

## March 14, 2018 Troop 216 Committee Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by Annette Schoeberle. In attendance:

Richard Coolbaugh, Tim Valley, Diane Gill, Mike O'Koniewski, Gary Gill, Steve Dunning, John Evans, Shane Smith, Steve Kupsy, Mike Veith

### **Secretary Report—**

The February committee minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by John Evans to approve the minutes and Steve Dunning seconded.

Annette Schoeberle stated the position of Secretary is still available. Diane Gill is covering for now.

Committee members shared written reports prior to meeting so that more time would be available for discussion.

### **Treasurer's Report--**Tim Valley and Steve Dunning

The February treasurer's report showed not much change in opening and closing account balances and remained even with 2 deposits and 4 debits. Account balance is \$22,928.

The Scout account spreadsheet was presented.

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

Upcoming events include:

- Beaver Dam camp out March 16-18, shopping at Shop 'n Save 7:30 pm Thurs
- Summer Camp Early Registration discount deadline March 19 (\$270 vs. \$290)
- No Troop meeting March 26 due to Spring Break
- Court of Honor April 9
- Giant City camp out April 20 - 22
- Bike Rodeo at First Christian Church April 14 10 am - 12 pm,  
volunteers needed 9:30-12:30, Melanie Herndon is contact person
- Last Philmont installment of \$297 due April 30
- Swim tests at EHS May 6, 12:30-4:30 pm, further details coming
- Hawn State Park camp out May 12 - 14
- Philmont Health/Medical Forms due May 31
- Philmont trip June 29 - July 14
- Summer Camp Health/Medical Forms due June 25
- Famous Eagle Summer Camp at S Bar F July 15 - 21
- Still planning an early June campout, details coming

## **Advancement Chair Report-- John Evans and Shane Smith**

Advancement since last month consists mostly of merit badge completions at organized events. Camp out attendance has been sparse. The greatest opportunity Scouts have is not being utilized—camping. Some concern noted that meeting time seems to be consumed with High Adventure planning and may result in the Scouts not involved losing momentum.

New advancement software could be utilized for management of RSVPs, permission slips, and payments. Pros and cons were reviewed. Mr. Evans recommended the decision to implement or not be left to the Activities Chair.

A “shop account” has been set up with the Scout Shop in Belleville, saving a great deal of time in ordering supplies.

Mr. Evans and Mr. Smith will continue to train on the My.Scouting portal. Mr. Evans recommends he support as an assistant while Mr. Smith, if willing, takes on the lead Advancement Chair role following the current cycle.

Scouts earning Eagle rank need to provide their Eagle Board of Review date so the Advancement record correctly reflects they have progressed from Life status.

Those participating in Mr. Gill’s Saturday hikes may submit their participation to Mr. Evans for credit.

Mr. Smith offered to meet with each scout for a review, as an opportunity to discuss in their own words how the troop is going, what they like, don’t like, would like to see, and how we can help them if they are stuck on something for advancement, and these results could be compiled for the Scoutmaster and committee. This could also help empower them further towards the Boy Led Troop.

Mr. Smith would like to promote University of Scouting/STEM Days/Nova Days, etc. and would suggest these be talked up at meetings including letting the scouts that attend give a brief overview of what they did and how they liked it. An additional idea was to project the calendar of events so Scouts can see what is available.

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

- Den Chief Training March 24 at Beaumont Scout Ranch
- NYLT week-long training in June-July (5 sessions) at S-F Scout Ranch
- The OA Lodge is seeking OA members to help staff the Cub Scout Dad & Lad weekend at Camp Warren Levis April 20-22.
- Orienteering Festival March 24 at Beaumont Scout Ranch
- NESA (National Eagle Scout Association) Golf Tournament April 16. Proceeds will fund improvement projects for our council’s camps.

Upcoming OA events:

- Spring Fellowship April 20-22 at Camp Joy. All Arrowmen welcome (free of charge) to come see Mr. Maier inducted into the OA Saturday late afternoon / early evening after completing his ordeal. All Arrowmen welcome to spend the weekend having fun playing games, socializing, eating in the dining hall and doing very little work!
- Day of Service - Camp Warren Levis and Camp Vandeventer
- Camp Joy OA Call Outs - Come see how the Nisha Kittan Lodge does its call out ceremony June 13, 20, 27. Special lodge meeting at camp June 20

Commissioner Service for our Troop:

Just a reminder a strong and active Unit Commissioner can help during the transition of adult troop leadership. Mr. Kupsky can especially help anyone hesitantly stepping into a new role that would welcome advice beyond that of the outgoing leader.

See Mr. Kupsky for PDF on Selecting Quality Leaders (recently attended a seminar on this and can help)

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

Camp card sales are currently active and end April 6.

Cardinal tickets fundraiser has become a joint effort with Pack 34. This reduces the financial pressure and can further develop a relationship with the Pack. This makes just 100 tickets the minimum for our Troop to sell and sales go through August. Mr. O'Koniewski is willing to brief the Scouts on the value of a dollar and how funding their own events is beneficial.

### **Recruiting Report--** Mike O'Koniewski

We will be welcoming at least 7 new scouts crossing over in April. Tara Kuhne has been in contact with Mike Fairburn to provide information of upcoming campouts and summer camp to new families. Mr. O'Koniewski shared a thank you to all that help with meeting and sharing information with the parents.

Regarding Cross-Over ceremonies, Mr. Kupsky noted an OA group can do those if the Granite City group cannot.

### **Quartermaster Report--** Karen O'Koniewski not in attendance

Mr. Gill replaced the trailer taillight and sealed the trailer leak.

There is a need for some tent repairs.

**Communication Report--** Steve Dunning

Anyone with pertinent dates, pictures, or news should inform Mr. Dunning of those for inclusion on the Troop website.

**Senior Patrol Leader Report--** Reece W not in attendance

**Scoutmaster Report--** Gary Gill

Activity turnout is still low but expect it to increase with warmer weather and the end of other activities.

Conduct of the Scouts is still outstanding. New patrols will be formed after the new scouts join.

Mr. Gill feels that he has lacked focus on the Scouts during meetings to encourage their development of skills and advancement. He would promote an environment for them (all) to advance, and with a new set of Scouts joining, we need to focus on their needs, which provides leadership/mentoring opportunities for the more experienced Scouts. High Adventure is a vital component but possibly too much focus there has occurred lately.

The next several campouts will be dual-focus, high adventure prep and basic skills, so we'll need adequate adult presence.

As Mr. Gill will be at Philmont for a good portion of July, it is important to plan for delegates to serve the rest of the Troop, and he is unsure at this point if he will be able to attend summer camp. One adult has committed so far to attending summer camp.

**Committee Chair Report--** Annette Schoeberle

Mrs. Schoeberle plans to reach out again to the Council office and report back regarding the listing of Merit Badge Counselors.

She noted the great job on recruitment.

Adult positions of responsibility to fill now: Scoutmaster & Secretary  
Adult positions to replace in the future: Treasurers & Troop Committee Chair

We need an alternate meeting location for June 18 while the Church is unavailable. Mr. Smith suggested asking Larry Miller of the Edwardsville American Legion about holding an outdoor meeting there. Further discussion included the locations of the Watershed and Township Park. Glik Park would provide the use of a pavilion and a fishing opportunity for the June meeting and seemed to be most favored.

**Chartering Organization Representative Report-- Mike Veith**

No report

**Old Business—**

None

**New Business—**

An adult only event, Adult Adventure Weekend, is taking place June 20-24 at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia, cost of \$295. This allows any adult BSA member to participate in activities there that are typically open to only Scouts and provides opportunity for attending workshops in the evening.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:00pm by John Evans and seconded by Mike O'Koniewski.