

Minutes for Troop 870 Parent Meeting on August 4, 2014

Joe Layden, Activities Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Announcements from Assistant Scoutmaster

Al Estes encouraged parents to attend the monthly Parent's meetings, and to remind other parents of the importance of attending especially at the Parents meeting which is the first meeting of the month. He also mentioned that Mr. Smith, the troop's liaison with UBC, will be working with Scouts interested in completing the third provision of the Religious Award. Al also noted that the troop may have the opportunity to attend some high adventure camps next summer, either the Seabase in the Florida Keys or Northern Tier camp in Minnesota. These are intended for boys age 14 and older. Please have your Scout look into these camps and see if they are interested in attending one of these exciting specialty camps.

Scoutmaster – Steve Sambell

Mr. Sambell congratulated the participating Scouts for their successful Philmont trip. Also gave kudos to Jennifer McBurnett and Joe Layden for all their work in preparing the troop for Summer Camp. Everything at camp check-in went very smoothly and the Scouts had a good camp experience this year.

Scouts that participated in the troop triathlon enjoyed wonderful weather and had a lot of fun this past Saturday. Thank you to Andrea Burrige and Mike Lovelace for organizing this event! Also thanks to all the volunteers who helped keep the kids safe, and to Kari and Mark Francis for the delicious food and drinks served to our athletes.

The new Troop Leadership patrol includes: Senior Patrol Leader Chris Layden, and Assistant Patrol Leaders, Reed Blanchard, Samuel McBurnett and Trevor Marston. They will be discussing the troop's upcoming activities with troop patrol leaders to determine the troop schedule for the coming year. Patrol leaders are gathering feedback from scouts at the next meeting to help determine events to be planned for the next year at the upcoming Troop Organization Workshop (TOW).

New to the troop is the formation of a Venture Patrol. It will include older Scouts, those who are working on Eagle completion and have completed leadership requirements. This group will enjoy the opportunity to plan and participate in high adventure activities in addition to normal troop activities.

A troop requirement to be the Senior Patrol Leader is to attend the National Youth Leadership Training. This course is offered in the summer and over the winter holidays. The single winter session at Bovay Scout Ranch from December 26-31, 2014 is now open for registration. Click [here](#) for the registration link. Scouts who are at least 14 years and First Class rank are eligible for this course and are highly encouraged to attend as soon as possible. More information on registration for this course will be given soon.

Those leadership position holders who have just finished their term should remove their patches and pass them on to their replacements as part of the position handoff. Mr. Sambell noted that Andrew Lawson will be the new Webmaster of our troop. This is the first time a Scout has served

in this position. Please remember to check the website frequently as we are trying to send out fewer mass emails. Many Scouting questions can be answered on the website. However, if you do find something that needs updating, please contact Andrew so that he can make any necessary changes. Any adult with experience on website development and management is welcome to help out Andrew.

Troop Advancements – Leah Galliker

Leah noted that now that her son is now planning his Eagle project, she is looking for someone to replace her as the troop Advancement Chairperson. She plans to split the current responsibility of the position into two jobs. Most of the work for this position is data input for rank advancements, badge requirements etc. There are some additional responsibilities when working with Scouts on Eagle projects. This is a critical position in the troop. Please contact Leah at greenwife1994@comcast.net if interested. Leah is more than willing to train the new volunteers and starting now, you will be able to shadow her and learn the process directly from her. Our next Court of Honor will be held August 25th, so please turn in all completed merit badge blue cards to Leah no later than our meeting on August 11th.

Treasurer

Ms. Croce was not present. Joe Layden noted that there was a lot of activity in the past months due to expenses for Philmont, Summer Camp and the purchase of additional flags. The troop also increased our income from the fundraiser recently. The Treasurer's report is available for review by any troop member if requested.

Other Topics/Dates of Interest

August 11- Troop Meeting – Boards of Review – TOW survey by patrol

August 18 – Troop Meeting Review of Scouts Activity suggestions for TOW

August 25 – Court of Honor – Scouts must wear Class A uniform

September 1 – No Meeting - Labor Day Holiday

Flag fundraiser – Patriot Day September 11th

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm