

Western Shore District Committee Meeting Minutes 28 September 2011

Attendees:

Wes Haynes	Nick Adams	Paul Sikorski
Phil Menthe	Christine McDanal	Steve McDanal
Bob Kelly	Bill Caplins	Linda Kelley
Mike McKinney	John Herbig	Sherry Mervine
Leon Smith	John Howlin	Robin McAlister
Charlene Eacho	Bruce Evartt	Terry Wilt
David Nelsen	Bill Berry	Kathleen Berry
George Blackwood	Michael Parks	Tonya Albright
Melanie Anthony		

An orientation session for new members was held before the general meeting. Nick Adams discussed the organization of the District Committee and its duties; Paul Sikorski gave an overview of the Commissioner Corps; and Bill Berry provided an overview of the Order of the Arrow and their activities. Wes Haynes explained the J2E campaign from a district perspective and the current status of the WSD.

The general meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Members began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Nick reminded members that the WSD Annual Business Meeting will be on 30 November. Wes will send an email invitation to all CORs. For the December meeting, it was decided to hold a social event in lieu of a formal committee meeting. Nick has begun researching possible venues, and Bob Kelly suggested that one of the Feasts of Scouting restaurants would be a good choice to thank them for their support. This will be a non-uniform event in the amount of \$15-\$20/person.

William Worden from the Zekiah District presented Bill Berry with the James E West Fellowship Award in honor of his service and example to others – *Congratulations, Bill!!*

District Commissioner's Comments – Paul Sikorski

- Unit recharter packets will be available at the October RT meeting. There will be a short recharter training session before RT beginning at 6:30 pm – please get all unit recharter POCs to Paul by 1 October.
- YPT – the online system will NOT check for expired YPT dates – this must be done manually. New applications will not be accepted without a YPT certificate. YPT dates for currently registered Scouters are listed on the most recent field sheets.
- Top Leader Trained by 31 December 2011 – this is still a goal for our district. Scouters new to their position have a 3-month grace period to get trained.
- All Direct Contact Leaders Trained – NCAC has set their deadline for 31 December 2012, but WSD would like to see this completed ASAP.
- December crossovers – how to handle? In order to avoid confusion, any Webelos II Scout who is crossing over in December will recharter with his Pack in December and then submit a transfer application in January.

Breakout sessions were held among the various groups – meeting reconvened at 8:15 pm.

Membership – Phil Menthe

- Christine McDanal and Tonya Albright will be working with Phil on Membership. Christine has agreed to handle the Webelos-Scout Transition position.
- In a change from (and in addition to) the traditional fall JSNs, Phil hopes to have several District JSNs following the holidays.

Western Shore District Committee Meeting Minutes 28 September 2011

Finance – Bob Kelly

- Bob thanked everyone for supporting the Feast of Scouting campaign. He would like to continue it next year. Wes stressed that it is important for the units to get the word about the event out to the parents.
- The Family Friends of Scouting campaign will be starting soon. WSD was a model for Council and the concept of “counting people and not just dollars” has worked well.
 - This year’s incentive will be rechargeable flashlights.
 - There will be training for presenters and unit coordinators at the November and December RT meetings. Bob will contact unit leaders via email for their POCs.
- Nick and Wes distributed the Scouter FOS envelopes to members.

Program – John Herbig

- Fall Camporee – the leader guide is available on the WSD website. There will be several Merit Badges offered during the event. Please forward all Pack/Troop camping pairs to Steve McDanal.
- BSLST is scheduled for 3 December and IOLS is scheduled for 9-10 December. BALOO has been rescheduled – Dec? Venturing Leader Specific Training will be offered in November.
- Awards – Silver Beaver nominations are due by 30 November.
- Any email correspondence sent to Scouts should follow the same two-deep guidelines. BSA guidelines for the use of all forms of social media may be found at www.scouting.org
- Cub Scout training numbers have declined – possible negative effect from an all online format?
- Calvert County Day Camp - first meeting held; currently working on offering bus service.
- Advancement Report – Charlene Eacho provided a report on the current status of the District’s Eagle projects, both ongoing and complete.
 - Joe Essex has joined the committee as an Eagle Advancement Rep. Joe has put together a Life to Eagle presentation (DVD, application, and handouts).

Marketing – Linda Kelley

- Linda has been in touch with Comcast regarding their series of short interviews. This is the same format as the interview that Bill Caplins recently filmed with them. Other possible subjects include: Scoutmasters, local Scouting activities, and Eagle projects. Comcast will run PSAs and Linda would like to see this happen in the spring. Please send any ideas for print or on-air media spots to Linda. George Blackwood added that the Tester, the NAS Pax River newspaper, is another possibility for Scouting articles.
- Mike McKinney has updated the WSD website with a RoundTable link as part of an effort to “go green” and eliminate much of the monthly paperwork. Units can find the latest program information in this new area.

Order of the Arrow – Bill Berry

- Elections were held in May and Jacob Berry was chosen as the new Chapter Chief.
- The Goshen bus loading effort was a success.
- Bill announced that he will be stepping down as Chapter Advisor and that Kathleen Berry will be taking over this position. He stressed the importance of encouraging all TOARs to attend the monthly chapter meetings – this is a troop leadership position and needs to be an active one.
- The dance team is scheduled to perform at Camp Snyder on 22 October as part of the NCAC 100th Anniversary celebration.
- The chapter is busy planning the Fall Ordeal (7-9 October at Mattapany, Pax River).

Western Shore District Committee Meeting Minutes 28 September 2011

District Director's Comments – Wes Haynes

- Wes distributed flyers with information on Council's fundraiser, *Scouting Salutes the Military*, scheduled for October 26th.
- New Units:
 - Crew 1951 has expressed an interest in starting up again.
 - An Explorer Post through the Dr. James A Forrest Career and Technology Center is another possible unit. The Building Trades Foundation is working on building a house with the students and Exploring could provide insurance past school hours (partner with the Charter Org and the school).
- Scouting with disabilities – there are BSA policies in place and local units need to be made aware of these. Parents should be made aware of the resources available to them.
- Wes reported that use of the online advancement system is low. Units should be reminded and encouraged to use this system to report Scout advancements. John Howlin suggested that the unit commissioners could pass along this information.
- Both Wes and Nick commented on the great turnout for the meeting – keep up the great work!

Reminders –

- 22 October is the NCAC 100th Anniversary celebration at Camp Snyder – check the NCAC website and the Scouter Digest for details on specific activities.

The minutes from the June meeting were voted on and approved.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next District Committee Meeting will be 26 October 2011.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Anthony on 26 October 2011.