

Troop 455 Committee Meeting Minutes 01 February 2021

- Roll Call
 - Dylan Miyake
 - Michael Baer
 - Jonathan Lathbury
 - David Moore
 - Brady Lum
 - Todd Sharp
 - Jody Brooks
 - Laurel Miyake
 - Lissa Smith-Cote
 - Mickey Smith
 - Amber Ackerman
 - Ishaan Hedge
 - Cole Regna
 - Sue Anthony
- Approval of Minutes
 - **Approved: Committee unanimously approved minutes.**
 - **Action Item: Sue to distribute to Troop via posting on Scoutbook.**
- Scoutmaster's Minute -- Todd
 - Due to previously scheduled January 29-31 Campout being cancelled, two daytime excursions were offered on Saturday, January 30. (East Palisades Hike in the morning and Piedmont Park Orienteering (led by Troop 29) in the afternoon) Both outings were successful despite a Scout's biking injury. Thanks to Jim Hester and Lissa Smith-Cote for leading.
 - Previous Covid-19 cases and exposures have been managed. No new cases associated with the troop have been reported.
 - Scoutmaster's Core Meeting was held to clarify ASM roles. Todd is open to feedback, and is sharing results with the SPL and the PLC.
 - Brady raised follow up on translation of ASM roles
 - **Action Item (Todd, Brady, Pierce, Dylan): Discuss ASM roles and execution**
 - Jody asked whether 2/16/21 COH is virtual or F2F.
 - Todd and Brady commented on few rank advancements and some Winter Camp MB completions at this COH
 - **Action Item (Jody, Todd, Brady): Discuss and plan COH**
 - Lissa reported 8 Troop 455 Scouts present at Orienteering. Ishaan is asking for Scoutmaster's conference. Gavin Matthews is progressing and well as Cole Regna.
- Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities -- Dylan & Todd
 - Michael Baer counseling Dylan, Todd and Troop 455 on best practices.

- Dylan reports that Troop 455 is asking Todd to do too much of the administration of the troop and it pulls him away from his primary Scoutmaster duties for the Scouts.
 - Dylan, Todd, and Michael worked to identify ways the workload can be more evenly distributed. Going forward, there are 3 key areas of responsibility:
 - **Advancement Committee** (Brady, Pierce, Laurel and Lissa): Responsible for tracking Scout advancements, issuing blue cards, scheduling COH, etc.
 - Michael Baer commented on SM and ASMs needing to focus on the youth leadership doing the work for the troop. Todd agreed.
 - Brady commented on recognizing that it takes an army for Scouts to have a seamless experience.
 - **Outings Committee** (David): Responsible for executing outings (including planning, cost, COVID-19 protocols, etc.) focused on the specific PLC/Scout leader vision. Preferably, planning will take place 6 weeks prior to outing date.
 - Todd mentioned March outing could offer two hiking/backpacking packs and would therefore, require two adult and two scout leaders.
 - David confirmed he'll be planning
 - Lissa commented on the need for Scouts to plan outings.
 - **Communication Committee** (Sue): Responsible for improving and standardizing troop wide communication, consistent calendaring, and troop wide messaging.
 - Sue raised concern for being the bottleneck to getting information out to troop and getting detailed calendar entries from others. Sue confirmed with TC leadership that ScoutBook is primary communication tool for Troop.
 - **Action item (Sue, David): work together to add detailed outing itineraries to Troop Calendar**
 - **Action Item (Brady, Lissa, Sue): ??**
 - Michael Baer confirmed troop communication should go through Sue but shares her concern for bottleneck. Further comments regarding troop workload being divided into "front office" and "back office". Dividing workload between Scoutmaster's Core and TC Chairs. Balance allows Scoutmaster's Core to focus on Scouting while troop administration is completed by Chairpersons.
- Chartered Organization
 - Todd reports BSA & Haygood COVID Protocols were reviewed with the Scoutmaster's Corps at their meeting.
 - Jonathan told the TC that the idea of the Scoutmaster's Corps taking Safe Sanctuaries training has come up before and he was told that the church is satisfied with BSA YPT training and that SS training was for Haygood YCM (Youth Children's Ministries / School) personnel and not necessary for Troop 455.

- Amber recommends the PLC discuss the outing plan tomorrow (2/2) and make a decision.
 - David confirmed he will attend the PLC meeting.
 - Lissa stated Anderson wants to work with Matt Anthony and have the outing be Scout led.
 - Concern raised that there is a big disconnect within Scout leadership on determining the March outing plan and leadership.
 - Dylan said Matt Anthony is willing to lead whatever kind of outing the PLC determines is best.
 - Action Item: (David, Todd, Laurel, Matt Anthony, and Pack 17) to discuss March outing.
 - Wilderness Skills and Survival Outing, April 17 - 18 (Jack Murlin is Scout leader with ASM Thomas Brooks):
 - Laurel asked if the outing is safe and focused on training.
 - Todd answered there is a Risk Management Plan attached to the outing.
 - Action Item (Todd, David): Discuss adding an additional adult leader to outing plan
 - Summer Camp / High Adventure
 - Bert Adams: June 6 - 12, 2021, Laurel managing registration process
 - Philmont: June 11 - 23, 202, FULL, Lead is Chad Polk
 - Seabase: July 25 - Aug 1, 2021, there are two openings. Lead is Brady Lum. It is a scuba trip and Scouts must achieve Scuba certification prior to trip
- Partnering with Troop 29 (Amber)
 - Amber reports boys and girls are interested in cooperative outings but they haven't been successful because there has been a lack of communication. Troop 29 plans outings 3-8 months out.
 - Action Item (Amber and Todd): communicate and plan dual outings in April and May.
 - Action Item (Amber): send select Troop 29 outings to Sue to add to Troop 455 calendar in order to invite Troop 455
 - Action Item (Todd): discuss with SPL and PLC the potential of offering Troop 455 survey earlier in order to plan outings earlier
- Advancement -- Brady
 - Merit Badge Counselor Updates: frustration with Atlanta Council expressed in attaining counselors. Michael Baer offered to help.
- Communications -- Sue
 - [Troop Newsletter Draft](#)
 - The Objective of the Troop 455 newsletter is to inform the troop community of all troop news and events as well as to create cohesion and build relationships.
 - Start small and improve format and content as we continue.

- Sue thanked all contributors (Todd, Brady, David and Dylan)
- Action Item (Sue): Release Troop 455 newsletter on February 8, 2021
- ScoutBook -- Brady
 - Scout Connections: 24 Scouts registered on SB, 8 remaining outstanding registrations
 - Scout / Parent Training Dates being scheduled in February
 - Payments
 - Action Item (Todd, Brady): Schedule 3 Scoutbook training sessions by February 28th
 - Adult Leader training
 - PLC Training Session and
 - Parent Training Session
 - Action Item (Brady): Send descriptions and dates for Scoutbook training to Sue to add to Troop calendar

Amber requested TC and PLC virtual meeting links be sent out Troop wide

 - Action Item (Sue): send TC meeting link out to Troop via ScoutBook on the day of TC meeting.
 - Action Item (SPL, Todd,): send PLC meeting link to Troop OR send to Sue to send to Troop through Scoutbook. Nick Anthony reports that the PLC meeting link is usually sent out by Jack at 7pm prior to 7:30pm meeting time.
- Meeting Adjourned