

Minutes for Troop 870 Parent Meeting on March 3, 2014

Mike Marston, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Committee Volunteers

There are still volunteer positions open on the Outdoor Activities Committee. **The troop is also still looking for an Activities Committee Chair** – Will work with Joe Layden to transition to become Chair of this committee.

Please contact Mike Marston or Joe Layden if you are interested in this committee or volunteer opportunities.

Service Projects–Dutch Oven Cook-Off March 22 and Yard Work for Ms. Nicklow on April 5

Clear Lake Fiat is sponsoring a fundraiser for a local animal shelter and is organizing a Dutch Oven cook-off between area Scout troops. More details on this event should be available after the Thursday roundtable meeting.

Saturday, April 5 – Service for Mrs. Lisa Nicklow. We will spread mulch and do other work as needed at the home. Ms. Nicklow will provide breakfast this year. The project is scheduled for 9am – 12 pm.

Upcoming Webelos Bridging - March 28 for Pack 957; March 22 for Pack 956

Pack 957 from Brookwood Elementary. The troop should have at least 3-4 alumni to attend. The ceremony will be held at their Blue and Gold banquet, at Clear Lake United Methodist Church. Note: This is also the same evening as the load-out for the McKinney Roughs campout.

Pack 956 will have their Bridging during a campout at Brazos Bend State Park, on March 22.

Philmont

March 14-15 Practice Hike for the Philmont group at Brazos Bend.

Eagle Court of Honor

Kari Francis – Announced that the Eagle Ceremony for Lane Francis is on Sunday, March 23 at 2:00 at UBC. All troop members are welcome to attend. Scouts should wear Class A uniform if attending.

Scout Fair –Saturday, April 12

The Troop is participating in the Scout Fair at Reliant Center this year. This event is aimed at Cub Scouts and features lots of troop activities and skills. Scouts that

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participate in the cooking demonstration can receive service hours. This event is April 12 from 10-3.

March Campout- McKinney Roughs Campout/Climbing, March 28-30

This is the troop's second trip to McKinney Roughs Nature Park to participate in climbing activities. Mr. Phillips will be bringing climbing gear to familiarize campers and conduct training at the next two meetings. If Scouts complete the training at the upcoming meetings and attend camp they should be able to complete the Climbing badge. A group of Philmont scouts will depart on Friday, but the remainder of participating Scouts will **leave Saturday morning at 5:00 am. Return will be Sunday morning.** The troop will be camping at Bastrop State Park. Bill O'Hara is finalizing the camp fees and will be sending out the registrations soon. All ages of Scouts may attend and parents are welcome to participate as well.

Andrew Francis, Senior Patrol Leader

Andrew reviewed the troop's event schedule including: Philmont Hike on March 14-15, March 22 Flag Workday, March 23 Court of Honor for Lane Francis and March 28 Pack 957 bridging ceremony

April Campout

The April 18-20 camping trip was originally set for Bay Area Park. It was announced that the location will change to Camp Brosig, near Katy, as the scoutmasters were impressed with that camp when attending Camporee. However, it was noted that the 18-20 is Easter holiday weekend, and after a vote, it was decided that an alternate date to attend Camp Brosig will be researched, especially as this trip is usually the new members' campout.

Swim Test – May 5

The troop's Swim Test is tentatively scheduled for May 5 at the Brookwood Pool.

Troop Triathlon - The triathlon has been moved from June to August. Reason is that June is very busy preparing for summer camp and the Philmont group probably could not participate in June.

Scoutmaster Announcements

Ron Roark spoke about Webelos Woods at Challenger Park. The weather was good and the troop was able to complete a 5 mile hike, an orienteering course, and constructed a successful bonfire. Some issues that he noted were that on close-in campouts, parents should make sure that the Scoutmasters are aware if scouts are picked up early or leave camp. Also, he noted there were some high winds over the weekend, and that the larger tents can be too much to handle for younger Scouts in these conditions. Please make sure your Scout can handle and stake any tent before bringing it to a campout.

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There will be a Flag Workday on March 22.

Summer Camp

Joe Layden noted that Summer Camp will be held this year at El Rancho Cima, near Wimberley in the Hill Country, on July 13-19 (leave Sunday and return Saturday). Current Scouts should sign up now. The cost is \$205 but may decrease if van rentals are not necessary.. New Scouts can register until May, and should also try to attend the April campout if they plan to attend summer camp. Merit badge signups should begin in April. The troop will have 40 slots for Scouts and 6 for adults.

Troop Advancements – Ms. Galliker

Board of Review will be held on March 17, as there is no meeting next week because of Spring Break. The sign-up genius has slots available for Boards of Review for that night. Four Scoutmaster conferences were held tonight.

Medical Records

Becky Forrest reminded everyone that the Part C medical is need for summer Camp. This is the part that requires a doctors signature, so now's the time to start scheduling a physical for your Scout.

Please note, volunteers need to make sure they have signed a Driver's Pledge and have a current YPT certificate if they intend to drive scouts or participate in camps/events. Also any adults attending a long-term camp must have their YPT, completed criminal background check, and Part C medical. There is an in-person YPT training scheduled at Twilight Camp if needed.

Adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Minutes recorded by Suzanne Sambell