

## Troop 957 Committee Minutes – January 4, 2005

**Attendees:** Dave Wisniewski, Countses, Jody Williford, John MacLain, Johnsons, Mike Berno, Lori Jacob, Warren Hall, Tom Manning, Steve Beisert, Judy Hulsey, Dan Burbank, Nixes

Lori reported on the fundraising activities. The Foley's event was successful. We are however still waiting for the earnings from the shift manning the doors. Others in work include the car washes scheduled for April and June, and the Sun and Ski 5% of purchase offer.

The court of honor later this month will be likely be short, with about 8 rank advancements. We are at the point with several of the boys where the Orienteering requirement and first class cooking requirement, two of the more difficult ones to get in terms of timing, are the last ones needed. The physical fitness merit badges will form the bulk of the 35 or so badges to be given. Missy Adams will handle arranging the refreshments.

Next campout is the Orienteering meet next week. Commitments were due this week. It is a 2.5 hour drive. Chris will take the lanterns for repair during the campout since it is so near San Marcos. Meanwhile Warren reported that the stove should be repaired by next weekend. He also suggested painting the tent stakes orange to increase visibility/decrease the loss rate.

At the time of the meeting, the troop had \$3409.70 in the account, over \$2100 of which is in the boys' and parents' passbook accounts from popcorn earnings and cancelled campouts. The boys owed just over \$500 in dues on Tuesday, but once I tallied the money from the meeting, that went down to \$200. Current troop debt (after factoring in the \$650 BP volunteer program grant check that showed up at the meeting) is down to \$1000 remaining of the \$1350 cost of the troop trailer. The \$250 UTC volunteer program grant should show up by late February. If any one else has a similar program with their employer, please look into it. It is free money for the troop, and right now forms a significant part of our operating budget.

Currently fundraiser earnings, these grants and the boys' dues all contribute about equally to funding the troop activities. Expected expenses for 2005 include \$650 for the light weight hiking stoves, fuel bottles and maintenance kits and \$250 for the canoe rescue pack, as the scoutmasters have been unable to find any group willing to donate it.

In the advancements area, there probably will be a BOR on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Other near term events include the PLC and OA elections next week, followed by the planning conference and the trailer work day the 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup>. Scout Sunday will be February 6<sup>th</sup>, with the Webelos Open House the 8<sup>th</sup>. For other events see the troop calendar on the web site. Chris did report that we will not make Philmont in 2006, having some 1680 other troops ahead of us on the waiting list. See Chris's separate e-mail on summer camp for this year. Mount Rainey anyone?

One of the last topics discussed was the need to begin supporting multiple activities in order to hold onto the older boys. We are at the point now where the older ones are becoming eligible for high adventure type activities, while the younger ones and incoming Webelos must still be supported in the basics. This will mean more parental involvement. Also talked was the need for the troop to do a better job with service projects and to focus more strongly on citizenship.

The next parents meeting will be February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Barbara

Troop 957 Treasurer and Secretary