



Troop 56 Committee Meeting Minutes August 2004

Eagle Scout Project Presentations

Three scouts, Billy Dragoo, Alex Hari, and Keith Kaplan, presented their proposed Eagle Projects to the Committee for approval.

- Billy Dragoo will be organizing a Food Drive to benefit the Northern Ill. Food Bank in St. Charles. Flyers will be distributed on Sept. 25, and donations collected on Oct. 2. Volunteer drivers will be needed for both days.
- Alex Hari's project is clearing sumac off of a hill at Garfield Farm. The project includes collecting and planting prairie flower/plant seeds to be planted on the hill after it is cleared. It is a one-day project estimated to last 4 – 5 hours to be done on Saturday, October 23, with a rain date of Sunday, October 24.
- Keith Kaplan's project is to paint the 378 sq ft Milk House barn at the Historic Corn Farm. It is a 2 day project; day one scraping off old paint, and day two repainting the barn. Keith will be contacting local hardware stores for donations of paint and materials.

All three projects were approved. Keith's is pending the required signature of the township.

1. Scout Masters Report

Monthly Activities

Activities in August included Pathway to Eagle, the Annual Troop Planning Meeting, a Court of Honor, the Wisconsin River Canoe trip and the Barn Clean-up Service Project.

The theme for September is Safety. The August 31 meeting will include safety training for caving at Maquoketa and for attending the Illini Jamboree. Other Sept. meetings will include videos on industrial safety habits and safety equipment and procedures, and a presentation on movie set construction safety.

Two campouts; Maquoketa Caves and the Illini Jamboree, are scheduled in Sept. the weekend of the 17 – 19. There are enough adult leaders to cover both trips. Early planning and coordination of transportation and food are a must. Permission slips to be distributed on 8/31 and must be returned by Sept. 7. Exceptions for late reservations will not be made.

Scout Leadership Training

Organizing and controlling new scouts at Troop meetings and events is a priority issue and should be addressed by Scouts in leadership positions. Alan will provide leadership training to scouts in leadership positions during "Scout Master Time" at Troop Meetings.

2005 Plan

The committee reviewed the plan for next year's activities.

Parent Meeting

The proposed date for the Parent Meeting is Sept. 14, but may need to be moved to October if Wild Rose is not available that night. Traci will send out the Parent Letter inviting parents to attend the meeting when the date has been finalized.

2. Round Table Report

Haunted Hike: Station volunteers are needed. Lynne Topacio has prepared a flyer that will be distributed at the 8/31 meeting inviting Troop 56 scouts to create and man a haunted station along the hike trail. See flyer for details.

3. Advancement

Court of Honor was held in August. Merit Badges and Rank advancements, including those from summer camp activities, were presented. Merit Badges earned at Pathway to Eagle to be presented at the next COH.

Scott Dohr passed his Eagle Board of Review.

4. Treasurer's Report

None available.

Claude Leidi will begin working with Carol and John Dohr to transition into the Treasurer's position.

5. Venture Crew and High Adventure Update

Suggestions for future High Adventures were discussed. Reservations need to be made early to ensure a spot for Troop 56 scouts to attend.

6. Training

Troop 56 now "owns" a copy of the Youth Protection video. Youth Protection can be scheduled as needed.

5 adult leaders took Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense training in August.

Terry Baughman has volunteered to work with Howard Hansen to coordinate training for adult leaders in the Troop.

7. Recruitment

No report

9. New Business

National Jamboree is being held the end of July 2005. Scouts must be First Class and at least 12 years old to attend. Cost is \$1600 and covers all expenses. Troop 56 scouts should be encouraged to attend. Scouts are currently being put on a Wait List, but odds are good for getting a reservation if they sign up now.

Merit Badge University (like Pathway to Eagle only bigger) is being offered in March 2005 at York High School in Elmhurst. Early registration (for reduced price) begins in November 2004. A 1 to 4 ratio of adult leaders to scouts is required. Adults that attend should be willing to help out at the event.

Fund Raising – Selling wreaths in 2004 was discussed. Stats from 2003 sales show only 33 scouts sold wreaths, and only 10 of those earned campership \$. Allowing the Scouts to earn more money for wreaths sold could boost sales. Before additional money can be considered, the Troop needs to develop an Operating Budget. Claude Leidi will follow-up on budgets with the Dohr's and with the District. Terry Baughman, Claude Leidi and Kathy Hari will coordinate wreath selling goals and benefits.