

Troop 652B Parent Committee
Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: November 15, 2023

Present: Brian Christian, Irene Christian, Craig Moore, Suzi Tschetter, Kevin Snyder, Cristie Snyder, Denise Weisfelder, Robb Metyk

I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Suzi called to order the regular meeting of the Troop 652B Parent Committee at 6:20 PM in the St. Basil Parish Center.

A regular boys committee meeting was not conducted in October. In October, a special meeting was held to discuss combining the two separate troop committees to pool volunteer roles and resources.

II. Reports

Scoutmaster (Kevin)

- The November campout was a great success. Six Arrow scouts from Pack 297 and four Arrows from Pack 652 attended for the weekend. There were also a couple girl Arrows visiting with our girls' troop. The troop members did regular troop campout activities: teaching, cooking, knots, games, etc. It was not intended to be a recruitment event, but the adult parents in attendance did ask questions about our troop and our functions. Thanks to our adult leaders that were at the campout and helped make it happen: Robb, TJ, Steve, and Jane.
- For all Great Trail Council events and campouts on their property, they are requiring an official roster printed from my.scouting.org to show registered youth and adults in attendance. Troops will need to plan ahead and have official copies of roster with attendees circled. Cristie and Craig to manage the copies for troop files.
- Congratulations to Luke B. for achieving Eagle Scout rank on October 30!
- The election for our new troop Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is tonight.
- The troop holiday party is December 6 at Whirlyball in Bedford Heights.
- Upcoming campouts include the Klondike (January 19-21), a Polar Bear Campout in February, and a special campout in March. With BSA's new camping regulations, we'll need to reconfigure the scout/special person campout usually held in April and possibly have a weekend campout with parents invited to visit for the day on Saturday.
- Scout Sunday will be celebrated with St. Basil parish in February. Date not yet determined.
- The trailer cleanout and shelf installation date has been delayed due to illness and will be rescheduled ASAP. We may be requesting recommendations or sample tote boxes from our families to decide what size options will work best for the new trailer layout. Once we determine what sizes work best, we will buy new totes to organize our equipment.

Outdoor/Activities Chair (Craig)

- There is no meeting room available at the parish on December 13. Craig researched available spaces. Brecksville has no rooms available, but Independence does have a room at the Old Rec Center and a resident must book it. Suzi to call and make the reservation.
- Craig will order two sheet pizzas and pop for the December 6 holiday party at Whirlyball. Will inquire if we can bring cookies or desserts to share.
- Summer camp refund check finally received from council. Sal deposited it into our account.
- Craig will set up online registration for the January Klondike. We will attend the National Parks Klondike at Beaumont January 19-21.
- Going forward with campouts, he'll request that ALL ITEMS (paperwork, payments) be turned in at the Wednesday meeting before the camping weekend. It will help make the departure on Friday a bit more organized and everything can be accounted for in advance.
- Craig is assessing what he'll do about the BSA medical forms. He's going back and forth about whether he'll keep them or return them to the families.
- Robb is certified to do BSA swim tests and some of the rank requirements. He is in discussions with Brecksville Aquatics regarding use of the pool for this purpose.

Secretary (Cristie)

- There were no new youth or adult registrations in the last month.
- An email with digital flyer inviting Webelos/Arrows to visit a troop meeting and the November campout was sent to local Cub Scout leaders on September 29. The invitation went to Pack 28 (Cuyahoga Heights), Pack 216 (Parma), Pack 280 (Macedonia), Pack 297 (Independence), Pack 470 (Parma), Pack 575 (Northfield), Pack 652 (Brecksville), Pack 810 (Broadview Heights), Pack 882 (Northfield), and Pack 3387 (Richfield). Sent from information@troop652bsa.org
- The list of troop Eagle Scouts on our website will now include girl troop members that have earned the rank. Cristie also updated 'Who We Are' page to include girls' troop leaders and reflect combined committee.

Treasurer (Sal)

- Monthly financial report provided to committee. Available to all troop members on request.
- Discussion: Ensuring a zero balance for campouts so there is only individual cost for the activity. There should be no cost to unit. Sal to track campouts to ensure we're charging enough to cover all costs.

Advancement (Brian)

- Luke Botros achieved Eagle rank on October 30. Girls' troop member Skye Raftery achieved Eagle rank on November 9.
- At the troop court of honor on November 1, we celebrated 22 rank advancements and over 150 merit badges and awards earned.

Equipment Coordinator (Mike – no report)

Fundraising (vacant)

III. Old business

- A guidance document outlining the steps for adults to register as a volunteer with the troop is available. Request from Cristie or Suzi if there is interest in being involved.
- Ideas for service projects are always welcome. If you have a suggestion, it helps if you are willing to be the lead on the project.
- Adult committee positions that need to be filled include committee chair, advancement coordinator, service project coordinator, membership coordinator, and training coordinator. A list of roles can be viewed on the website at www.troop652bsa.org/volunteers-needed/.

IV. New business

- Discussion: Aligning troop dues with the girls' troop dues. The cost of awards and merit badges earned by troop Eagle Scouts can be high, depending on the age of the scout and how active they remain. Currently, the boys' troop does not collect dues from Eagle Scouts. How would we move forward in the future regarding how costs are covered.

V. Announcements

- The 2024 recharter is complete and has been submitted to council! Thanks to everyone for getting their responses and payments in on time!
- There is no troop meeting on November 22. Happy Thanksgiving!

V. Adjournment

Cristie adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM. The next committee meeting is December 27, 2023.

See a full calendar of meetings and activities at www.troop652bsa.org/events

Draft notes submitted by Cristie Snyder on November 16, 2023. Reviewed and approved by Suzi Tschetter on November 20, 2023.