

1st Merrickville Group Committee Meeting
May 24th, 2007
Minutes

Present: Allan Yates, Robert Sargent, Sheila Cornelisse, Keith Skelhorne, Steve Anderson, Alex Beelich, Mike Jackman, Peter Cornelisse.

Meeting started at 7:15pm.

Reviewed Agenda/Agenda approved by Committee.

Previous Minutes approved and passed by Committee.

- Correction: Sheila was not purchasing snakes for the Beavers, but was pre-approved to subsidise the Beaver trip to Ray's Reptiles.

Appointment

- Mike Jackman was appointed group quartermaster. This is a voting position on the group committee.

Colony Report (Sheila)

- John Chambers has not been able to take a Wood Badge course yet and is thus not coming to any Beaver meetings. We have lost a valuable leader. Hope Gray may be able to sign off his paperwork to get around the council rule. There is a WB course on Monday nights coming up that John may be able to attend.

Pack Report (Peter)

- No critical items.

Troop Report (Alex)

- Rideau canoe trip plan approved.
- Financial report received.
- Tent purchased to replace the one that was misplaced.
- Behaviour of three of the Scouts was unacceptable at the going-up ceremony. It was agreed by all that any leader could reprimand/discipline youth from any section if they say behaviour that do not meet their expectations. The behaviour of our youth, especially in public, reflects directly on our group.

Bingo

- April cheque not yet received.
- Sheila owed \$75 for May (herself and two paid people).

Registration for 2006/2007

- Deadline of Wednesday June 20th for completed forms, PRC, and payment.
- New PRC needed for Sheila and Simon.

Knife Usage

- Alex questioned whether Scout aged activity leaders should be wearing sheath knives, he thought that it was in contravention to BP&P. Consensus was that BP&P restricted sheath knives to youth ages 14 and older and that we should follow BP&P.
- Reading of BP&P after the meeting showed that sheath knives are actually allowed for youth of Scout age, section 13021:

Knives (safety folding blade type), including multi-purpose tools, may be used during age appropriate program activities by all members, excluding Beavers, providing it is a bona-fide requirement for the particular activity. Sheath knives may be worn when it is a bona-fide requirement of the particular Scouting activity and only by Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Scouters and must not at any time be concealed.

Physical Interaction

- Alex brought up the concern that leaders were taking physical interaction (i.e. rough housing and play fighting) too far. A couple of examples were cited from the going-up evening where this got carried away and kids were getting hurt. It was also mentioned that this could be taken out of context by the general public.
- The point was made that the kids, and some of the leaders, really like the rough housing.
- Consensus was that rough housing should be restricted to activities in which it is appropriate and that it is the leader's responsibility to ensure that it does not get out of control and having kids getting hurt or losing their temper.
- Alex to talk to his Scout leaders and Peter to talk to his Cub leaders.

Canoe training

- Sunday May 27th 9am – 3pm.
- Alex, Keith (TBD), Steve, Peter, Mack, Rob, and Stacey indicated they would like to participate.
- Boat rescue course in June and August. Rob planning on taking it in August.

Website

- Request submitted to Ontario Web to see if they will host the website for free. Initial response was positive, awaiting confirmation.

Quartermaster Report

- New bookings:
 - Canoes:
 - Merrickville Scouts, June 8-10
 - Rideau Roundtable, May 27 instead of June 10
- Mike and Geoff Watson building two new patrol boxes for the Scouts. Paul Woodward is building a third.
- Canoe borrowing waiver reviewed and approved.
- Potential offer of property from Liz.
 - Alex had a look at the property.
 - Consensus was that this was a very generous offer by Liz, but the group isn't large enough or strong enough to take on a Scout hut at this time. All our energy and time needs to be devoted to the program.

Financial Report

- 3rd Kanata donated \$100 for use of the canoes for a weekend.
- \$1,800 received from the Rideau Roundtable for a weeks rental of the canoes.
- Stew should ensure rental/donation income from the canoes is tracked.
- Insurance
 - Hill's Insurance Broker, North Gower: Need to get quote on trailer collision/comprehensive.
 - Hub International (insures Opemikon): \$500 for \$35,000 (minimum policy) on equipment, \$500 deductible
 - Crain & Schooley (Steve Payette) Kemptonville: \$250 for \$20,000 on equipment, \$500 deductible.
 - Bando & Brown Broker: \$100 per \$5,000 on equipment (multiples of \$2,500), \$1,000 deductible.
 - Coseco: Collision & comprehensive on trailers, \$97 on cargo trailer, \$48 on canoe trailer, \$500 deductible.
 - Approval given to obtain equipment insurance from Crain & Schooley. Need quote from Hill's, and to determine whether collision/comprehensive is depreciated or replacement value.
- Cheque approvals:
 - Mike Jackman - \$182.83 for canoe trailer patio stones, spare tyre cover, nuts & bolts, CJ equipment, and gas.
 - Sheila Cornelisse - \$75 for April bingo.

UK Explorer Visit

- Explorers (senior Scouts/Venturers) from Newcastle (Ponteland) England may be interested in visiting Canada in the summer of 2008 or 2009. There would be about a dozen Scouts and a couple of leaders. They are interested in home hospitality, a few tourist things (CN tower, parliament buildings, Niagra Falls, Fort Henry), and a wilderness canoe trip (or backpacking trip, or Haliburton Scout reserve). Total time about two weeks.
- All leaders think this would be a great opportunity for our kids.
- Alex prefers the summer of 2009.

Next meeting

- Thursday June 21st at Allan's house.

Meeting ended at 9:15pm.