**Troop 130 Committee Meeting**

**April 7, 2016**

Kevin Schomacker Ken DeMars John Sullivan Justine St. John

George Yates Bob Hill Gary Jones Paul Brennan

Bruce Arntzen Julia Roith Paul Scheiner John Newey

Kristen Reyzer

Treasurer’s Report:

* Gary was unable to attend but provided an abbreviated balance sheet. The Electronics Recycling and Bottle Drive netted $4,755.70. Unrestricted assets are around $21,000.

Advancement:

* The newly crossed-over Webelos are working on their Scout badge. Thomas Brennan’s Eagle Project got approved, he needs to finish by April 27th. The Pack didn’t provide Handbooks at the crossover due to the store being sold out.

Past Trips and Activities:

* Webelos Cross-Over: 8 Webelos crossed over, the troop has received 7 applications. The 8th has not attended a troop meeting, not sure he will join. 18 Scouts attended, which was a good turnout, considering half the troop was performing in the play the same night.
* Electronics Recycling: The bottle bags need to be fuller at future events. We negotiate a price per bag with the recycling company, assuming a certain number of bottles per bag, and our bags had too few bottles, resulting in the company having to manually count bottles. We might also want to negotiate a lower number of bottles per bag.
* Church Cleanup: Had a great turnout. The troop also spread wood chips on the Community School playground. The Community School and Church were both appreciative of the work done.
* Treasure Valley Lean-To Camping: Bob was unable to go on the trip. Soren took the lead as SPL for the trip. He did a great job organizing the kids, giving the “furry critters” speech, and navigating the hike to Sampson Pebble. The adult drivers found a better way to get home, avoiding driving through Worcester.

Upcoming Trips and Activities:

* Camp Split Rock: The troop will be hiking Peak #2 of the Tri-Peak Challenge, Mt. Wachusett. Bruce brought hiking maps to give to Bob. The preferred camping location is on the archery range, and they have to bring in a porta-potty. Justine will recheck the reservation to confirm this location.
* Cemetery Flag Replacement: needs to be confirmed due to the state of the Legion.
* Flag Day, June 14th: The Elks have asked for Troop participation in a Flag Day ceremony. Flag Day happens to be on a Tuesday this year, so this could be done in lieu of a troop meeting.
* Troop BBQ & Swim Test: Sue Hines has agreed to coordinate the BBQ again. Justine will book the site. A suggestion was raised for more troop swim opportunities throughout the year to help prepare kids to pass the BSA swim test.
* Pittsfield State Forest: The troop will be hiking peak #3 of the Tri-Peak Challenge, Mt. Greylock. Justine needs to work with Bob to finalize details for an additional activity such as an alpine slide. The troop will be staying at the lower campground at the Pittsfield State Forest.
* Summer camp: A motion was made for the troop to reduce summer camp fees due to the current healthy account balance, to put the money back into the program. The Troop Committee unanimously approved the motion, the troop will pay $70 per Scout for summer camp, bringing the cost from $415 down to $345.

Quartermaster:

* The trailer has been moved to the UCC parking lot; however, Ruth had given verbal permission before asking the Board. She thought she should check with the Board; they were concerned about liability and want the trailer moved out of their parking lot immediately. The UCC has also rescinded permission to use the storage room over liability concerns.
* The trailer is currently registered to, and insured by, John O’Buck. He will be moving in the near future as he got a job in Provincetown. The troop will need to address ownership of, and insurance for, the trailer.
* The Rod & Gun Club is asking their Board about storing the trailer, and seemed receptive to the idea, but wanted to know if it is insured. David Jones has been talking to them.
* Proposed possibly getting a Rubbermaid storage shed for the rest of the equipment, as it could be moved from location to location if needed. If the Rod & Gun Club agrees to let us park the trailer there, we could also ask about keeping a storage shed there.

New Business:

* The UCC may be selling the building and / or disbanding the church. Nothing is definite yet, and the Community School has been told they will be given a year’s notice, so the troop would also have a year’s notice. Proposed forming an exploratory committee to reach out to the Elks and the Rod & Gun Club about becoming our new chartered organization. We would need a meeting room, and we could include asking for a place to park the trailer and storage space for the equipment as part of the deal with the chartered organization. Ken will also reach out to our District Executive to check on the process for changing chartered organizations.
* Summit was offering a half price deal this summer, but had to be scheduled before the end of July and only had until April 15 to pull it together. It also wasn’t a high adventure week, more like summer camp, and would not have counted toward the High Adventure Grand Slam, so Bob passed on doing this.

Next meeting 5/6/16