

## **1<sup>ST</sup> Merrickville Group Committee - Minutes of March 24, 2005**

### **In attendance:**

Allan, Sheila, Peter, Keith, Stewart (left at 9:45pm), Elizabeth and Alex (arrived at 8:45).

The meeting was held at Sheila and Peters home, commencing at 8:20pm with a review of the agenda. **Thank you** to our hosts for their fine hospitality.

### **Colony Report:**

The Beavers recently participated in story telling pyjama meeting, an outdoor skating party, a lightening ceremony, the annual banquet, the church parade/activity day and Lord Baden Powell Birthday festivities. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> the Beavers plan to go to Green Acres for a greenhouse tour for some hands on learning and planting of their choice of seed. There will also be a magic mud meeting, some leather stamping, and the making of Beaver Buggies for the upcoming Kub Kar Races. The Kub Kar Races and a White Tail 'choice' meeting are intended to support linking events. Finally there is a Beaver Birthday Bash event planned for May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 in Petawawa, of which at least 3 Beaver leaders plan to attend.

### **Pack Report:**

The Cubs recently participated in an outdoor skating party, woggle making, pioneering night, the annual banquet, the church parade/activity day, Lord Baden Powell Birthday festivities, preparation for winter camp, first aid and archery. The figures for the winter camp are still to be calculated however a quick questimate of \$200.00 was identified as potential event profit. A suggestion however, not to lower the cost was made as this particular camp event had lower and usual costs. The archery event in which the parents drove themselves, had a good turnout with approximately 13-15 cubs participating. The cubs are planning some orienteering games, a hike, Kub Kar Racing, Hobbies and Wheels and a swim-up/Going-up ceremony in April, 2005.

For May, the Pack is planning for Pitch-in Canada, a spring camp at Whispering Pines, Catapults, Scoutrees, Wide games and an Area camp also at Whispering Pines. On July 1, 2005 the Pack will enjoy the Canada Day parade.

Peter is to contact Rob with regards to getting the proper contact for the adventure forms.

Sheila mentioned the awarding of badges and that it may be best if all badges are awarded to the recipients as quickly as possible - to avoid any child feeling that they have been overlooked. Perhaps handing them out at the following meeting would be the answer and or that we all follow a similar policy whatever is decided. Akela and Mike to discuss further and come to a solution that fits all.

### **Troop Report:**

The Scouts recently participated in physical activity testing badge work, a winter camp at Limerick Forest and slept outside under the stars. For those in attendance, a "Freezie Award" will be handed out. Thanks goes to Greg Stewart for his guidance and culinary delights. Thanks also to Stew Hammil for 2 duck boxes which the scouts will help to monitor and clean for the next few years.

Some upcoming events include Scout Truck building and racing, operating a food booth in hopes of raising funds during the Race day (April 23, 2005), Pitch-in Canada and Scoutrees. There was some talk of Cubs and Beavers working the back end of County Rd. 16 on Wednesday, May 18, 2005 - Scout participation however, will depend on how the rest of their schedule unfolds.

Upcoming camps include the Nite Vent in May, the canoe trip also in May and an Area camp in June. On the subject of camping, it was brought forward that some camping equipment is much needed and a request for fund approval would be made. In particular, 4 - three to four person tents of good quality with an approximate cost of \$275.00 - \$350.00 each, plus tax is the estimate on the dollar figure mentioned for the tents. That is a total then of somewhere between \$1100.00 and \$1400.00, plus taxes. **Sorry guys, but I don't seem to have any record (in my notes of 2 weeks ago) for a motion for the funds - did I miss this? Alex, are you still there? Having said that, I did add a pen written notation as follows, "tents - \$1500.00", at the bottom of the financial report provided by Stewart.**

Leaders are needed. There is a potential for 9 - 11 Cubs coming up to Scouts for the next year and it is likely that most of the current Troop of 5 - 6 bodies will be returning. So somewhere between 14 and 17 Troop bodies for next year then should be anticipated. One potential leader would be Keith. We would need 3 leaders to be able to have some flexibility. It was also noted that there were 2 potential girls going-up to Troop for next year. Some concentration has to be made on how to attract new scout leaders.

### **Financial Report:**

The financial report was reviewed and it was noted that there are funds in the pot that have not be ear-marked yet and that if some equipment is needed it certainly would be a proper way to spend same. Everyone in attendance was in agreement on this point.

Allan agreed to acknowledge the Legion for the last donation received.

A motion by Stewart and seconded by Alex with all in favour, that two checks be written, the first for **\$576.65** to Allan and the second for **\$144.89** to Cournel Bye - itemized below:

1. **\$576.65** to Allan (\$3.42 for Wolf Cub Spirit award frames; \$400.20 for

pioneering rope; \$9.08 for Eager Beaver and Wolf Cub Spirit award engraving; \$21.00 for bananas for banquet; \$5.35 for postage of banquet invitations; \$54.73 for banquet punch and banana split ingredients; \$36.87 for banana split ingredients; \$46.00 flowers to funeral of Beaver parent - Dave Assune).

2. **\$144.89** to Cornel Byte (for labels and cartridges)

**Please note: Motion for check '2.' above (\$144.89) was rescinded (by Stewart) on or about April 8, 2005 as it appeared a bill in the same amount had already been paid, and he asks that this matter be held over to our next Group Chair Meeting.**

A motion by Steward and seconded by Alex with all in favour, for a check in the amount of \$850.00 be approved for Opemikon registration.

It was agreed also that the purchase of leather stamping tools could be purchased as a capital expense for the Beavers.

### **Linking:**

A discussion was had regarding linking, that it can happen anytime and is intended to provide the kids with an indication of what lies ahead next for them in the world of Scouting.

Further talk of Cubs who have moved up to Scouts coming back for Cub camps was discussed. Bottom line is that we as leaders can decide what we think works best for our group - and striving for the kids to have fun and keep them interested in Scouting being our number one objective.

All in attendance agreed that new Scouts do not attend the canoe trip.

Perhaps a lot of linking is not necessary - Peter and Alex to discuss further and come to a mutual decision.

### **Scouter's Club Review:**

Peter, Allan and Alex attended. Peter and Alex agreed to give this initiative another meeting, but indicated that neither of them are in a position to take on any additional social and or area events. It was mentioned that another time that may provide a better leader turnout could be a Saturday morning breakfast meeting - planned well in advance.

### **Jamboree on the Trail:**

Yes, we would like to have crests and Peter is to let Allan know how many.

### **Banquet Review:**

The presentation, banana splits and the climbing apparatus were by far the favourites. Peter has agreed to attempt burning the presentation on a CD - one for each family of our Colony, Pack and Troop groups. It appears the length of the presentation - 8 minutes was perfect. A suggestion that we dish out the food as opposed to each person taking there

own was made - this may help the food (or selection of foods) stretch out to the last tables. Another suggestion that we have more formal activities for the kids next year, so that they may appear better managed.

**Church Parade:**

Alex did a great job of bring in the kids - there was great participation and the kids displayed some signs of pride. All in attendance agreed that indeed we should do it again next year. A suggestion however, that we plan ahead in order to help balance out the Founders Days activities.

**Necker Material Retrieval:**

Allan to speak with Sarah so that we can make arrangements to have material given to Barb Bacon who has volunteered to sew some neckers for us.

**Permission Forms:**

A reminder that permission forms are due by the end of August 2005.

**Swim-up:**

We should prepare the kids and parents as to what the swim-up is and what they may want to acquire - uniform wise.

**Hobbies & Wheels:**

Hand outs were provided both for the youth and the leaders.

**Website:**

Little weak on notes here too - save to say that I recall Peter is doing a great job and that we are very well represented on this front. Peter, are you still there? I believe something was said about being one of the few or perhaps the only group to have a site in our area? Help me out here guys.

**Lessons Learned** - if we all agree as a group to commit to a certain event, such as the Christmas Parade, we have to tough it out to the end - otherwise someone is left holding the bag alone. So, a reminder to all to consider first and once a commitment is made, no bailing please!

**Next Meeting:**

April 28, 2005 at 7pm - our host will be Alex at 117 Kilmarnock Road.

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:30pm - and Alex promised us that he will kick us out much earlier than this.**

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Collinson - 258-7715.