

1st Merrickville Group Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

Held June 25, 2009

In Attendance:

Alex Beelich, Liz Collinson, Sheila Cornelisse, Stew Hamill, Bob Sargent , Jim Wiggins, Allan Yates

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Review of Agenda - No changes

Review and approval of Minutes from 2009-05-28

Noted that soft copies from the meetings held in February, March and April 2009 had not yet been received.

The following comments were made with respect to errors and omissions:

- The next meeting date should have read 25 June 2009 not Feb 26th
- The "spread" refers to the amount paid by our Group for canoe repairs.
- Comments about the status of other groups (that have not been confirmed and are therefore based on rumours) should not be included in the minutes. (ie. Smiths Falls Venturers)

The minutes were approved as amended.

Fundraising

Scout Popcorn:

The Scout leaders want to begin selling popcorn again next year. Discussion arose as to whether or not we want our kids to individually solicit sales for merchandise such as popcorn. The introduction of the Group fee was aimed at eliminating the need for this type of fundraising which usually fell on the parents to support.

Motion: To allow sections to send kids home with order forms to sell product on an individual basis.

Motion denied.

Motion: To allow the sale of product door-to-door if it is done as a section event.

Motion approved.

Scoutrees:

Motion: To allow sections to send kids home with forms to solicit sponsors for Scoutrees.

Motion approved.

Two of the Scouts voluntarily collected donations for Scoutrees amounting to \$585.00. Alex asked that this money be exempted from the 1/3 to Group policy for monies raised by a section. After some discussion, it was decided that we could not set a precedent and that, as a matter of principle, this money would remain subject to our policy with the exception that we would ensure that the activity costs for these Scouts to participate in the canoe trip to Algonquin would be covered.

Financial Report

Stew sent out the following financial report as of June 25, 2009

bank balance (includes in-trust funds)	\$ 511
minus short term commitments	
in-trust funds	\$ 739
registration	
equals current available amount	-\$ 228
short term receivables	
registration Simon	\$ 103
future costs	
insurance (estimate)	\$ 500
owing to Allan for CIAF purchases	\$ 595
owing in Sept for Kub Kar track	\$ 500
now owing to various leaders	\$ 612

now more than this

in-trust funds	
Venturer	\$ 231.91
Scout	\$ 496.06
Cub	\$ -
Beaver	\$ 11.30
total in-trust	\$ 739.27

As per the agenda (V2) the following activities were noted:

Monies received and accounts receivable:

- \$298 cheque received from 1st Greenwood to cover canoe repairs
- \$33.33 to be received from Cubs tree planting payment (group 1/3 cut); at council for tax receipt

- \$26.67 to be received from Venturer crate sales (group 1/3 cut); at council for tax receipt.
- \$13 received from Korectype for printer cartridges
- \$xx to be received from Scout tree planting donations (group 1/3 cut)
- Estimated canoe rental income: $\$280 + \$210 + \$140 = \630

Expense approvals:

- \$3,925 to Scouts Canada for spring registration. This was increased to \$4155. Approved and already submitted to Scouts Canada to meet deadline.
- \$65 to Venturers for Robert Sargent's whitewater canoe course and previous whitewater canoe courses for other leaders. This was approved but awaiting availability of funds.

Cheques to be written:

- \$350 to Robert Sargent for river rescue course (\$375 revenue income collected to put against this. Approved. Cheque to be written.
- \$0.89 to Allan Yates for water rocket launcher repair (hose clamp)
- \$279 to Allan Yates for canoe & tent repairs mileage (Merrickville portion \$154)
- \$188.71 to Allan Yates for canoe repairs (Merrickville portion \$115)
- \$5.67 to Allan Yates for stamps
- \$22.60 to Allan Yates for Scout tent repair
- \$3.90 to Allan Yates for canoe trailer hardware to fix fenders
- \$7.90 to Allan Yates for replacement canoe trailer clearance light
- \$80 to Allan Yates for Simon Eadie and Allan to attend Advanced Outdoor Skills Course
- \$6.00 to Allan Yates for Wood Badge I Venturers course
- \$6.00 to Stew Hamill for Wood Badge I Venturers course – **Written**
- \$6.00 to Robert Sargent for Wood Badge I Venturers course
- \$6.00 to Liz Collinson for Wood Badge I Troop course – **Written**
- \$16.77 to Alex Beelich for projector cable - **Written**
- \$220.35 transfer to Venturers for white water helmets (3) purchase loan
- \$33.85 transfer to Venturers for PFD whistle purchase loan
- \$71.19 transfer to Venturers for rescue knives (3) purchase loan

- \$162.72 transfer to Venturers for throw bags (3) purchase loan
- \$94.92 transfer to Venturers for dry bags for tents (3) purchase loan

Only the three items above that have been annotated as "Written" were completed. The remaining cheques are awaiting available funds.

The question arose as to whether we should be borrowing money from the section Trust Funds to pay our other bills. Given that our expenses have far exceeded our income this year, it became a necessity. No policy regarding this was decided at this meeting. It will be forwarded to our next meeting for further discussion. – **ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST MEETING**

TRAINING COSTS – Following discussion, a motion was made that Group will only pay for a training course if the course is deemed to be an essential requirement for a section/group activity; ie. necessary to ensure the safety of the participants involved. Courses that are considered as non-essential (for the benefit of the individual only, ex. kayaking) will be done at the individual leader's expense. **APPROVED**

Liz Collinson requested \$100 from the Group to go to the Cub section to cover camp registration fees for cubs that went to camp last year. This will have to wait until funds are available. – **ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST MEETING**

Correspondence

- Received signed Charter renewal form from the Legion. New Legion president is Malcolm McRae
- Allan received , completed and returned a North Grenville Community Organization Survey
- Allan contacted both the Legion and the Village Community concerning funding. No response to date.
- Allan submitted a Trillium Grant application for replacement tents and additional canoe trailer.
- Allan wrote and submitted the CIAF grant report concerning our use of the grant monies received last year.

Quartermaster Report

There is no update on the appraisal of the Petrel.

The tractor-trailer lock was broken. Repaired by Jim Wiggins.

Snowshoe Rental – It was motioned that we rent out our snowshoes to other groups at a cost of \$2.00/pair. – **APPROVED** The cardboard boxes currently being used to store and transport the snowshoes are deteriorating. We will have to look into purchasing four duffel bags at an estimated cost of \$36-\$51 each. – **ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST MEETING**

Cave Simulator - To offset the cost of repairing and replacing parts of the cave simulator, it was motioned to charge a \$20 rental fee. Groups exempt from this fee – Kemptville, Almonte and the Valley Highlands Area – **APPROVED**

Leaders were reminded that the MSR stainless steel pots are not to be used over a fire and that tarps must always be used as ground sheets under the tents.

The large stove/griddle bags were given to Peter Brebner for repair of tears in the fabric.

Allan is fixing the wheels that have broken and/or ripped out of the stove bags.

One paddling PFD has been shipped back to Salus for repair. There is no charge because this is considered to be a manufacturer's defect.

One coffee pot and a Tupperware box are missing.

Village Social Report

The Cave Simulator was a big hit with the kids. It is estimated that around 250 kids went through. Jim and Liz manned the simulator and did not charge tickets to enter since they felt it might reflect negatively on the Scouting movement. No negative comments were made; however, because this is an event in a school fundraiser, the admittance fee may have to be discussed with the Village Social Committee next year if they wish to use the simulator again.

Canada Day Parade

Skeeter has borrowed a wagon from Smiths Farm Equipment to make a float for the Cubs. Some of the Soap Box Derby cars will be placed on it.

Soap Box Derby

The Cubs will be participating in the Soap Box Derby in Smiths Falls on July 18th.

Phoenix Reporter

After years of brilliant journalism, Steve Catton has asked to retire from his duties as our Phoenix Reporter. We will be looking to replace him for this upcoming year. Allan requested that the leaders asked around to see if any of the parents would be interested. It was also suggested to advertise this position at the registration night.

Scouting Life Magazine

Allan reminded leaders of the need for unwanted "current" Scouting Life magazines to be redistributed to the Merrickville Library, Dentist, Health Care Centre, Merrickville Public, Wolford Public and Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys. Allan agreed to pick up extra copies when he attends the Venturers Advisor Forums. For this month, Liz was going to leave her copy at the Dentist office and Allan was going to drop off his at the Library.

Uniforms

There was open discussion on what our uniform policy should be, especially concerning the Scouts and Venturers. There appears to be a reluctance (with the boys in particular) at that age to wear the full official Scouting uniform (tan shirt, navy pants, necker, sash). Apparently other Scout and Venturer sections have done away with wearing uniforms at their regular weekly meetings or all together...Do we want to follow suit? Leaders were asked to think about their position on wearing of uniforms and bring ideas to the August meeting. Some options discussed:

- Keeping our policy as is
- Opting for a more relaxed uniform (T-shirt with or without necker)

- No uniform except for official functions where the Scouts and Venturers will be out in Public.
- Doing away with the uniform (consequence – no public recognition which could ultimately lead to less public support)

– ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST MEETING

Registration 2009/2010

Registration will take place at the Fire Hall on Thursday September 17, 2009.

Early Spring Registration – 14 Leaders / 22 youth – similar to last year's numbers

New PRCs are needed for Steve Anderson, John Terpstra, Vic Weatherall and Paul Woodward.

In addition to our scheduled school talks at MPS, WPS and St. Marguerite, Kelly Banks and Allison Shalla (Voyageur council staff) are booked for Holy Cross, Kemptville Public and Oxford-on-Rideau. We need to make initial contact with all schools but Kelly and Allison will arrange the exact date/times. We will need to produce a lot more flyers.

We have a potential new Beaver Leader – Theresa Edmunds. Sheila and Vic will be conducting her interview sometime in August. Theresa has already attended the Beaver Leader planning meeting held in June.

Training

Beaver Woodbadge ! – Frank Vena and Theresa Edmunds. Will take this fall/winter.

Abbreviated wilderness first aid course available at Scout HQ, July 18-19. \$165

River rescue course available June 27-28. No cost for our Group. Five other people have signed up at \$75 each = \$375 to go back to our group. The cost of the training was \$350 and will be paid back to Robert Sargent (see details in Financial Report)

Plaque on Cairn in Block House Park

We are awaiting response from Parks Canada to get confirmation on the permission to place the plaque on the Cairn. The Village Council also passed a motion to place a plaque on the Cairn commemorating our 100 Years of Scouting. Stew will firm up the wording and we will liaise with the Village Council and Hope Gray to come up with final design.

Colony Report

See attached Section Reports

Pack Report

See attached Section Reports. Liz will provide Financial Statements for August meeting.

Troop Report

See attached Section Reports. In addition, Alex has cheques made payable to Scouts Canada that need to be exchanged for cash or a cheque made out to him to cover Scout Section activity expenses.

Venturer Report

The Venturer representative was not present at the meeting; however, the following items were discussed:

- Alex needs to be reimbursed from the Venturers for propane he purchased.
- The White Water Canoe Trip Plan to Lièvre River was discussed and approved. Six Venturers and two adults will be attending.
- Awaiting financial report for August meeting.
- The Venturers are looking for subsidization for safety equipment purchased. – **ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST MEETING**

Next Group Committee Meeting

Thursday August 27, 2009. 7pm at Liz's house.

Minutes prepared by Sheila Cornelisse