.

Wally – In other aspects, it's not easier.

Jeff – Handbook says they must stay together.

Melissa – vote to overrule Handbook?

Wally – didn't like idea of all new boys in same patrol, but now with only 5, it is manageable. It is a different situation this year.

Jeff – Sam was patrol leader and agreed, but now he is the APL. Now the patrol leader for the new boys is Seamus, and he is okay with it.

Erik – we've had this discussion at two different PCMs now. No firm decision. Like idea of distributing boys among the patrols. But we'd have to revise the Handbook.

Monique – Scouts have gotten together and given it a lot of thought. Now they are at the meeting trying to accommodate unhappy boys. We need to respect their decisions. Regarding the Handbook, maybe we say that this term we'll try it without actually changing the Handbook. There will never be real perfect solution to this.

Every time it will be different. I personally think mixed patrols would be better.

Older Scouts would take care of "their" Scouts.

Erik – let's call this a "pilot project."

Jeff – let's wait until the next meeting, and we'll report back. If they develop bonds in the first year, we have 100% retention. Bonding is important – all in it together.

Melissa – patrol formation belongs to the boys and ASMs.

Erik – we give ASMs authority to figure it out.

Kathleen – we are working on updating the Handbook right now. We can take this opportunity to revise the language.

Monique – Regarding the Handbook changes, Steve said he'd like to see all changes. Be sensitive to the original authors.

### 3. New Scouts – Jeff

Two new Scouts are interested. This is good for the buddy system. He'd like permission to add the two. 4 Webelos + 1 transfer (from Troop 140) + 1 new = 6. But transfer from Troop 140 is a different age. Is this a problem?

Chris – yes, his mother thinks so.

Monique – SPL has already been doing this. Let the new Scout come, and let SPL decide.

Melissa – vote to add 6<sup>th</sup> new Scout. Then have waiting list from here on out. That puts total at 38 boys. Jack will leave in July, bringing it back down to 37.

Mechelle – let's say have accepted 6. Any more go on wait list. No more in unless someone else out.

All agreed to this.

### 4. Subcommittee for Establishing Protocol for Bringing Grievances to the Parent Committee (SEPBGPC) – Melissa

Can we appoint Erik, Mechelle and Millie to this? Erik, will you spearhead this?

Erik – yes.

### 5. Parent Committee Meeting Day and Time – Melissa

Sundays worked better than the current Tuesday time. She will ask for the second Sunday of each month off from work, and we'll go back to that time.

Chris – that would be better in terms of the ASM availability.

## **VIII. New Business:**

### 1. Round Table Report – Monique

March topic was how to make Scouts accountable for responsibility. All positions (historian, etc.). How to make sure that if assigned a position, they fulfill the responsibilities of the position. Mentoring too – good practice we can learn from the Round Table and implement in our troop. Have the boys document what they have done. If Scout can't attend meetings regularly, can ask SM to give him special project to fulfill requirement.

Kathleen – is there an ASM responsible for mentoring each leadership position?

Monique – Tony is working on Patrol Advisor, but it has not been implemented yet.

Only for the Quartermaster, Jim Custer has worked with Dave McAllister.

Kathleen – and Steve Valley has worked with Seamus as Webmaster.

Monique – maybe patrol leaders can find someone to be advisor?

Next Parent Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, April 10 at 7 pm. Then in May we will go to Sunday meeting time.