

Troop 652 Parent Committee
Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: April 2, 2025 (March meeting)

Meeting Location: St. Basil Parish Center, Classroom 10

Present: Denise Weisfelder, Robby Maher, Kevin Snyder, Cristie Snyder, Craig Moore, Shawna Melnykowski, Allie Botros, Irene Christian, Robb Metyk, Brian Christian, Renee Buszta, Jane Mahoney, Jerry Blayne, Sal Caruso

I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Denise called to order the regular meeting of the Troop 652 Parent Committee at 6:37 PM.

II. Scoutmaster Open Discussion (Shawna, Kevin, and Robb)

- Summer Camp: 24 boys and girls are registered for Manatoc. There will be a discussion with the boys SPL tonight regarding possible week 2 of summer camp.
- How to pack for camp will be discussed at the next troop meeting (April 9).
- BSA swim tests and rank advancement work will be held at Brecksville pool on April 16. This is in place of that evening's troop meeting. There is no space at the church that day.
- The girls' spaghetti dinner was a success. (Discussion noted in Fundraising.)
- The girls worked on the Reading merit badge at the library and finished the badge at home.
- The girls will hold their PLC meeting tonight. Since the Horsemanship MB is delayed until summer, the girls will camp with the boys in April.
- The girls have decided to combine their troop Court of Honor with the boys. Some work will be needed to combine the two troops' COH scripts. The next COH is scheduled for May 7.
- Broadview Heights councilman Brain Wolf would like to do a flag retirement ceremony at a summer block party for his ward. The troops will request that this takes place after the Crew's high adventure trip in July.
- Discussion: Scholarship review and approval process, deadline to apply is April 2 by 11:59 PM, Shawna to contact two outside reviewers that have a history with the troop and Robby to contact one reviewer that has a history with the troop.
- One of our new troop families has a connection with the plumber's union hall. There is a possibility of having our troops complete the Plumbing merit badge.
- Kevin thanked everyone for their support and willingness to cover his Scouting role for the last few months.

Outdoor/Activities Chair, Boys (Craig)

- Both troops will camp at Richfield Heritage Park on April 11-13.
- The boys will camp and participate in the dark sky program from May 9-11 at Geauga Park District's Observatory Park. The girls' troop is invited to join if they have not made plans for May.
- The boys camping fee for the next two campouts is \$15.
- Discussion: Too much chaos on campout/activity departure days. Trying to manage all the required paperwork and prep to leave for the troop activity is overwhelming. Committee decided on a new policy -- forms and fees must be turned in advance of departure day for campouts and activities. It was decided that all items must be submitted on the Wednesday before a campout or you will not be allowed to attend. Cristie to send special email to all troop members with this decision.
- Discussion: Troop permission slips. It was determined that a troop permission slip will still be required for each activity or campout.
- There has been discussion about a potential second week of summer camp for the troop. Due to the late planning and limited availability of registered leaders, a second week at a location different than Manatoc will probably not happen this year.

Secretary (Cristie)

- There were some hiccups with transferring AOL crossovers into the boys' troop. Some AOLs have not renewed their annual BSA registration fee and cannot transfer until it's paid. The troop has successfully transferred seven of the 11 boy crossover scouts into the troop.
- Discussion: During crossover ceremonies, neckerchiefs and slides, purchased by our boy troop, were placed on boy crossovers who don't intend to join or be active with us. We may need to consider providing neckerchiefs and slides at the crossover scout's first troop meeting, an upcoming troop COH, or when they earn Scout rank.
- For our website, Hostmonster has been acquired by BlueHost. The domain renewal bill will be paid in May.

Treasurer (Sal)

- Monthly financial report provided for inclusion with committee notes. Available to all troop members on request.
- After being transitioned to Sal, all financial records and items for the girls' troop are now organized.
- All four units (troops, pack, crew) received a monetary donation from the American Legion. Thank you to the Legion members!
- The spaghetti dinner was very profitable for the girls' troop.
- Forward all receipts and finance questions to the treasurer so he can log purchases and answer questions. Please indicate what troop it's for. Send to treasurer@troop652bsa.org

Fundraising (Janet, Robby)

- The spaghetti dinner was a great success!! Thank you to everyone who worked in the kitchen, volunteered their time, solicited donations, or attended the event. Feedback was good and attendees were generous. Final amounts of money raised TBD.
- Should there be two separate booths for the troop at Home Days? No, we will not have a girl's booth. Janet to let the city know.

Advancement (Brian, Pennilane)

- Brian stated there are stacks and stacks of merit badges and ranks earned. Two scouts are headed towards earning their Eagle rank – one packet has been turned in to council and another is working on their packet.
- Pennilane Carlisle will take over as Advancement Chair whenever Brian is ready.
- To request a board of review or ask questions about advancement, send an email to advancement@troop652bsa.org

Membership & Training

- Pennilane Carlisle and Jon Strychasz have completed all volunteer requirements for the parish and BSA. Welcome to the troop! Pennilane will be our Advancement Chair and Jon is an Assistant Scoutmaster.
- Individuals from the new crossover families have expressed interest in volunteering with the troop.

Equipment Coordinator (Jim – no report)

- Robb ordered replacement seals for the back doors of the boys' troop trailer.

Service Projects

- Is there interest in holding a Capes for Kids service project during an upcoming troop meeting?

- Manatoc Scout Reservation will have a tree planting and spring clean-up event on April 26 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Scouts can earn conservation hours.
- The troops will participate in Lake Erie Council's Trash the Trash Day on May 3. Council partners with CanalWay Partners for Riversweep to help clean up parks and public spaces. Scouts will earn conservation hours. Mrs. Christian is coordinating. See the email sent on 4/3.
- St. Basil requested volunteers for Mother's Day Brunch on May 11. It will be difficult to provide volunteers since we'll be returning from a campout.
- 4-6 volunteers are needed on June 5 to help from 6:30-7:30 PM at the parish food truck event. Scouts will be collecting trash and keeping areas clean. Speak with Mrs. Weisfelder if you can help.
- The St. Basil Parish Picnic is scheduled for June 8. Troop members will help before, during, and after the event. A shift sign-up will be shared.
- Scouts should be noting their completed service hours in the appropriate place in their handbooks.

III. Old business

IV. New business

V. Announcements

- The troop committee seeks an adult volunteer that can find and coordinate service projects for the troop.

VI. Adjournment

Denise adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM. The next committee meeting will be held on April 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

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

Draft notes submitted by Cristie on April 10, 2025. Reviewed and approved by Denise on April 10, 2025.