

**Western Shore District Committee Meeting Minutes
30 November 2011**

Attendees:

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|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wes Haynes | Nick Adams | Paul Sikorski |
| Leon Smith | Christine McDanal | Steve McDanal, COR C409, P1785 |
| Bob Kelly | Bill Caplins | Linda Kelley |
| Mike McKinney | John Herbig | Sherry Mervine |
| Robin McAlister | Charlene Eacho | Bruce Evartt |
| George Blackwood | Kathleen Berry | Terry Wilt |
| Michael Parks | Jon Baake | Melanie Anthony |
| John Howlin | Joe America, COR T430 | Jim Tomasic, ASM T1634 |
| Michael Cerrito, COR T1792 | Beth Oster, COR T427 | |

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the District Chairman, Nick Adams. Wes Haynes began the meeting with a welcome to the Charter Organization Representatives, an overview of the District Committee's makeup and responsibilities, and an explanation of the annual voting process. Nick presented the slate to the members, and the voting members approved the slate as read.

The minutes from the October meeting were approved.

District Commissioner's Comments – Paul Sikorski

- At this point, only 25 units have entered the online recharter system. The Commissioner Corps will be checking with their units to remind them of the December 14th deadline.
- Please let Paul know of any problems that units may be experiencing.

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

Order of the Arrow – Kathleen Berry

- Representatives of the OA will be at the December Round Table to talk about the Spring Camporee scheduled for 13-15 April at King's Landing Park. The leader's guide will be available online January 1st. This event will be youth-run; any interested youth should contact Kathleen.
- The District-wide Arrow of Light ceremony is scheduled for 3 March 2012.
- OA elections will be starting in January.
- The ALDC training day will be held 3 December in Bowie.

Finance – Bob Kelly

- Bob stated that both Finance and Marketing are teaming to raise funds for the district. Linda Kelley has been working on a list of companies to contact as prospective donors.
- The Feasts of Scouting campaign will be starting up again after the new year. Bob will make a pitch for volunteers to help him at the December RT. It was noted that getting the word out to the units is key to the success of the effort.
- Bill Caplins gave a report on the Family Friends of Scouting campaign.
 - There will be training for presenters and unit coordinators at RT.
 - Bill is collecting unit contact information and hopes to have all contacts by RT. Ideally, he would like to see this campaign wrapped up by the end of March.
 - Wes noted that this is the biggest fundraiser for the district.
- Nick encouraged members to turn in their Scouter FOS pledge forms if they have not already done so.
- Wes is looking to identify any Booz Allen Hamilton employees to make them aware of the company's program where they will pay money for an employee's volunteer hours.

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Program – John Herbig

- Calvert County is working on finalizing a date for Cub Scout Day Camp.
- John went over the district's upcoming training opportunities:
 - BSLST is scheduled for 3 December at the JF Taylor building near Gate 1 (Pax River).
 - IOLS is scheduled for 9-10 December at the Calverton School.
 - There will be a WSD "mini Pow Wow" on 14 January 2012. Training will include Den Chief, BALOO, and position specific.
- The J2E goal for Bronze is 40% trained and although we have not reached this, we may be able to increase our total by 2% to achieve Bronze level. The number of Scoutmasters trained has increased from 33% to 56% largely because leaders are using the training update form. Jon Baake is still collecting these and updating the database.
- Charlene Eacho will present an overview of the new Advancement Guide and the new Eagle Scout workbook at the December RT meeting beginning at 7pm. In January, she will report on the total number of Eagles for 2011; there are several Boards of Review scheduled before the end of the year.
- Terry Wilt stated that the deadline for the Silver Beaver Award has passed (30 Nov.) and that all nominations for the District Award of Merit are due by the end of December. He asked that all inputs be submitted in the next two weeks to allow time for the nominations to be reviewed and forwarded to Council before the deadline. Nominations for the other four district awards (Shield of Service, Baden Powell Service Award, Distinguished Scouter Award, and Honor Unit) are not due until 31 March 2012.

Marketing – Linda Kelley

- Members continued last month's discussion on the effectiveness of the www.BeAScout.org website and how to ensure that a timely response is sent to prospective families. Bill Caplins stressed that units need to take ownership of the site and update their unit's information when necessary. Nick and Linda led a pros/cons discussion on the creation of a district Facebook page as another way to increase visibility. Members were asked to submit any ideas to them.
- Mike McKinney has added training links to the district website. Please send him any new inputs.

Membership – Phil Menthe (not present - updates given by Wes Haynes)

- The number of youth is down from last year's number, but this should change once the recharter packets are processed. Also, LDS numbers have not yet been figured into the total.
- The WSD has a net gain of one unit over last year, plus Wes is working on a possible Explorer post at the James Forrest Technology Center in conjunction with one of its partners.

District Chairman's Comments – Nick Adams

- The December meeting will be a holiday social at Mama Lucia's in Prince Frederick on 21 December. The cost will be around \$25/person. This will be a non-uniformed event with a cash bar. More details to follow.
- Nick recognized Jon Baake for receiving the John L. Wolfgang Lifetime Achievement Award. He also discussed an impressive Eagle Scout service project that was completed in Kenya.

District Director's Comments – Wes Haynes

- Wes went over a handout on the status of the Internet Advancement process in the WSD. The number of units getting online and uploading their advancement data has increased as more units are following the process to completion.
- The District's J2E status was reviewed – WSD will probably achieve the Bronze level.

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- Institution Head/Charter Organization Rep contact – Wes stressed the importance of contacting each unit's IH/COR to establish a relationship and discuss their unit(s) so that the first contact does not come when problems arise.
- Paul volunteered to work with Wes on the golfing fundraiser.
- Please get any district recharter fees and/or applications to Melanie.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

NOTE: There will be no District Committee Meeting in December – the December event will be a dinner at Mama Lucia in Prince Frederick on 21 December. This will be a non-uniformed event with a cash bar. Our normal meetings will resume in January.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Anthony on 10 December 2011.