

Minutes of Leaders' Meeting – November 25, 2013

Attendance: Tom Bertelsen, Jim Callaghan, Stu Garmise, Todd Gianetti, Stew MacCluggage, Mike Nastri. Scribe: Danielle Neary

Committee update from Danielle (see 11/20/13 Committee Meeting minutes).

Upcoming Events:

- 1) December: Indoor Rock Climbing at Central Rock in Glastonbury. Saturday December 14 9pm to Sunday, December 15 at 9am.
- 2) December 14 6pm-9pm District Volunteer Recognition Dinner and Holiday Party.
- 3) January Snowsports Trip: January 23-25 Otis Ridge Adults must stay close to scouts as much as possible. Need higher adult:scout ratio for safety and no broken bones! Use of breakaway lanyards with health info cards.
- 4) Troop Swim: Stew and Danielle will look into area pools
- 5) February: JNW Klondike Derby. January and February meetings (plus additional patrol meetings) will focus on preparation for cold weather camping, sled design and building, review orienteering, knots, lashings, fire building.
- 6) March 15 University of Scouting
- 7) March 29 Eagle Court of Honor, need volunteers to help on planning committee.
- 8) April: entered in lottery for WestPoint trip. Rafting trip as back-up plan.
- 9) May: PLC request for Cape Cod bike trip
- 10) June 29-July 5 summer camp at JNW, site #7. Todd and Stew cannot help due to work commitments. Stu part time this year. Mike can help.

Other discussions:

Tom encouraged leaders to refer to the advancement chart and reach out to scouts to review where they are and what they need. Merit badges have increased, but rank advancement has decreased. ASMs have an important role at every meeting, and can also encourage Life scouts to join you in working with younger scouts.

Tom suggested SPL elections be done in May to help determine who will be nominated to attend NYLT. Todd suggested term take effect 9/1, to provide for a training period between scouts (both of whom are, ideally, going to summer camp).

Stu mentioned Groupon for Flight Trampoline as a potential outing or patrol trip.

Mike and Stew will take online training and do some further reading and research in the scout handbook to prepare them as new ASMs.

Todd suggested that we reconsider the benefit of opening and closing, perhaps doing it on an assigned rotation basis, and allow time at the end for older scouts to make presentations. He further suggested that Life scouts need a review on what is expected of them, i.e. teaching and sign offs. Todd volunteered, with Mike's assistance, to work with Life scouts and organize this effort. Tom will discuss with Jared and Andrew.

Meeting ended with discussion of some individual scouts and things leaders can do to help them at their individual stage of Scouting.

Next meeting will be held in early February (TBD).