

**1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville Group Committee**  
**Valley Highlands District, Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0, Canada**

Notes of group committee meeting held on **Thursday, February 26, 2004.**

**Present:** Alex Beelich                      Tammy Glaser                      Keith Skelhorne  
             Peter Cornelisse                 Hope Gray                         Allan Yates (Chair)  
             Stew Hamill

**Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, April 1st, 2004 at Steve Catton's house (tentative).

7:15PM Allan called the meeting to order.

Thank-you to Stew and family for their hospitality as they hosted the meeting.

**Items Discussed:**

- Colony Report - Peter reported that the aviation museum sleepover was a success. The sleepover was attended by 48 people (33 kids, 15 parents) and most had a great time.

- Pack Report - It was reported that financially the cubs are doing well. The KubKar's are being sold to the kids at \$3.00 each for a profit of \$0.12 per car to the pack.

- Troop Report - The troop is working on their paddling, compass, and map reading skills. Each scout will be decorating their own paddle, they are designing them now and will put their designs on their paddles when the unfinished paddles come in.

- Baden-Powell Day/Banquet - It was discussed that an event after the Baden-Powell service might improve interest in the event. The banquet went well and good comments were received. It was discussed that next year the unit will provide the dessert and let the parents do the dinner as this year there was more desserts and less main course than desired.

- Area Meeting News - There is a new field executive, Tim Foreman, replacing Jeff Benson. Tim will handle contracts only. There will be a Woodbadge II course at Opemikon from June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Scouts Canada has changed the group chair name to group commissioner placing more emphasis on program instead of administration. The group has chosen Allan for our chairman/commissioner for the next year.

- Publicity - The Phoenix will not contain a write up on the soapbox derby or the Lions Club thank-you this month. They will appear in the April issue as the pictures will be ready by then.

- Opemikon - It was discussed that possibly one cub could be awarded a trip to Opemikon. The selection process would be handled like the Eager Beaver award.

- Financial- The group approved 3 cheques (Stew moved, Hope seconded, all in favour) as follows:  
1- \$125.00 - Allan - reimburse for stamps, metal rim tags, plates/cups/cutlery (banquet),  
2- \$25.00 - Alex - reimburse for sleepover at Limerick forest,  
3- \$7319.53 - Scouts Canada - registration, coupons, scout bucks (Michelle looking into stuff still at region - all tax receipts owing to us are in so registration needs to be sent in.)

- The group finances stand at \$1800 in the bank, \$1000 at the region, \$500 from the fair (at large) and approximately \$3000 left at end of year. Should the group carry the money over to next year or use to purchase things (ie. Tents, crests, etc.)? A decision was made to pay for the 1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville crests and maybe buy new tents.

- There is \$336.00 in the group account being held for the Cubs. These funds are not section

monies and will be used for Cub needs.

- A discussion was held on fees vs. fundraising for next year. It was decided that next year at registration it should be better explained how fees/fundraising works. The fundraising in question is for the group not for the sections. If the sections need extra funding then fundraising will need to be done (ie. Scout activities above group expenditures). It was agreed that we will keep the Scouts Canada fee + the group fee for next year. The group fee would be increased to \$25 for \$24 to make easier. The idea of having parents give post dated cheque for January too was voted down. The group will try to get larger sponsors for trees, soapbox, etc.

- The idea of having a pre-registration for returning youth in the spring (prefilled forms and envelopes to be sent out) was agreed upon. A decision was made to limit each sections numbers and make A and B sections if necessary. The sections are too big this year and need to be scaled down. The maximum number of youth is : Beavers at 12-15, and Cubs and Scouts at 3 packs of 6 each.

- It was discussed having the Cubs do planting/cleaning near Whispering Pines during camp (or Limerick Forest). It would be good for them to learn forest maintenance.