

**Troop 652 Parent Committee**  
**Meeting Notes**

Meeting Date: August 21, 2024

Meeting Location: St. Basil Parish Rectory

Present: Jerry Blayne, Cristie Snyder, Kevin Snyder, Denise Weisfelder, Craig Moore, Sal Caruso, Brian Christian, Irene Christian, Robby Maher, Allison Botros, Robb Metyk, TJ Manion, Shawna Melnykowski

I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Denise called to order the regular meeting of the Troop 652 Parent Committee at 6:35 PM.

II. Reports

Scoutmaster, Boys (Kevin)

- The boys are doing a canoeing overnight this upcoming weekend.
- Following summer camps, the troop has been on cruise control this summer. With the start of school, scouts will be back in class A uniform next week for the Pack 652 open house.
- Jim Yoxtheimer is our new quartermaster. He's already considering organizing and inventorying troop gear and equipment.
- With the increased size of the boys' troop (48 scouts), we are in urgent need of more adult leadership (assistant scoutmasters) to assist with the scouting program including at meetings and on campouts. We know that kids are not great at relaying information so we may issue a request for parents to come in at the end of meetings to listen to announcements.

Scoutmaster, Girls (Shawna)

- The girls' troop is on summer hiatus. There has been some work on Eagle projects.
- We did a clean out of our troop's equipment and supplies in the Annex.
- The girls will have a recruiting table at the Pack 652 open house on August 28. We will also help the cubs as needed at the event.
- Sarah's Eagle Board of Review is scheduled for August 26.
- Regular troop meetings will begin again in early September. Scouts will be back in class A uniform, and we'll hold SPL elections.

Outdoor/Activities Chair, Boys (Craig)

- Boys are doing a canoeing overnight August 24-25 at Mohican Wilderness. Members of the girls' troop are joining us.
- We'll participate in the Geneva beach cleanup campout in September. Register on the sign-up sheet at meetings.
- The troop will attend council's fall camporee in October. The cost is \$30 per scout. Register online on council's website. Link to be provided. There may be a small additional cost for food.
- November's campout is the Webelos/Arrows visit campout at Camp Butler. Sign up at a meeting.
- Our December activity is TBD.
- Craig will reserve a troop campsite at Camp Butler for the March 2025 Pack 652 crossover event.

Secretary (Cristie)

- There were two new youth memberships for the boys this month. They are transfers from another local troop.
- The troop permission form was updated and posted to the website as a fillable form.

- Cristie to check records and receipts for the online renewal of the Hostmonster account and provide them to Sal.

#### Treasurer, Boys (Sal)

- Monthly financial report provided to the committee. Available to all troop members on request.
- Review of who still has unpaid annual dues.
- Discussion: Budgeting for the cost of campouts, allocating funds to lower the costs of campouts based on the current troop fund balance.
- Forward all receipts and finance questions to the treasurer so he can log purchases and answer questions. Send to [treasurer@troop652bsa.org](mailto:treasurer@troop652bsa.org)

#### Treasurer, Girls (Gail – no report)

- Gail will be stepping down as girls' troop treasurer. A new treasurer is needed. If you are interested in this volunteer role, contact Denise.

#### Advancement (Brian)

- All award items earned at the two summer camps have been purchased.
- Discussion: Hold a joint court of honor with both troops, combining the scripts, PLCs need to be consulted, timing on purchasing award items and when they should be handed out (immediately versus at a court of honor), possibly have co-chairs for advancement role to share duties and responsibilities, new advancement chair(s) to determine and communicate a regular schedule for the requested board of reviews (such as once per month) and how to administer awards.

#### Membership & Training (Robby)

- The next Virtus training at St. Basil is scheduled for August 26. Parents are encouraged to attend Virtus training since it's required for any adult who volunteers to work with youth. A registration link is available on the troop website calendar.
- Robby will update the online membership process for new scouts to be automatically allowed by the parish admin, so the charter org rep (Fr. Ryan) doesn't need to approve every new youth application. New adult applications still require Fr. Ryan's approval.

#### Equipment Coordinator (vacant)

- Jim Yoxtheimer has accepted this role for both troops.
- Inventory lists are needed to record the quantity and quality of items the troops own.
- Discussion: maintaining records of gear and equipment, photographing all items as a record, tracking inventory through QuickBooks as an asset (no, not recommended).
- Denise to check historical documents in Google Drive for the patrol box inventory sheet that was used by Cliff.

#### Fundraising, Boys (Janet – no report)

#### Fundraising, Girls (no report)

- A separate meeting is needed to discuss and plan the girls' fundraising efforts.
- There is uncertainty if Liz will continue in this role. A new fundraising coordinator is needed. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Denise.

## Service Projects (Jane – no report)

### III. Old business

- 652B Campership Program: The boys' troop will institute a scholarship program for troop scouts. Annually, there will be two camperships available for scouts to apply for. One campership will be awarded by the program leaders and one campership will be awarded by the committee. Camperships are intended to award outstanding scouts for their participation in Scouting and to help defray the cost of attending summer camps or high adventure activities. Applications will be created and made available to all troop members. The committee will recruit outside reviewers to read applications and recommend awards. Potential to announce campership awardees at a spring troop Court of Honor before summer camp season. Details will be announced to the troop as they are available.
- 652G Campership Program (The Ella Fund): 652G will adopt an application process for girls' troop members interested in attending high adventure camps.
- A joint planning meeting will be held with all troop leaders (SMs, ASMs) to align both troop calendars.

### IV. New business

- Discussion: Review of needed merit badge counselors.
- The Venture Crew has a small amount of equipment they would like to store in the Annex. Can space be carved out for them too?
- As of September 1, updates are being instituted in the Guidelines to Safe Scouting and Youth Protection Training.
- BSA/Lake Erie Council pilot project of combined troops. While we're not participating in the pilot, Denise would like to dedicate time at every committee meeting to brainstorm and determine how best to combine the two troops.
  - Discussion: more frequent changes to the SPL, rotating the SPL role, shorter terms for youth leadership, assigning ASPLs to plan weekly meetings on a rotation schedule, how many youth leaders are required or needed, what are the requirements for the new combined troops that council and BSA are piloting
- Discussion: Alternative scouting organizations not affiliated with BSA.
- Discussion: Changing the regularly scheduled date and time of the monthly troop committee meeting. The boys' troop established a regular schedule about 5+ years ago (PLC on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month and committee on the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month), the schedule seems to work well but overlaps with Pack 652's monthly pack meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> week, request for troops to consider altering the established schedule to allow more adults from pack to be at troop committee, alternative options. No decision was made.

### V. Announcements

- Pack 652's annual Open House and Recruitment Event is Wednesday, August 28 from 6:00-7:30 PM. Bring a friend to learn about scouting!

### VI. Adjournment

Denise adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM. The next committee meeting is October 2, 2024.

See a full calendar of meetings and activities at [www.troop652bsa.org/events](http://www.troop652bsa.org/events)

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Draft notes submitted by Cristie on August 26, 2024. Reviewed and approved by Denise on August 26, 2024.