

Minutes for Troop 870 Parent Meeting on October 6, 2014

Mike Marston, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Fall Camp Nov 22-26

The deadline for fall camp registration and \$75 deposit was today, Oct. 6. The initial merit badge requests have been sent to Camp Edgewood but there has been no confirmation yet from the camp regarding which classes have been assigned. There are currently 20 Scouts and five adults registered. If any other adults wish to attend and would like to teach a merit badge course please contact Steve McGehee or Suzanne Sambell. The total fee for camp has been lowered to \$150 as the troop is no longer renting a van for this trip. Campers must have all fees paid by October 20. Becky Forrest noted that campers will need a current Part C, along with Parts A and B to attend fall camp. Campers also need to have three service hours before attending camp, and all adults who attend must have a current YPT certificate.

Service Projects, Chris Lupo

Flag Detail for Houston Town Hall Meeting to be held at UHCL on Tuesday, October 21. Scouts will participate in the flag ceremony to earn service hours. They are also invited to stay for the meeting, which may help them fulfill requirements for the Citizenship in the Community merit badge. Rebuild Together Houston project on Saturday, October 25. Mark Francis is the contact for this all-day service project to refurbish a home in Baytown. This is a very worthy cause and makes a great difference in these homeowner's lives, making an impact on their quality of life and safety. Scouts can get up to 10 hours of volunteer time. The workday will begin at 8 am, although Scouts can arrive later, they should plan to spend at least several hours at the home. Volunteer adults are also need to organize a car pool from UBC, to prepare lunch, photograph the scouts while working and make Troop signs for the yard at the project. Please bring light carpentry tools, gloves, safety glasses and wear Class A to and from the site, but work clothes underneath. Please <mailto:mark.francis66@gmail.com> if you have questions. Fall Festival @ UBC - October 31 - The church needs help with setup and cleanup for the Fall Festival on Halloween as well as scouts to work

during the event. Set up for the festival is on Thursday and take-down on Friday evening around 9:00.

Food Drive – November 21 and 22 @area Kroger stores and the Bay Area Turning Point food bank. A flier with details of this project has already been sent by email by Chris. You should RSVP directly to Bay Area Turning Point to participate.

Land Stewardship Day

Al Estes announced the service date for this year is November 15. The troop is looking for a project, hopefully something at UBC for this event. Hours for this are recorded and go toward earning the Council Centennial Celebration patches. The troop may also participate in a charity bike ride in Galveston if a local project is not found.

SPL –Chris Layden

Chris reported that the Scouts all did well on the Camp Brosig trip last weekend. They participated in a 10 mile and an 18 mile bike ride, working toward the Cycling merit badge. Cycling will be the theme for the month of October. The themes for November will be Music and Woodcarving. Chris also announced that on Sunday, October 19 there will be an Ultimate Frisbee contest at Taylor Lake Village Park. All scouts are invited and should bring \$5.00 for pizza and drinks.

Scoutmaster Announcements

ASM Barton Bennet spoke about the Venture Patrol within the troop. This is a new group formed so that older scouts can participate in high adventure outings they plan themselves. The goal is to have event 4-5 times per year. Jack Galliker will serve as the patrol leader. Barton also proposed that the troop could have a Venture Crew where scouts up to age 21 can return and participate in the troop. Parents were in agreement that this would be beneficial, so he will investigate further to see what interest there is among these eligible scouts.

Recharter

Sharon Marston plans to have the recharter forms available at the next meeting. Fees are \$70 for Scouts with the Boys Life subscription and \$60

without. Adults are \$25 to recharter. All forms should be returned to her by the first November meeting. Also, if your YPT is expiring before the end of the year, please remember to renew on line as soon as possible to avoid issues with the recharter process. Kari Francis noted that each year merit badge counselors must complete an adult application and merit badge counselor form.

Advancements

Leah will send an email requesting volunteers for next week's Boards. She is still looking for an interested parent to work with her in Advancements so that they can become familiar with the process. This is a critical position within the troop, so please consider helping Leah and our boys.

Flags Fundraiser

Paul Nguyen announced a Flag Work Day on Saturday, October 18 from 9-12 at the storage facility. The boys will be cleaning flags and plugging the pole tops. He needs 3 adults and 5 scouts to complete the work. Our next Flag Day is the Veterans Day holiday. The flags will be put out on Saturday, October 8 and come in on Thursday, the 13th. **All Scouts are required to help with two holidays.**

Other topics

The Scout Shop has been remodeled and will reopen in its original location this Saturday.

Scoutmaster specific training, a training session required for those interested in becoming an ASM will be held on October 17-18 at UBC.

Order of the Arrow

An update to last month's Order of the Arrow news. The adults nominated as members in this national camping honor society for scouts are Steve Sambell and Chris Grafe. Congratulations!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15