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September 13, 2017 Troop 216 Committee Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Annette Schoeberle. In attendance: John Evans, Diane Gill, Gary Gill, Steve Kupsky, Max Maier, Larry Miller, Karen O'Koniewski, Mike O'Koniewski, Dan Ruark, Annette Schoeberle, Mike Veith, and PJ Welsh.

Secretary Report: Previous meeting minutes were reviewed. Diane Gill moved for approval, seconded by PJ Welsh, motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Tim Valley provided written copies of the August 2017 treasurer's reports. Highlights included:

- Not very much account activity in August.
- A debit of \$172.36 in report was incorrectly ascribed to the St. Louis Cardinals for calendar sales. It was actually for Shop n Save.
- Scout accounts totaled about \$4,000, which is relatively high due to recent fundraising. Three scouts have negative account balances; they will be contacted.
- The BSA membership fee will increase to \$33 annually effective December 1 for all scouts and Scouters. The Committee needs to consider how to account for people who already paid for the year at the old rate and other payment/timing issues caused by the fee increase being effective December 1 and not January 1. There was also some discussion on whether or not merit badge counselors need to be registered adults and therefore would also be subject to the fee increase, or some other fee level.
- The check for the 2018 Philmont trip has been sent.
- Gary reported that Don Halpin has a detailed spreadsheet for the Boundary Waters finances that identifies the reimbursements due to participants. Once the figures are finalized, the spreadsheet will be given to Annette, Tim, and Steve for review and action.

Activities Chair Report: Diane Gill reported on the following:

- 15-17 September – Order of the Arrow Vigil weekend at Camp Vandeventer.
- 16 September – World War One statue dedication in Glen Carbon. Ceremony starts at 2 PM.
- 23 September – Max Maier will conduct a 10-mile hike for anyone interested.
- 29 September-1 October – Rendezvous campout planned for Camp Warren Levis. Permission slips will be due 18 September to get the early bird registration fee.
- 2 October – The Troop will hold a Court of Honor that will also serve as John Schollmeier's Eagle Court of Honor.

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- 7 October – Max will conduct a 15-mile hike from Marine to Airplane Park for anyone interested.
- 14 October – Max will conduct a 20-mile hike to the St. Louis Arch. He may need assistance with shuttling participants to/from the site. The backup date is 21 October.
- 20 October – the Committee discussed a possible family campout at Silver Lake. Webelos could also be invited. No decision was made but the option will be put to the Scouts for consideration.
- 20 and 27 October – there is a service opportunity for Scouts interested in helping run a haunted hayride at Camp Warren Levis. Scouts who help can camp for free. In addition, the Order of the Arrow will host an all-night electronic lock-in for participating scouts on 27 October. The Scouts will be informed of the opportunity.
- 4 November – The Committee discussed a possible primitive campout at Hahn State Park south of St. Louis to help Scouts prepare for backcountry hiking events such as Philmont. No decision was made but the option will be put to the Scouts for consideration. Diane will do further research.
- 11 or 12 November – There will be two separate sessions of Philmont Adviser Skills training from 9-5 on these two days at Beaumont Scout Reservation. Cost is \$40 for adults. Cooking, travel, camping skills, and preparation will all be discussed.
- 11 and 18 November – Scouting for Food drop off and pick up. Karen is the area coordinator, but the Troop needs to identify a unit coordinator. No action was taken on this.
- 1 December - YMCA lock-in.
- 19-21 January 2018 – The Troop won a stay at Beaumont Scout Reservation in High Ridge, Missouri, in a council lottery. We will have a cabin for 20 people to stay.
- Two items were raised for the Scouts to consider: first, participation in the Veterans Day Parade on Saturday 10 November, and second, participation in a planned Masonic Lodge Trunk or Treat Event, which could also serve as a recruiting event.

Advancement Chair Report: John Evans reported the following:

- The scout roster is now up to date; two scouts who aged out and one who moved are off the roster.
- The Troop gained two new scouts at the last Troop meeting. Gary will contact the former troops of the scouts to obtain their advancement records.

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- No interest in a web-enabled version of Troopmaster was indicated in a poll placed on the troop website. Some discussion ensued regarding how reliable the poll would be, when our parents are used to having information pushed directly to them via email. John reported he doesn't get a lot of advancement questions from parents anyway; mostly it is scouts who ask. The Committee decided to send an email to parents to confirm what interest might be in a web version of Troopmaster.
- The position of Troop Webmaster was discussed. The Committee decided the responsibilities and authority of the position should be limited to having a story page where reports on recent campouts, activities, and the like could be posted.
- Steve Dunning is backing up John Evans now for advancement tracking.

Council/District Representative Report: Wes Searcy was absent; several individuals contributed to the report:

- Rendezvous Campout is 29 September-1 October; details above in the Activities section.
- Kevin Burr will remain our District Director following the hiring of a new District Director for the south.
- Our Troop and troop 72 need to identify a new unit commissioner. Gary will pass on the names of any interested parties.

Fundraising Report: Annette Schoeberle reported on following:

- Beth Welsh will run do the Cardinals calendars fundraiser this year.
- Steve Kupsky will send Annette an email on the eScrip fundraising program which she will send out for everyone's information.
- Annette will follow up with Tara Kuhne on last year's wreath sales last year to see how successful it was, and also gauge Scout interest in doing it again this year.

Quartermaster Report: Karen O'Koniewski gave the quartermaster report:

- One tent still needs a replacement pole.
- Mr. Evans has a list of items the Troop is running low on and Karen will take it for action.
- One of the trailers needs a new brake light. John will send Karen the information needed to order a new one.
- New logos have been installed on the trailer that has the good paint.

Communications Report: PJ Welsh gave the Communications report:

- A description of the Troop Webmaster position and proposed changes to the Communications section of the Welcome Guidebook were sent via email on 7 September for everyone's information. The email also informed everyone that

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the Troop will do the BSA Cyberchip program. PJ Welsh moved to approve the changes effective immediately and John Evans seconded. Motion passed.

Senior Patrol Leader Report: No report.

Scoutmaster Report: Gary Gill reported the following:

- He has meeting with Edgar M. tomorrow night to review his Eagle package.
- John Schollmeier passed his Eagle Board of Review the previous night. He would like to have his Eagle Court of Honor at the October Troop Court of Honor. Larry said he would get the American Legion paperwork started to recognize John.
- The Pere Marquette campout was lightly attended, probably due to several competing demands on Scout time. The Scouts that did attend were great and Gary thanked Max for organizing the hike.
- It was agreed that adults will cook for the Scouts at Rendezvous.
- Steve Kupsky asked that we be cognizant that we now have a Scout with a food allergy.

Committee Chair Report: Annette Schoeberle reported the following:

- Effective 1 September, Youth Protection Training certificates need to be submitted with adult registration forms.
- Effective beginning the 2018 Summer Camp season, any adult going to an event longer than 72 hours must be a registered adult leader that had a background check and was trained. Annette said she would work to determine when the "summer camp season" was and whether the 72 hours referred to the length of the event or the time the adult would attend.
- The BSA Scouts First effort has a system for reporting Scout danger or abuse.
- Our Troop216.org domain forwards to our troop216bsa.com website. It will cost \$20 to renew the subscription for a year. Steve Kupsky moved that we pay the fee and Larry Miller seconded. Motion passed.
- There is a service opportunity on the Sunday before Thanksgiving helping the Church assemble hygiene kit buckets. She will get more information.
- Annette has contacts with the Riverbender and Intelligencer newspapers that she can use to get photos published of Troop activities, such as summer camp, Boundary waters, and Jamboree. It would be a good recruiting tool. Everyone agreed it was a good idea.
- Larry reported that the American Legion has a badge that Scouts can earn. They have to know their state bird, flower, and other state-specific information to earn it. He can provide information to anyone interested. He also complimented our Scouts on their behavior compared to another Troop that recently visited the Legion.

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Charter Organization Representative Report: Mike Veith reported that Dr. Brooks appreciated John, Gary, and Wes for clearing a fallen tree away.

- **Old Business:** The Committee discussed recruiting new scouts. John Evans reported on a couple of recruiting events held at Goshen Market and the YMCA skate night. He reported they didn't hit the target audience (boys between 11 and 18 years old). Tara Kuhne suggested we run a Relay for Life event. John reported he has a list of Pack leaders in the area and he will draft an introductory email. Mike O'Koniewski suggested we visit Pack meetings with a literature and photo board. Gary talked about the first aid kit construction project the Troop used to do as a recruiting tool for Webelos. He suggested we may want to revive that tradition as a logical follow-on from an invitation email. The behavior of our Scouts as they managed the various stations was a big selling point for our Troop. Karen suggested we advertise the first aid kit project in the invitation email. Some discussion of recruiting followed, in which it was suggested we invite Webelos to the lock-in. Mike Veith said the Church front yard could be used for an event. For everyone's awareness, the members of the Recruiting Subcommittee are John Evans, Tara Kuhne, Mike O'Koniewski, and Shane Smith.

New Business: Max thanked everyone for helping with the hikes.

Motion to adjourn by Dan Ruark, seconded by Karen O'Koniewski, approved unanimously.