

## Scouts Canada – Valley Highlands

### Minutes for June 18, 2003 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Smiths Falls

Meeting convened at 7:06 pm., Charles Gale presiding

In attendance were Charles Gale – DAC Program, Roger Nuttall – DAC Training, Jean Lasenba – Area Treasurer, Stan Lasenba – Property Manager, Diana Nuttall – acting Secretary, Chris Tyler – Area Member-at-large, Group Representatives from 2<sup>nd</sup> Smiths Falls, 1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville

Lack of a quorum meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be on Thurs. Aug. 21, 2003 at St. James Anglican Church in Perth.

Informal gathering and social occurred which was much enjoyed by all.

Information exchanged included that Voyageur Council will be operating with a deficit this year but will also be reducing expenditures and possibly staff. Streamlining of administration will eliminate more expenses.

There will be a National Council, 20 Regional Councils for all of Canada (no provincial councils or division councils). Each Region will have a various number of Areas (volunteers only). Each Area will have a various number of Groups (all volunteers). Representation on the National Board will be a percentage based on the Scouting population within the Region (Voyageur will have 3 votes). All members at the National Board will be volunteers.

The Scout Shop will be administered to be competitive and self-sufficient.

Re-chartering will soon be available on-line. MMS (Membership Management System) has been heavily tweaked and is supposed to be ready for use. If any group has problems please report the anomalies to Lynn Levitan at the Region office.

There is a need for an Area Communications co-ordinator.

Chief Scout's Awards will be on June 5, 2004 in Kingston.

The Council Personnel will include Council Commissioner – John Boyce, DCC Program – Bob Hickson, Honours and Awards – Marilyn Johnson, Revenue Development – Warren McMeekin, Program Development – Peter Goddard

The B.P.&P. is now obsolete. There will be By-Law 1 (now in place) and By-Law 2 (yet to be approved) which will take the place of the previous By-Law and The Camping/Outdoor Activity Guide will take the place of the previous policies and procedures.

There is a new alcohol policy that is basically that if “Duty of Care” is involved there is to be no alcohol, there is to be no alcohol on any Scouts Canada property, and there is to be no alcohol at any event held in the name of Scouts Canada such as a dance as a fund raiser.

The revised smoking policy is that there will be no smoking where the youth can see the smoker. If a youth between 16 & 18 has possession of tobacco, the adult provider can be charged even though the youth will not be charged. If youth under 16 have possession of tobacco, then they and the adult provider can both be charged.

The area will be holding a Linking Camp on Apr 30 – May2, 2004 for Senior Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers.

The Outdoor Skills course on Sept. 27 & 28, 2004 is part of the Basic Program Planning and Delivery (formerly Woodbadge I) but other registered adults are welcome to attend if they want to pick up some more skills or tips. GROUP CHAIRS please take note of the importance of this course for your new Leaders; the information should be in the orientation package you give to your new Leaders.

Some groups still have not sent in their Scoutrees monies. They are overdue and should be sent to Brian Billings at 131 Edward St., Almonte, K0A1A0 or to Jean Lasenba at 93 Stephen St., Smiths Falls K7A 1K7 ASAP please.

Our budget has been presented to Voyageur Council but they had some questions about it so it has not yet been accepted. The “Group’s Annual Financial Statement” should be sent to Jean as soon as reasonable, but no later than Aug. 31, 2003. It is advisable for the Group to keep a copy of their statement as Jean will be forwarding the reports to Region, after reviewing them and the Area will not have a record of the details.

The BBD&E Fire Department has inspected the camp and was quite pleased with the set-up. All cook fires must have a grate and a specific site set up. Most of our sites are fine but some may need to up-grade. There are to be no fires at the sites other

than “cooking” – be sure to have the grate in place. If the campfire pit is to be used then Stan needs to be notified well in advance so he can arrange for a fire permit. The campfire pit cannot be used without a permit.

The Area will again be operating a food booth at the Lombardy Fair (Aug. 1 – Aug 4) and volunteers are needed are needed to man the booth in 4 hour shifts. Remember the profits from the food booth are used solely to finance Camp Whispering Pines. This is why there is no charge for the our Area Groups to use the Camp.

The Area team for next year is gradually filling up. Michelle Niefer will be back as Area Commissioner and Tim Foreman will return as our representative from Voyageur Council. Others who are returning are Angela Britton as DAC Youth, Charles Gale as DAC Program and Service, Roger Nuttall as DAC Training, Jean Lasenba as Treasurer, Stan Lasenba as Property Manager Brian Billings for Scoutrees. Brock Menzies has agreed to serve as ADAC Youth and Diana Nuttall as DAC Group. We still need someone to be DAC Growth and Retention as well as a Registrar and a Secretary. Kim Comstock has accepted the position for Honours and Awards.

The Camp Committee will consist of Stan Lasenba, John Armstrong, Brian Billings, Byron Hammersley, Peter Joynt, John Stalker, and Gary Thomson.

Next year we will be including horizontal servicing. There will be two Beaver Co-ordinators one of whom will be Joan Smith. There will be two Cub co-ordinators who will be Gary Thomson and Jean Trant-Lambert. The two Scout co-ordinators will be Ken Richardson and Alan Sinfield. Barry Trafford will be the Venturer co-ordinator.

Project WILD is a 3-6 hour course, for adults, that provides a manual of games and activities for various ages. These games are a fun way for youth to learn of the environment and some are suitable for indoors while others are meant for outdoors. If there are 6 or more adults interested, we will be able to put on a course. Contact Roger Nuttall if interested.

1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville has received a donation of 2 tractor trailer units for storage of equipment and someone has provided space for them to be located. 1<sup>st</sup> Merrickville is applying to the Trillium Fund which may donate up to \$25,000. They have arranged to have school talks in September and their Soap Box Derby will be on Sat. Sept. 28, 2003 when they will invite the Cubs from Kemptville.

2<sup>nd</sup> Smiths Falls have their Leaders in place for the fall but are hoping for three more Leaders so they can expand.