

Minutes for Troop 870 Parents Meeting on November 4, 2013

Committee Chair Mike Marston called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Committee Volunteers

Parent volunteers are needed immediately for the following positions/committees:

1. **Activities Committee Chair and Activities Committee**—this committee plans campouts and other activities and handles registrations for these events. If enough parents serve on this committee, each person will only have to plan 1 outing per year.
2. **Service Projects Chair** -- communicates with UBC and organizations in the community about service opportunities and schedules troop service projects

These parents have volunteered to fill the following positions:

Al Estes – **Equipment Chair**

Amanda Brown – **Hospitality Chair**

Suzanne Sambell – **Secretary**

Jennifer Harlan – **Court of Honor Program Handout Creator**

Thank you!

The troop needs lots of support from many parents to make campouts and other activities possible for our scouts! One of the best things about volunteering for any of these positions is that training is provided. Volunteering is also a great way to get to know the scouts and their parents too. Please contact Mike Marston or the current chairperson if you are interested in any of the positions listed above, or if you would like more information about getting involved in the troop. Joe Layden currently serves as Activities Committee Chair. Al Estes is the current Service Projects Chair.

Reminder: Monday, 11/25 - **No Troop Meeting** due to Thanksgiving Break & Fall Camp

Treasurer Report

No treasurer report was distributed at this meeting.

Fall Camp Nov. 22-26

John Filak, Mike Marston, George Rodriguez, and Brian Crucian are the adults going to Fall Camp. 19 scouts have registered to attend. The boys will select tent mates at next week's meeting. **Cots are allowed and are recommended. Scouts will need to bring tents (nothing larger than 9' x 9'). They should not bring family size tents.**

Additional drivers are still needed for Fall Camp. We need 1 driver to transport 4 scouts on Friday and 1 to transport 4 scouts on Tuesday. The drive to Karankawa is about 1.5 -2 hours each way, depending on traffic. The driver bringing scouts to camp may leave after dropping the boys off. If you can volunteer to drive, contact Joe Layden.

Parts A, B, and C of the BSA medical form must be turned in by November 11 to Becky Forrest, our Medical Forms Chair. Part C requires a physical exam and a signature from the physician. These forms are available on the troop website and can be scanned and e-mailed to Becky. Be sure to use the 2012 medical form link.

Troop Recharter/Registration

Sharon Marston has until December 5 to turn in all recharter forms to Council. If you haven't given these completed forms to Sharon yet please drop them off at her house ASAP. YPT (Youth Protection Training) is required to register. Sharon will contact parents whose YPT has expired. Parents can send a PDF version of their YPT certificates to her. If your YPT expires in December, you need to renew it now. The troop would like to have at least one adult registered for every scout.

Please refer to Sharon's October 10 e-mail regarding rechartering for more detailed information.

[Veterans Day Flag Duty](#)

Flags for the Veterans Day holiday will go out on November 9 and will be picked up on November 13. Families who have not done their 2 required flag holidays for this year should plan to help out with this last one.

Coordinator Paul Nguyen will send out an e-mail with more information this week.

[Merit Badge Workshops](#)

ASM Steve Sambell has compiled a list of partial Merit Badges that scouts in the troop have started. Mr. Sambell has scheduled several workshops during the next few months to help the scouts get back on track to complete requirements for the partials. The troop currently has about 45 scouts holding 250 partials on 65 different merit badges. The majority of these are merit badges from long term camps that have requirements to be completed at home then discussed and demonstrated to the counselor. Junior assistant scoutmasters and Eagle Scouts will be working with the troop counselors in 2-3 one hour sessions at UBC to guide the younger scouts to complete their partial merit badges.

The workshops are not MB classes. The boys should look over the MB handbook requirements before coming to these sessions and come prepared. They should be familiar with what they need to complete remaining requirements. Scouts should wear their Class B uniform to the workshops.

[Advancement Chair Report](#)

Parents are needed to help with BORs on November 11. Leah Galliker will send out a reminder this week so parents can register to help with BORs on SignUp Genius.

[SHAC 100th year events and Scouting for Food](#)

In 2014 Sam Houston Area Council (SHAC) will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. If scouts participate in 4 SHAC activities they can earn special patches to commemorate the anniversary. The first event is [Scouting for Food](#) which will take place on January 25 and February 1. The first Saturday scouts will distribute door hangers about the food drive in neighborhoods. On the second Saturday bags and boxes of food will be collected in these same neighborhoods.

The second event will be [Camp Participation](#). Scouts can attend any 2014 day camp, summer camp, or winter camp.

The [Scout Fair](#) in Houston on April 12 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. is the third event for SHAC's anniversary celebration.

The fourth and final event will be a [Community Service/Land Stewardship Day](#) on November 15.

For more information about these anniversary events, contact Al Estes.

[Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster Announcements](#)

SPL Chris Layden reported that cooking is the theme for November. At next week's meeting scouts will discuss proper food storage. The following week (Nov. 18) a cook-off will be held between patrols. Dishes prepared by the patrols will be judged, and a winner will be selected.

The troop will be putting out flags for the Veterans Day Holiday on Saturday, November 9. The flags will be picked up on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Devon Login's Eagle Project will be coming up soon. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

The December campout will be at Pine Gully Park in Seabrook December 14 & 15. The troop will be working on basic scout skills, and they will have a cookout to try out some of their cooking skills.

Other Business

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTE: At all troop activities, scouts and parents need to check in/check out with the Scoutmaster in Charge (SMIC). This is so we know all people that need to be accounted for during that activity!

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Secretary Erica Stepchinski