National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes
March 25 2009
American Legion Post 177 Fairfax, VA

1. Opening:
    a. Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Committee Chairman, welcomed attendees opened the NCAC **Aquatic Committee** meeting.
    Attending were:
    Eric Steele (NCAC Program Director/Committee Advisor), Mike Meenehan, Tom Ballew, Kevin Jura, Rush Williamson, Mike Fielka
    b. Minutes of the December 17, 2008 meeting were approved.
    c. Kevin Jura, Rush Williamson and Mike Fielka were welcomed to their first Aquatics Committee meeting.
2. NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:
    a. Sea Scouts – Tom Ballew reported on the upcoming Sea Scouts Summer Training, Aug 1-2 Solomons, Maryland. The late summer Powderhorn training course is looking for a kayaking consultant. Tom will attend Aquatics section training at National Camp School in May.
    b. High Adventure – Florida Sea Base has dropped Key West as the Coral Reef Sailing Adventure mid-trip stop. The layover day will now be spent at the main base in Islamorada.
    c. Health and Safety – The **Aquatics Committee** has coordinated with the Health and Safety (H&S) Committee on a proposed NCAC Safe Swim Defense & Safety Afloat Policy as required by the new Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Lifeguard Instructor Manual. Eric Steele will submit the draft policy to the NCAC Executive Board for approval. A Program Hazard Analysis must be completed for each NCAC 2010 Centennial Camporee activity.
    d. Recent National Aquatics Task Force Information – The "***Aquatics Supervision Guide***" is now available in Scout Shops and at scoutstuff.org. The BSA Lifeguard Instructor Guide is now available. There was a discussion about how to make the **new** ***Safe Swim Defense*** and ***Safety Afloat*** guidelines available. Offering the **new** "***Aquatics Supervision***" courses may become a mandatory camp standard. Programming for ***learn-to-swim*** across the scouts is moving forward. At the moment we are looking at various models for enhancing ***learn-to-swim*** programming for Cubs. There is a "***What's New in Aquatics***" PowerPoint file available. **Scuba Merit Badge** development was approved. 2010 Jamboree news - will include three Aquatic program areas: Boating, Scuba, and a new Swimming program.
3. Recent Aquatics Events Supported – University of Scouting: **Aquatic Committee** had a display, several training courses were presented (aquatics, scuba, ***Safe Swim Defense*** and ***Safety Afloat***). All were enthusiastically attended. A Scuba BSA/Snorkeling BSA session was held in January.
4. Swim Checks – A lot of interest in unit swim checks has been expressed lately. New procedures in "***Aquatics Supervision***" clearly state the procedures for units to conduct their own swim classification tests. An **Aquatic Committee** -conducted Swim

Classification Test has been scheduled for the Camp Snyder pool for 13 June. Eric will ensure information and registration are available on the NCAC website.

5. Promotion
    a. The draft NCAC **Aquatic Committee** banner was reviewed. Bob Tallent will approach the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) about funding the 3'x5' vinyl banner. The banner can be used at **Aquatic Committee** events and at the 2010 Jamboree Scuba display area.
    b. The **Aquatic Committee** will have an aquatics display and activity at the 9 May Camp Snyder Jamboree. Staffing help is requested.
6. Aquatics Training Courses – the **new** "***Swimming and Water Rescue***" and "***Paddlecraft Safety***" course material was reviewed. Volunteers took the new course material (slide shows, instructor manuals, etc.) to review for implementation ideas. They will report back on ways we can implement the courses in NCAC:
    a. ***Swimming and Water Rescue*** – Mike Fielka
    b. ***Paddlecraft Safety*** – Rush Williamson
7. Snyderee Aquatics Week – Eric Steele reported on the Aquatics specialty week scheduled for 20 – 24 July.
8. Digital Versatile Disc (DVD)/Compact Disk (CD) Resources – Resource disks were distributed to attendees and the contents were reviewed:
    a. DVD – ***Safe Swim Defense*** and ***Safety Afloat*** videos – reproduced by Kurt Yankaskas, material is dated, but still appropriate
    b. CD – ***BSA Lifeguard Instructor Manual***, "***What's Up in BSA Aquatics***" PowerPoint file, Swim Classification Test Guidelines, Paddlecraft Safety PowerPoint file, Paddlecraft Safety Instructor Guide, Swimming and Water Rescue Powerpoint file, Swimming and Water Rescue Instructor Guide, **Aquatic Committee** Membership roster, Snyder swim check flyer, **Aquatic Committee** banner
9. Cub Leader Pow Wow aquatics courses – The **Aquatic Committee** will sponsor several aquatics courses at the Fall NCAC Pow Wow training for Cub Scout Leaders. Volunteers are solicited to help with this training.
10. Camp Inspections – **Aquatic Committee** members supported several NCAC summer camp inspection activities:
    a. Camp William B. Snyder pre-camp inspection on 18 March. The waterfront and pool areas were reviewed for repairs needing to be done before camp opens.
    b. Goshen Scout Reservation on 28 March. Five camp waterfronts were visited and reviewed for work needed.
    c. Kevin Jura will review the five Goshen Scout Reservation camp's material required by 2009 mandatory camp standard M-61 since he will be at Goshen this summer.
11. NCAC 2010 Centennial Camporee – Kevin Jura will serve as the **Aquatic Committee** representative to the monthly 2010 Centennial Camporee Program Committee meetings.
12. Next **Aquatic Committee** meeting – the next regular **Aquatic Committee** meeting will be held at the Camp Snyder pool pavilion on Wednesday, 24 June. The event will feature a barbeque. You are encouraged to bring your family.
13. BSA Lifeguard Class Working Group (WG) meeting – a meeting of the BSA Lifeguard Class working group was held at the end of regular **Aquatic Committee** meeting.

Copies of the ***Life Guard Instructor Manual*** were distributed. Impacts of the program changes were discussed. Another working group will be scheduled for further planning.