# Feb 9, 2022 Troop 216 Committee Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairperson Mike OKoniewski. In attendance: Mark Mason, Barb Kane, Brian Heil, Gary Gill, Steve Kupsky, Mike Veith, Diane Gill, Martina Bishopp

**Eagle Presentation—**none

**Secretary Report--** Neil Joellenbeck absent / Diane Gill recording tonight’s minutes

January’s draft meeting minutes were sent via email from Mr. Joellenbeck at 7:07pm during this meeting. Included in the same email was Mr. Joellenbeck’s immediate resignation as Communications Chairperson and Committee Secretary. Mr. Joellenbeck offered his endorsement of Brian Heil and Mark Koester to serve as Communications co-chairs and said he would meet with them to transfer permissions and answer their questions. He indicated he would do whatever he can to help in the transition but did not have a succession plan for the Secretary position, and offered his apologies for the short notice.

A motion was made by Gary Gill to approve the January minutes, Brian Heil seconded, and motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report--** Tim Valley absent

**Activities Chair Report--** Diane Gill and Martina Bishopp

The Beaumont Cabin and Hidden Valley tubing event is this weekend. There are 10 Scouts and 5 adults signed up for overnight camping. Some AOL’s plan to participate. It was discussed and recommended that the Troop make this winter cabin camp out an annual event in order to each year offer a great visit for AOL’s considering Troop 216 for their upcoming crossover. A question was posed asking if a signed permission form is needed if the AOL’s parent is also attending. It was felt that it would be preferred to have a completed and signed permission form on hand for all participants. This year we have reserved the McBride and Jordan cabins that are comparable to the Mallinckrodt cabin we have rented in past years; however, these two cabins sit side by side and can accommodate up to 40 campers in total. Other upcoming events:

 Marengo Cave March 5-6. Ms. Bishopp will promote this overnight event with a handout and brief video presentation to the Troop at next Monday’s meeting. Scouts that have gone before will be asked to share their experience and any recommendations. We need a minimum of 12 participants and a firm headcount for the cave a week prior to the event so Feb 25 is the signup deadline to contact Ms. Gill; however, permissions and waivers may be turned in on Feb 28.

 Beaver Dam State Park campout April 1-3. Going to the nearby Lake Williamson High Ropes course has not been finalized but we are hoping to add that into the weekend as is the Troop 216 tradition. They are having difficulty staffing some events so Ms. Gill will confirm asap whether we are a go for High Ropes on Sat Apr 2. If not, there will be more time and opportunity to explore Beaver Dam itself.

 Camporee at Camp Warren Levis May 6-8.

 Summer Camp at S bar F--Famous Eagle June 12-18.

 Z Base High Adventure Base, Skiatook OK June 25-July 2 for those 14 years old or 8th grade graduates. First payment of $300 will be due Mar 7, remaining $250 due Apr 25. An informational live Zoom meeting is offered next week on Wed Feb 18 at 6:30 pm and Ms. Bishopp will include that link in an outgoing email.

**Advancement Chair Report--** Barb Kane

Scouts are doing well in advancing. There is a free clinic for Woodcarving Merit Badge on Feb 19. It is also possible for this class to be offered directly to our Troop with everything needed brought to our own location if interested.

St. Mary’s Merit Badge Day is Mar 5. The registration on the Troop 1072 website is not yet open but should be soon and offering 10-15 classes.

Nisha Kittan is sponsoring a Native American Cultural Weekend at Camp Warren Levis on Mar 18. $25 fee includes meals and supplies to earn Indian Lore merit badge. Camping is free.

Taste of Venturing Weekend is Mar 25 at Camp Warren Levis. Early bird registration saves $5 off the $25 fee. Activities include shooting sports, climbing, lake activities, and more. Open to Scouts aged 14+ or 13 in 8th grade.

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

There is an update available on the BSA bankruptcy related to the closure of the settlement and it is expected to be in the press soon. Capital improvements are coming to Council camps including Beaumont (horse barn), Camp Lewallen and Camp Warren Levis. GSLAC has reported a membership retention rate of 60%. Hopes are that it will increase next year to 70%.

Council activities include a recruiting and service opportunity the weekend of April 22-24 at Camp Warren Levis with the Parent and Pal Cub event headed by Tim Moore. There will be stations and a campfire with the OA involved and should be a good event.

Woodbadge Adult training is offered as 2-weekend sessions in the Spring at Beaumont Apr 29 and May 14 and Fall at S-F/Famous Eagle Sept 30 and Oct 15. Mr. Kupsky is considering going to the Fall one and Ms. Bishopp is also interested. There will be an informational dinner at Beaumont on Feb 28.

National Youth Leadership Training is a week-long training available for Scouts this summer. There are available weeks at S-F/Camp Sakima June 19-25 July 10-16 July 24-30 and at Camp Warren Levis July 24-30. Mr. Kupsky proposed that if any Scout wants to attend NYLT the Troop subsidize the $305 cost.

A motion was made by Mr. Gill for the Troop to allocate a total sum not to exceed $800 to cover up to 2/3 of NYLT-attending Scouts’ registration cost. Mrs. Kane seconded the motion and it passed.

Nisha Kittan’s Order of the Arrow scheduled events for the next two years are available. Some noted for 2022 are the Spring Fellowship Apr 8-10, Fall Fellowship Aug 19-21, and the Haunted Hayride Oct 21 and 29, all held at Camp Warren Levis.

**Quartermaster Report--** Gary Gill

The status of propane following its usage at the Klondike camp out was discussed. The Troop gear is adequately prepped for this weekends’ event. There was discussion of what distance the trailer will be able to proceed in the proximity of the cabins. Albert Middeke has secured a location to store the two Klondike sleds. It was noted that two fire rings were donated last year to the Troop. Mr. Kupsky suggested adding wing nuts to make their use easier and Mr. Gill will.

**Senior Patrol Leader Report—**Gary Gill read report provided by Sam G

Things are going well. Monday’s PLC produced several suggestions for future activities and ideas on promoting the Troop and improving scout retention. These include:

 s Focusing on more engaging rank requirements s Continuing Mr. Gill’s Camping merit badge sessions

 s Training in general First Aid s Organizing the trailer s Granting more Den Chief positions

 s Hosting a meeting to help Webelos with their requirements s Participating in community service

 s Getting younger Scouts in leadership positions s Offering wider range of activities to up engagement

s Promoting that Scouts can take personal breaks from participation in Scouting when needed

Adult discussion included learning more about the day events that the Scouts are interested in, offering Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, and a reminder/review of the Camping Gear Checklist as found in the Scout handbook.

**Communication Report--** Neil Joellenbeck absent

No report available however the Committee discussed the following:

An update of the Troop website is needed. Ms. Bishopp indicated she can help with the website. Mr. Heil is planning to get the needed access information from Mr. Joellenbeck. Steve Dunning, past Communications co-chair, would be an additional resource to contact if needed. Discussion included the forgoing of Slack as a communication platform since it has not been widely or consistently used by our group. Using Google Docs instead was mentioned. It was noted that it is helpful for Committee members to submit written reports prior to the Committee meeting in order to keep the meeting duration shorter and to aid the Secretary’s compilation of meeting minutes.

**Recruiting Report--** Mike OKoniewski

This weekend we will have two AOL’s visiting from the newly-formed Cub Pack also chartered by First Christian Church. There was some miscommunication with Pack 72 and Pack 34 has their Pinewood Derby this weekend but they have been invited to join in the Beaver Dam weekend. Information about High Ropes should be shared with them as soon as it is known. We have offered support to Todd who is running the new Cub Pack and are looking to possibly arrange a Den Chief with them, all which will facilitate future recruitment flow from the Pack to our Troop. Guest Webelos will attend our Mar 7 meeting and we plan to cater that night’s activities towards them.

**Fundraising Report--** Mike Okoniewski

We have the opportunity to sell Cubs/Cards game Sections 132 and 133 tickets for the Wed Aug 3, 6:45pm game. The actual cost of a ticket will be around $16.41 if exempted from tax and no more than $18 with tax. We need to consider the face value in determining what Troop members will sell them for as a fundraiser for our Scouts’ accounts. We can return up to 20% of the tickets but will be responsible for the cost of 80% of the number of tickets we take. Discussion included at what number of tickets do we feel comfortable.

A motion was made by Mr. Heil to go with 200 tickets. The dollar amount at which they will be sold is to be determined. Mrs. Kane seconded and the motion passed.

Beef stick sales resumed in January and are ongoing.

**Scoutmaster Report--** Mark Mason

There will be a Life to Eagle meeting on Mon Feb 28 prior to our regular Troop meeting involving Life and higher rank Scouts and their parents.

The next Court of Honor is planned for Mon April 25. The switch to new SPL will occur on April 1; therefore elections will be held in March.

Scouts will prepare activities for the Mon Mar 7 meeting that will offer the visiting AOL’s practice of Scout skills and finishing of requirements.

Ms. Kuhne is looking for interest in a CPR training at Edwardsville Fire Station to be held Tues Feb 22.

The Philmont deposit for our 2023 trek was made Jan 30.

**Committee Chair Report--**  Mike Okoniewski

Relevant topics have already been covered.

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

Thanks was given to Mr. Mason, Mrs. Kane, Mr. Gill, Mr. Middeke, Mr. Kane, and Aiden M. for attending services on Scout Sunday Feb 6. The actual new charter has not yet been received but the visual representation of its presentation during the Church service was done to illustrate the commitment of the Church to the Troop and the Troop’s towards the Church.

**Old Business--** None

**New Business--**

Mr. Gill shared that there will be an upcoming Gear Swap held at Beaumont; however in light of the $10 fee and hassle of transporting all the gear, it was felt a better alternative would be to go through Kevin Buhr and the Roundtable meeting to find groups that might need our extra and unused gear. Mr. Kupsky indicated that at the recent District Committee meeting it was announced there will be a locally held swap. It was also suggested that our Troop give or offer use of Troop equipment that is stored at the Church.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:40pm by Gary Gill, seconded by Brian Heil, and motion passed.