

Minutes for Troop 870 Parents Meeting on June 3, 2013

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

Upcoming Events/Campouts

There will not be troop meetings on June 17 and June 24 since a lot of scouts attending Summer Camp that week. There will be a meeting on June 10, and then weekly meetings will resume on July 1. Scouts should wear their Class B uniforms to meetings during the summer, but scouts having scoutmaster conferences or Boards of Review will need to wear their Class A uniforms.

Advancements

Leah Galliker distributed parent ribbons to parents of new scouts. After scouts return from Summer Camp Leah will receive a list of merit badge completions. She will notify parents to let them know which MB requirements still need to be completed by their scouts. The boys will need to request MB blue cards from her, and they should also consult with a MB counselor before beginning work on remaining requirements.

Merit badge books can be borrowed from the troop library. Check with current librarian Scott Phillips if you want to borrow any of these books. Some books in our collection are not the most recent editions available. The latest editions are available at www.meritbadge.org. Check the most recent edition for any changes or updates for specific MB requirements.

Summer Camp

Scouts going to Skymont in June need to take their MB books and scout handbooks to camp. These should be kept in either a drawstring type of backpack or in a Ziploc bag.

Refer to the troop website for a detailed list of items to take for summer camp (www.troop870wubc.org). Polaris scouts will need to bring tents and the First Aid MB and Cooking MB books. Scouts may want to look at the requirements for Emergency Preparation before going to camp. Some of the requirements can be done at home ahead of time, but scouts should take photos of what they have worked on to show the MB counselors at camp.

Other information from Ron Roark about summer camp:

- Don't wear cotton t-shirts at camp! It's best for the boys to wear "wicking" shirts since cotton shirts can cause heat rash.
- Bring 2 swimsuits.
- Label everything with scout's name. Include troop # if possible.
- Bring a daypack with change of clothes for travel days to and from camp.
- Don't put sleeping gear (sleeping bags and pillows) or class A uniforms in footlockers. These will be needed on the day of departure and for the return trip home.
- Recommend printing worksheets for MB workbooks.
- Pack dry weave shirts, solid color shirts or scout shirts, shower shoes, water shoes, hiking shoes, a couple of towels, electronic devices + car chargers/headphones, and Deep Woods Off repellent. Also pack one hanger to hang uniforms.
- Bring mosquito netting and a small tarp (about 5' x 7').
- If you think or know that your child gets motion sickness, let Mr. Roark know ahead of time so he can help your son avoid this.
- For those scouts who have asthma, they should bring waterproof containers for their inhalers.
- Have your scout bring \$ in labeled envelopes for a couple of meals on the way to and from camp + spending money for snacks and items purchased at the trading post. They can also bring snacks from home for the ride to camp but no chocolate.
- Loading for summer camp will take place on Friday, June 14. Departure time will be on Saturday morning, no later than 8 a.m. They will drive to Meridian, MS where they will spend the night at a Baptist church before heading on to Tennessee.
- Scouts and leaders will travel to and from camp in class A uniforms. These will also be worn at dinner time. Uniforms will probably be washed one time during their stay.

Becky Forrest sent out an e-mail on June 3 to remind everyone about medical forms that are still needed for those going to camp. All required forms must be submitted and updated in order to attend. Turn forms in to Becky by Monday, June 10. They can be scanned or e-mailed to her at rforres@Central.UH.EDU. If you are turning in copies next week please make 3 copies of all forms, preferably double-sided. Make sure all forms are signed and dated.

Treasurer Report

Michelle Croce reported that our beginning balance for May was \$18,000.00. The ending balance was \$21,984.00. Most of the income was from the flag fundraiser. Expenses for May included repairs for the trailers and the storage facility fee for the flags.

Fundraising

Coordinator Paul Nguyen plans to have 2 more work days before the troop puts out flags for the 4th of July holiday. He needs a lot more volunteers to help with this effort. The work days will be on June 22 and 23. We will be adding another 100 flags to our current inventory so help is needed to put flags on poles. (Look for future e-mail with more information).

The next round of flag distributions should go more smoothly. The first holiday is always the hardest one with lots of new subscribers and late checks coming in for some renewing subscribers (which causes delays in updating routes in time for distribution). Paul thanked everyone who helped with distribution/pick up for the Memorial Day holiday.

Other Business

Please turn in any outstanding registration forms, Youth Protection Training forms, and parent information forms to Sharon Marston ASAP. She needs to finalize all BSA registration in early June. YPT on-line training only takes about 20 minutes. The YPT training certificates can be e-mailed or scanned to send to Sharon at mik-shar@swbell.net.

Scout Master Announcements

REMINDER: Scouts should wear Class B uniforms for summer meetings, starting Monday, June 10. The class B uniform is the troop t-shirt (either the older black one or the new orange one) with scout shorts or pants.

The troop triathlon is scheduled for July 20 at the Brookwood Pool. Scouts can do short, medium, long, or extra long distances in bicycling, swimming, and/or running events. A parent volunteer is needed to coordinate the swimming portion for the triathlon. If interested, please contact Mike Lovelace.

Mike recommends that everyone consider purchasing an identification wrist band or shoe band from ROADID.com for safety reasons. These are especially helpful for adults and kids in the event of an emergency!

There was a discussion about the recent vote by BSA that resulted in a change in membership eligibility that will become effective January 1st. UBC is aware of the vote being held at the SBC meetings next week to withdraw its support of scouting and charters by its member churches. However, the vote is **not** binding on local churches, and UBC will be making its own decision going forward. Mike Marston and Mike Lovelace met last week with our Charter Organization Representative and discussed the evolving situation. At this time, there hasn't been any expressed interest in having the troop leave UBC and seek a different charter organization. Troop leadership has worked very hard over the last few years to strengthen the relationship with the church through numerous Eagle projects (including Joe Godwin's most recently!) and our very visible presence on Scout Sunday making man crepes for the congregation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Secretary Erica Stepchinski