



MEETING MINUTES

Committee Meeting – Boy Scout Troop 883
March 27, 2017



What is Scouting All About?

<p style="text-align: center;">BSA Mission</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BSA Vision</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Scout Oath</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Scout Law</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.</i></p>

Committee Members Present: Walt Crognale (COR), Marc Fischer (CC), Allen Ashby, Kristen Bird, Mark Harris, Jim Lanier, and Cindy Knies

Committee Members Absent: Trish Barrow, Harry Clyde, Bob Downing, Wendy Fischer, Jennifer Metz-Walsch, Rachel Morey, Ellen Savedge, Mike Sharpe, and Christy Truesdale

Guests: Matt Carteaux (ASM) and Tim Thimmesch

1) Call to Order/Roll Call

2) Approval of Prior Minutes

The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the prior Troop committee meeting in January 2017. The February 2017 committee meeting was cancelled due to weather – schools were closed which required the troop meeting and committee meeting to be cancelled as well.

3) Committee Chair Report

a) Pelican Cases

- i) The committee discussed the recent communication from the district about the Pelican case fundraiser and reviewed our response. We have provided information about the fundraiser to the district, and we are in a “holding pattern” pending the district’s action.

b) Easter Candy Sale

- i) Sales data to date ~\$7,000
 - (1) Show and sells (Sykesville BINGO, SJCC Masses, P883 Pinewood Derby, and pancake breakfast) – \$3,200 this weekend
 - (2) Individual sales by Scouts – \$3,616
- ii) Individual sales forms are due by Sunday, April 2

- iii) Additional show and sells scheduled (Sykesville BINGO x2, Gamber BINGO x2, Eldersburg Plaza, St. Barnabas Church, home school group)
- iv) Log Cabin Candies has agreed to take back a large quantity of dozen Easter eggs and ½ pound eggs. We expect to drop them off this week to receive a credit. We will likely end up with extra nonpareils and bunnies – and perhaps a limited number of other items. We will offer these at cost after our final show and sell – and we can most likely keep at least some of these products until next year’s sale.
- v) The proceeds from the show and sells will be divided proportionately based upon the hours worked by Scouts and adults.

c) Pancake Breakfast

- i) This weekend’s pancake breakfast netted about \$840.
- ii) The proceeds from the pancake breakfast will be divided proportionately based upon the hours worked by Scouts and adults. Marc will be working with Barb Jermann to review the signup sheets for the Easter candy sale and the pancake breakfast fundraisers this weekend to make sure the Scouts are properly allocated between the two fundraisers.

d) Fundraising

- i) The committee discussed the lack of participation by Scouts in the troop fundraisers – and the need to have the Scouts have “skin in the game” as it relates to the troop fundraising. We thought that having the Scouts responsible for the full cost of Scouting (\$60 per quarter) and making all fundraisers benefit each Scout’s own Scout Account would encourage Scouts to participate in the fundraisers. Not all spots were filled for the pancake breakfast – and many spots remain unfilled for the Easter candy show and sells. To a certain extent, the lack of interest in the fundraising might indicate families are more willing to fund the cost of Scouting as opposed to participating in the fundraising. The committee asked the Scoutmaster to poll the Scouts to find out why Scouts are not embracing the fundraising programs.

e) Scout Sunday (Kristin)

- i) Scout Sunday Mass was held on February 12 at SJCC. Fr. Neville was apparently pleased with the turn out. Prior to the committee meeting, we discussed options to improve the Mass for next year.

f) Adult Positions Needing to be Filled

- i) **Fundraising Chair** (overall) – (OPEN)
 - (1) **Fundraising Sub-Chairs** (individual fundraisers)
 - (a) **Easter Candy Fundraiser Chair** (for 2018) - (OPEN)
- ii) **Marketing Chair** – (OPEN)
 - (1) Run advertising and marketing function for fundraisers and for the Troop in general
 - (2) Encourage adults and Scouts to use social media to spread the word
- iii) **Scout Banquet Coordinator** – (OPEN)
 - (1) Coordinate Scout Banquet (like Blue & Gold Banquet) in February as our Court of Honor and our annual picnic (August COH)
- iv) **National Outdoor Award Tracker** – (OPEN)
 - (1) Track each Scout’s performance toward the National Outdoor Award and encourage Scouts to earn award segments

g) Copies

- i) We need to find a workaround for photocopies. We needed to create 2,000 fliers to advertise the Easter candy sale for the Bulletin. Marc is no longer able to print the fliers for “free,” so we ended up having to get the fliers printed through Staples. As it turned out, SJCC changed the dates of our Easter candy sale from the weekend of 3/18-19 to the weekend of 3/25-26. As a result, we had to have the flyers reprinted – this time with the Easter candy sale on one side and the pancake breakfast on the other. Each printing of 2,000 double-sided flyers costs about \$225. We need to find a better alternative because this cost directly impacts our profits from our fundraising.
 - (1) Does anyone else have any ideas about how to handle large volumes of copies in the future?

- (2) Marc can make black and white copies via his laser printer. It would be less expensive to do this, but the troop would need to pay for the paper and toner given the high volume of copies. We would need to make copies for each pancake breakfast (4x), recruiting (1x), and for the Easter candy sale (1x).

4) Treasurer Report (Brian)

a) Treasurer Update

- i) Brian Wolf transitioned into the treasurer position on January 1, 2017.
- ii) The treasurer was not able to attend the committee meeting, and no treasurer report was presented.
- iii) The treasurer purchased QuickBooks online . Brian will coordinate read only access for the Troop "Key 3."
- iv) The Committee discussed opening a PayPal account. We will discuss further at the next meeting.
- v) The following Scouts who had a Scout Account balance either "aged out" or elected not to recharter for 2017. All agreed in writing to donate the balance to our Campership program.
 - (1) Baum - \$33.89
 - (2) Dragunas - \$10.43
 - (3) Dunker - \$118.04
 - (4) Perdue - \$146.71
- vi) Sold open trailer for \$875 – title transferred and tags returned

b) Parent Expectations

- i) For future discussion – point system?

c) Bank Balances

- i) **Checking account balance:** _____
 - (1) Committed to Scout accounts: _____
 - (2) Committed to High Adventure (The Summit): _____
 - (3) Committed to Martin's Cards: _____
 - (4) Summer Camp Deposit: _____
 - (5) Available funds: _____

5) Fundraising (Coordinator - _____)

a) Completed Fundraisers

- i) See notes above

b) Scheduled Future Fundraising Events

i) Boy Scout Breakfast (Barb)

- (1) The Troop Committee voted to purchase and donate to SJCC a new wooden high chair and a plastic booster seat at each of the next four (4) pancake breakfasts. Barb will purchase them at Restaurant Depot while shopping for the pancake breakfasts. Each will be marked with a donation sticker from Troop 883.
- (2) Future events: _____
 - (a) Need marketing coordinator to help increase attendance?
 - (i) Send home reminder fliers with religious education students
 - (ii) Ad sales for placemats

ii) Community Card Sale (Ellie)

- (1) Ellie found that we were not able to secure enough businesses to make this fundraiser worthwhile. There are a number of other entities in the area that are selling these cards, and local businesses are reluctant to support additional cards above and beyond the commitments they have already made. This fundraiser is tabled for now.

iii) Pelican Cases (Mark)

- (1) See notes above

c) Potential Future Fundraising Events

- i) Snow Removal (Walt)
- ii) Corn Hole Tournament
- iii) Wreath/Greenery/Poinsettia Sale
- iv) Ravens Game Event
- v) Panera Dough for Funds
- vi) Fun Run in Sykesville
- vii) Camp Cards
- viii) Leaf Raking

6) Advancement (Coordinators – Allen, Bob, and Cindy)

a) Court of Honor

- i) The next Court of Honor will be in June 2017.

b) Advancement Items

- ii) Proud Parent pin alternatives

c) Eagle Scouts

- i) Ian Baum
 - (1) Will hold his COH in Spring 2017 at his house
 - (2) Need to update Eagle Scout plaque for Ian and Matthew Lanier (Cindy)

d) Life to Eagle Progress

- (1) Marc will schedule a troop-level LTE orientation program for Life Scouts and their parents – pending review of the process with Melissa.
- (2) Several Scouts reported having trouble getting the district advancement chair to respond to phone calls and emails regarding Eagle Scout Service Project approvals. When sending a message to the district advancement chair, please cc: Marc on all emails so we can ensure the district representative is responding in a timely manner.

7) Troop Service Projects (Coordinator – Tim)

- a) Melissa will poll the PLC to determine what service projects (minimum of five) the troop will take on for 2017.

i) Completed

- (1) Scouting for Food (Jim Lanier) – completed
- (2) Sunday Donuts at St. Joseph's – completed

ii) In Progress

- (1) SJCC (Walt)
 - (a) Walt to maintain contact with the church about needs.
 - (b) Tim reported that SJCC asked us to consider picking fruits and vegetables at First Fruit Farms for donation to food banks on behalf of SJCC. Melissa to poll the PLC.
- (2) Adopt a Road (Trish)
- (3) Flag retirement (Cindy)
 - (a) Can we schedule this for Memorial Day, Flag Day (preferred), or Independence Day?
 - (b) Collect flags in the Cassidy Center after Masses
 - (c) Cindy is working to see if a local funeral home would be willing to respectfully destroy the flags in their crematorium (environmental issues associated with burning petroleum-based flags).
 - (d) Advertisements in the community to collect flags?
 - (e) Invite community (including VFW posts and parishioners) to COH for flag retirement?
 - (i) Include veterans in flag retirement?
- (4) Donut Sundays – what's next?

- (5) Mark Harris will have a large quantity of pine firewood that he needs to get rid of. We will donate some of the wood to SJCC (and stack it on the wood pile near the shed).

b) Tracking Service Hours (Ellen)

- i) Ellen will track service hours
 - (1) For BSA Advancement (in Troopmaster)
 - (2) For Service Learning (forms)
 - (3) Tracking on-line with BSA (Journey to Excellence)
- ii) Need to communicate the process to Scouts
- iii) Need to determine paperwork process

8) Training Report (Ellen)

a) Upcoming Training

i) Scoutmaster Specific Training

- (1) Dates TBD
 - (a) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/specific-saturday-trainings/57465>

ii) Leave No Trace Trainer Course

- (1) April 7-9, 2017 at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation
 - (a) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/outdoor-ethics-programs/50513>

iii) National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)

- (1) April 6, April 21-23, and May 19-21 at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation
 - (a) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/nylt/39771>
- (2) September 7, September 22-24, and October 27-29 at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation
 - (a) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/nylt/39771>

iv) Wood Badge

- (1) Spring 2017 – <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/wood-badge/n6-220-17-1/63830>
- (2) Fall 2017 – <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/wood-badge/n6-220-17-2/64794>

v) Aquatics Supervision for Adult Leaders

- (1) June 10 (Pasadena) or July 8 (Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation)
- (2) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/aquatics-training-for-adults/53149>

vi) EaglesNest Advanced Outdoor Skills Training

- (1) September 9, September 29-October 1
- (2) <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/programs/eaglesnest/41338>

b) Update on training tracking

- i) Encourage youth and adult leaders to continue training (beyond the basic position-specific training)
- ii) New registrations in progress
 - (1) Glenn Gross – registering as MC
 - (a) Waiting on paperwork
- iii) BSA training requirements for leaders
 - (1) Mike Sharpe – registered for 2017 as MC – will change over to SA when he completes IOLS training
 - (2) Jennifer Metz-Walsch – will change over to SA when she completes IOLS training
 - (3) Les Simon – unable to re-charter – did not complete BSA Youth Protection or BSA training requirements
 - (4) Scott Benedict – changed registration from Unit Scouting Reserve to SA – needs to complete SA training (IOLS and position-specific training)
- iv) Shield the Vulnerable compliance
 - (1) 100% compliant for all registered adult leaders
- v) Worthy of the Call compliance
 - (a) Compliant through December 31, 2017 for all Scouts who are 14+ currently or who turn 14 in 2017.

9) Scoutmaster's Report (Melissa)

a) Patrols

- i) The PLC reorganized the patrols last month.

b) Recruiting

- i) Nine new Scouts will bridge to Troop 883 on Friday, March 31. They will be added to the existing patrols.

c) Upcoming Outings

- i) The committee asked the Scoutmaster to poll the Scouts to determine why the attendance on outings is so low. We are averaging around 17 Scouts on each outing – less than ½ of the registered Scouts in the troop. What can we do to increase the number of Scouts who routinely attend the outings?
- ii) Melissa will poll the PLC to see if they would like to plan a day trip to the National Scout Jamboree this summer.

d) Summer Camp

- i) The initial summer camp deposit of \$50 is due on March 31, 2017. There are currently 15 Scouts and four adults signed up for summer camp 2017 – not including any of the nine new Scouts.

e) Quartermaster

- i) The committee voted to allow the Scoutmaster to purchase three new Easy Up canopies to replace ones that are no longer serviceable.

10) High Adventure Outings

a) Florida Sea Base (Lee Miller)

- i) Coral Reef Sailing (Crew: CRT081517C) – August 15-21, 2017

b) The Summit (Jen Metz-Walsch)

- i) June 25 – July 1, 2017

c) National Scout Jamboree

- i) July 19 – 28, 2017
- ii) Alex Savedge is attending

11) Deferred or "Tabled" Items

a) Philmont Purchases

- i) Jen (and the other QMs) will install a hasp and lock on the metal cabinet in the shed. Anything of value will be placed in this locked cabinet to make sure the items do not "disappear."
 - (1) Are we missing any "pocket rocket" stoves?
- ii) Lynn will maintain possession of the items until the cabinet is able to be locked.
- iii) **Action:** need to confirm purchase of items and that the cabinet is secured.

b) Tents

- i) For now, we will defer tent replacement options – driven by the BSA policy limiting the ages of Scouts who can be in the same tent
- ii) We will have to address tents in the spring of 2017 depending upon the number of Scouts who join the Troop

12) For Further Discussion

- a) Venture Crew or Venture Patrol?
- b) Any Process Manual updates?
- c) SPL "term limits?"
- d) Parental involvement – what constitutes "involved?" Point system?

13) Action Items

a) Melissa

- i) Poll Scouts about lack of interest in fundraising
- ii) Poll the PLC to determine what service projects (minimum of five) we will tackle this year.
- iii) Would the PLC support picking fruits/vegetables at First Fruit Farms for donation to local food banks?
- iv) Encourage senior Scouts and ASMs to attend EaglesNest advanced outdoor training (Fall 2017)
- v) Poll the Scouts about the low attendance on outings
- vi) Purchase three Easy Ups
- vii) Can we meet (perhaps before the troop meeting) to review the Eagle Scout Service Project and Eagle Scout advancement process?
- viii) Poll the PLC to determine if they want to plan a day trip to the National Scout Jamboree this summer.

b) Brian

- i) Provide an income statement and balance sheet for the committee meeting minutes.
- ii) If you are unable to attend the committee meetings, can you please send me a copy of the income statement and balance sheet so I can include it in the meeting minutes?
- iii) Would you please provide me with read-only access to QuickBooks? That way, I can print this in the future... if needed.
- iv) Please confirm that I set up the Square account correctly – there should be two small transactions in our account from Square. Once I know it is set up, we can start taking Square payments.
- v) Parents are looking for a Scout Account report – especially since the payments for summer camp and high adventure are due soon. Would it be possible to send a report on a monthly basis through QuickBooks Online – perhaps at the same time as you are preparing the committee meeting minutes?
- vi) We need to charge each Scout account \$60 on 3/31 for the 1st quarter dues.
- vii) SJCC approved our use of a deposit-only debit card. This option was available through BOA. Does PNC have a similar option? This would make it much easier to make future deposits.

c) Barb

- i) Did we purchase a high chair and booster seat for this breakfast? We committed to purchasing one of each until we had donated four of each.
- ii) Do we have dates for future pancake breakfasts?

d) Walt

- i) Walt will check with SJCC to determine if we can use online payment (the bank sends the check to the recipient) in lieu of hand-writing checks

The next Troop Committee meeting will be Monday, April 17 at 7:00 PM in Room 9.