

Minutes for Troop 870 Parents Meeting on January 7, 2013

Committee Chair Mike Marston called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Secretary position filled

Erica Stepchinski was officially nominated and confirmed to fill the secretary position.

Upcoming Events/Campouts

Lisa Phillips reported that she and her family went to McKinney Roughs Natural Area this past weekend to check out the facilities before the troop outing there later this month. They liked the organization and safety features of the activities offered there. They noted that safety stretches are done with all climbing participants to prevent muscle strains. Departure for the McKinney Roughs Climbing Campout is scheduled for 5:30 a.m. sharp on Saturday, January 19. Loading will be done on Friday night. Our troop is scheduled to stay at McKinney Roughs from 9:00-3:00. The scouts will have light breakfast food before leaving UBC. Cold cuts will be served for lunch at the pavilion. Scouts need to pay \$5 for the grubmaster fee. The troop will be camping overnight at Bastrop State Park, weather permitting. On Sunday morning the troop will stop somewhere in Bastrop for breakfast so the boys will need to bring money for that meal. Several scouts still need to turn \$ in to Mrs. Phillips for this outing.

The next Court of Honor (COH) will be held on January 28.

Scout Sunday is on February 3. Our troop will be serving dutch oven treats to UBC parishioners that morning as they have done the last few years.

The campout to Pedernales Falls is scheduled for February 16-18. Plans are to leave Saturday morning and return on Monday since the scouts and some parents have the MLK holiday off.

Senior Patrol Leader/Scout Master Announcements

Mr. Lovelace introduced David Bauder who will be serving as the Senior Patrol Leader for the next six months. David is a 9th grade student at CLHS who is a Life Scout.

Mike distributed a Smart Card handout covering security issues related to Facebook.

Although January 21 is a holiday for scouts, we will still have a meeting that night. Please plan to come to hear Mr. Galliker's presentation on his experiences with the U.S. Marine Corps. He will have a slide show and military gear/equipment to show. Some Webelo groups will be visiting that night at 6:30, and they are invited to stay for Mr. Galliker's talk.

Webelos from Pack 956 will be visiting our troop next week.

Scouts can register to earn the American Cultures Merit Badge at Buffalo Soldiers Museum on Jan. 20. Cost for the MB is \$5.

A few scouts still owe service hours for fall camp. There are several opportunities for them and other scouts to earn hours in the coming weeks. (See more information from Mr. Estes on these service projects on p. 2).

Six scouts are having their Scoutmaster conferences tonight. BOR's will be held next week for these boys.

Eagle Project Presentation

Alan Stepchinski talked to parents and Life Scouts about his Eagle Project for the Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition. He has two work days planned for January 12 and 19. In the event of rain on either of these dates, the work day will be on the following Sundays. Adults volunteering to assist Alan with his project are Dr. Sukkar, Mike Lovelace, and Cheryl Paul.

Advancements

Mrs. Galliker requested that the scouts have all their MB blue cards turned in by next week, as she is finalizing details for the Court of Honor later this month. Jennifer Crucian has volunteered to continue coordinating the BOR's. If there are any questions about fall camp MB issues, please contact Leah for assistance.

Recharter/Re-registration

Sharon Marston requested that all forms and checks for rechartering/re-registering be turned in by Monday, January 14. Several adults still need to complete the driver's pledge and get that turned in to her. REMINDER: All registering adults must have up to date YPT training in order to participate in any scouting activities. Please refer to registration paperwork that Mrs. Marston handed out that has information on the status of your YPT training. Parents cannot re-register without current YPT training.

2014 Philmont High Adventure

We have been notified that Troop 870 won the lottery for a 12 day expedition to Philmont (June 17-June 29, 2014). There will be 2 days of travel added on each end of the trip. Scouts who are eligible to go must be 14 or older or have completed the 8th grade. There is a 12 person limit for this expedition, with a minimum of 2 adults. Philmont costs \$800 per person, but the total will be more when supplies and gear are factored in to the cost.

Treasurer Report

A copy of the report was distributed. Mr. Lovelace thanked Joe Layden and his employer (Lyondell) for making a donation to the troop in 2012.

Service Opportunities

Al Estes reviewed upcoming service events.

- The annual Scouting for Food project takes place on January 26 and February 2. Scouts are needed to pass out fliers the first weekend and especially to help with food collection the following weekend!
- Epicurean Evening at Space Center Houston is on Thursday, Feb. 7. Our scouts volunteer to help with clean-up and can get in free for this event which features food samples from over 40 area establishments as well as entertainment.
- Alan Stepchinski's Eagle project on Jan. 12 & 19. Boys are needed to help Alan complete his project at his house and transport it to NW Houston.

Matt Estes, ASPL for Service, will be sending out more information regarding these upcoming service opportunities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Secretary Erica Stepchinski