

Scouts Canada – Valley Highlands Area

Minutes for May 28, 2003 at St Paul's United Church, Perth

Meeting convened at 7:15, Michelle Niefer presiding.

In attendance were 23 participants: Michelle Niefer – Area Commissioner, Charles Gale - Deputy Area Commissioner for Program and Servicing, Roger Nuttall – DAC Training, Frank Larabie – DAC Growth & Retention, Wayne Harris – DAC Group Support & Honours and Awards, Chaz Gale – Assistant DAC Youth, Jean Lasenba – Area Treasurer, Diana Nuttall – Acting Secretary, Stan Lasenba – Camp Warden, Brian Billings – Scoutrees, Chris Tyler – Scouter at Large, Representatives of 2nd Almonte, 2nd Carleton Place, 3rd Carleton Place, 1st Elmsley, 1st Lanark Highlands, 1st Merrickville, 1st Montague, 2nd Smiths Falls

Motion to approve the minutes of Apr. 24, 2003 moved by Chris Tyler, seconded by Annette Thompson,

Discussion in 2 groups – Program and Administration

Reports

Youth by Chaz Gale

Brownsea Scout Camp at Baxter Conservation Area was a huge success.

The Council competition for a poem or song for the Council had 6 responses of which 3 came from Valley Highlands – Doug Piepers of 1st Merrickville, John Gennrich of 2nd Smiths Falls, Patrick Britton of 3rd Carleton Place. There are 8 youth who will be getting their Chief Scout's Award. They are from 1st Elmsley, 1st Lombardy, and 1st Merrickville.

Program by Charles Gale

Events plans for next year will be the same as for other years but will be organized by the Area. (List attached) Vertical Servicing is not working and next year there will be horizontal servicing as well as Group Scouters. Monthly Area meetings will hopefully improve face-to-face communications. There are 15 Cubs who will receive their "7 Challenge Award" at Camp Impeesa.

Group by Wayne Harris

The Directory for the Area is incomplete, as some Groups have not sent in their information. This information is also used to keep track of the years of service of all adults without this data there will be a gap in the records and people may miss out on their year pins. Please send this information to Wayne Harris at 267-7201 wharris@perth.igs.net or Diana Nuttall at 264-0687 rnd@perth.igs.net The recommendations for pins must be sent to Council by July 31. Don't let your leaders miss out on recognition.

Training by Roger Nuttall

Two Beaver Leaders from 1st Merrickville are receiving their Woodbadge I woggles tonight, having completed their Check sheets with Coach Hope Gray.

The classroom sessions for both Basic Canoeing and Canoe Tripping are completed while the on-the-water sessions will be occurring in June and July.

There is a Boat Rescue Course scheduled for June 21-22 at Camp Whispering Pines. Those wishing to take this course must register at the Council Office by June 7, 2003.

Scoutrees by Brian Billings

On May 3rd 181 People planted at the Drummond/North Elmsley site and on May 10 9 people spot planted where there were gaps from past years.

Approximately 4,000 Trees were planted; these were a mixture of white pine, red pine and white cedar.

Several Township Councillors dropped by for a visit and survey during the planting.

AC Michelle Niefer and Scoutrees co-ordinator Brian Billings made presentations of "certificates of appreciation" to OMYA Canada Inc, Drummond/North Elmsley, and the Community Stewardship Council of Lanark County,

.Albany International and Blair and Sons were unable to attend but will be presented with their certificates later. These certificates were presented as appreciation for the support and sponsorship by these companies and agencies.

Fund Raising donations were a total of \$2,550.00. All food was donated thanks to Kim Comstock of 2nd Smiths Falls.

Expenditures were \$2,935.00, which leaves only \$385.00 to be covered by the fund raising monies.

Funds are distributed as follows 50% goes back to the Groups, 20% is retained by the Area, 15% goes to the Brotherhood Fund, 15% goes to Council.

Please ASAP have your funds in to Brian Billings 131 Edward St., Almonte, KOA 1A0 so the funds can be properly distributed. As soon as the funds are in a report will be generated and distributed to the Group Chairs and Scouters.

Camp by Stan Lasenba

Clean up was held on May 3, 2003.

The flagpoles have been straightened.

ANYONE who wishes to use the camp MUST book through the Camp Warden. Failure to do so could result in your not being able to use your site because it is being used by an out-of-Area group.

Whoever is the co-ordinator for an event or is in charge of a group attending is responsible to ensure that there is a bucket of water by each fire and an extinguisher for each kitchen with stoves. They are also responsible for ensuring that the Kybos are kept clean.

Motion by Frank Larabie, seconded by Kim Comstock that Stan Lasenba be reimbursed for expenses amounting to \$117.95. Approved

Treasurer by Jean Lasenba

Balance on hand is \$10,700.

Growth by Frank Larabie

Council's goal for retention is 55% next year, 65% the following year and 75% the next year.

Round-up has been cancelled.

Frank is working on Valley Highland's Communication Strategy.

Group Reports

1st Merrickville by Ken Richardson - Swim-up is taking place tonight (May 28).

We expect a complete turnout for Camp Impeesa.

4 Scouts will receive their Chief Scout Award. There will be 7 Cubs going up to Scouts.

Leaders are in place for all sections for next year.

1st Lanark Highlands by John Armstrong - No problems, everything going well

1st Elmsley by Gary Thomson – Beavers finished their year with a party on May 12. They explode their volcanoes.

2 Cubs have completed all 7 Awards. The Pack has completed the Blue Star requirements. 1st Elmsley and 1st Lombardy are hosting Camp Impeesa.

2 Scouts will receive their Chief Scout Award. Scouts will have a cycling field trip and a year-end trip to the Cycledrome. The Scouts won the Nitevent Challenge Trophy.

Our Group Chair is retiring and moving out of the Area. We held a very successful Ham and Bean Supper.

2nd Carleton Place by Cyndy Courtland – Our Group is winding down with our annual “swim-up” and “jump the log” ceremonies to be held on June 4 involving 7 Beavers and 2 Cubs. This will also be a family potluck and Bar-B-Q. We are struggling with leadership for next year as we have 2 leaders and 2 group committee members leaving.

2nd Almonte by Bill Lawrence – Regular meetings for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts stopped after the first week of May. Venturers will have their last meeting next Thursday with a movie night in Kanata.

Beavers are going to Lanark for a final camp in June.

Cubs had their final comp in Quebec on the Victoria Day weekend.

Scouts and Venturers are planning a canoe trip to Algonquin in July as their last camp.

During the summer the Venturers may continue their biking tours of Ottawa, which they have done the last couple of weeks.

Next year there will be at least 2 leaders for each of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We are looking for a new Venturer Advisor. We also need a new Group Chair and Quartermaster. We are trying to get more canoeing into our Section programs so our leaders are taking canoeing courses and we have purchased 2 canoes. If anyone knows of people donating or selling paddles or PFDs please let us know. 2nd Almonte now sponsors a craft category at the Almonte Fair. We have a category for Beaver Buggies, Kub Kars and 18-wheelers. This is open to Scouting youth from anywhere in the Area.

1st Montague by Annette Thompson

We will be working to improve our programs and revitalizing our Group Committee. We will ask people to resign if they have refused to take training; then we can find others to fill those positions. We will be charging \$100.00 registration fee this fall.

Hobby Show by Bill Lawrence

Financial statement will come. We are presently \$742.00 in the red but we are looking for sponsor and donations to try to reduce the debt.

Bingo by Bill Lawrence

All members working for a group have to be bona-fide members of scouting i.e. either a registered member of scouting or a member of their family. E I is questioning the employment for hire of some people.

June 29, 2003 is the next Bingo for district – call Michelle Niefer 257-1333 if you are willing to help. The times are 2:30 to 6:00pm.

Lombardy Fair by Stan Lasenba

We are looking for volunteers to work on the August long weekend at the Lombardy Fair food booth. If you are available please call Stan 283-0779 and pick a time slot. The funds raised here help to pay for Camp Whispering Pines.

Council by Michelle Niefer

Fees

The original proposal for fees by Council for next year was \$115 - \$145 but the Management Committee (all the Area commissioners within the Council) disputed this (HOTLY)

National has a \$25 fee for which the Committee has asked for a breakdown

Insurance is \$15

Province has an \$8.40 fee

Council has a \$50.60 fee for which the Committee has requested a breakdown

Total is a \$99.00 registration fee for next year

Council has an \$111,000.86 deficit that it must get rid of probably by reducing their Key Result Expectations

Next year the Council portion of monies for Fundraising will stay with the groups such as monies from popcorn, hot chocolate, or Scoutrees.

The Northern subsidy has been removed, as has the \$3 council levy.

There will be a system instituted so groups can pay in 2 instalments

Uniforms

There are 3 choices of uniform for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers. They are t-shirt, vest and necker, white shirt and tie or present shirt and necker. The youth will decide which he or she wears. On formal occasions it will be present shirt or white shirt and tie.

School talks

If anyone wants to organize school talks for the fall call Tim Foreman at 225-2770 or 1-888-726-8876.

Area by Michelle Niefer

We need someone to head up a nominating committee for next year to submit names to council for Area Commissioner, as next year will be Michelle's 3rd and last year.

Please forward names to Michelle for anyone for Area Secretary for next year (2003-2004)

Next meeting is to be on June 18, 2003. Place yet to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23pm.