

## TROOP 700 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 6, 2012

The monthly committee meeting of Troop 700 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Committee Chair, Bill Deters. Attendees included:

Bryan Abron	Eric Davis	Daniel Luce
Arnold Adams	Bill Deters	Paul Lynch
Marion Bacon	Millie Ferri	Bill Mathison
Cheryl Bischof	Fred Follis	Pam Morrison
Robin Carson	Helen Hallaron	Lisa Nester
Laurie Clower	Robin Hammesfahr	Jennifer Tidmore
Phil Croak	Cheryl Kiff	Robert Williams

The first order of business was discussion of the Scoutmaster Selection Subcommittee's recommendation of Fred Follis as new Scoutmaster to replace Trent Tidmore. It was noted although Follis' youngest son will most likely achieve Eagle rank by the end of the year, Follis is making a three-year commitment to the position. Follis addressed the committee and shared his vision about the future of the troop and noted that while the troop is "not broken" there is always room for improvement. He would like to see:

- New process of assigning one (or more) Assistant Scoutmaster(s) to each rank to assist Scouts with requirements, especially after Scouts reach First Class rank
- Thorough education on new Eagle process
- Improved communications between Troop Committee and Assistant Scoutmasters
- Clearly defined organizational diagram to assist boys in understanding troop dynamics
- Leader-specific booklets for each position which includes contact directory, calendar, detailed job description and journal to record tasks completed in that leadership position

Jennifer Tidmore made a motion to elect Fred Follis as Troop 700's new Scoutmaster effective February 27, 2012. Paul Lynch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### REPORTS

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Secretary. Laurie Clower distributed the monthly newsletter and the January committee meeting minutes for review. Jennifer Tidmore made a motion to approve minutes as presented; Paul Lynch seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer. Millie Ferri, Troop Treasurer, reported \$8,860 in the troop's account of which \$4,428 is in Scout Accounts (\$4,432 available for troop expenditures). Budget is on track and the following expenses have been incurred: Administrative \$42, Advancement \$297; Campouts \$2,012; Gear \$276; Leader training \$75, Van Tire \$155; Registration for Trailer and Van \$184 and Chili Dinner \$356. The troop has also received \$336 in random donations.

Quartermaster. Fred Follis reported he will take a rim off the big trailer to use for a spare on the new trailer for the upcoming campout. Fourteen (14) to sixteen (16) Webelos are expected to cross over and the troop will purchase two tents, coolers and stoves for the new patrols. The \$500 line item in the budget will cover the expense. The battery-operated lanterns will not be replaced as the boys use their own headlamps and flashlights as well as the propane lanterns which are more economical to repair.

Advancement Chair. Robin Carson reminded everyone that Court of Honor is February 27<sup>th</sup>; therefore, last date to submit achievements is February 13<sup>th</sup>. Alex Luce will emcee the ceremony and Lisa Nester will coordinate reception following. Merit Badge College blue cards will not be distributed until March Roundtable. Helen Hallaron and Carson have been working on the "Welcome to Troop 700" packets for

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new Webelos crossing over. Troop scribe is assembling packets. Five siblings will be crossing over. Carson advised that neckerchief slides were purchased in error and asked the committee if they should be returned. Committee elected to return slides.

Carson proposed a new class for new Scouts to learn the merit badge process. Many new Scouts flounder the first year with the process and handing them merit badge at their first Court of Honor would be beneficial. The Troop Scribe will review merit badge list and propose a simple, fun merit badge to do in a group setting in a few hours. The Scoutmasters, Advancement Chair and merit badge counselor will facilitate the program and show the boys how to set up a binder to keep their merit badge work organized as well as walk them through the entire process.

Outdoor Activities Coordinator. Cheryl Bischof updated the committee on the following events:

- Backpacking Campout—February 17-19 (Ouachita Trail System near Muse/Big Cedar, OK). Apache Patrol will stay at base camp with Bessie Jackson to work on requirements while older Scouts will backpack 15 miles. Grub fees will be higher for those hiking as freeze-dried meals are more expensive. An adult grub master will not be needed as the adults will eat with different patrols. Mark Whitman is the assigned Scoutmaster and Follis is the coordinator.
- Canoeing Campout—March 23-25 (Caddo Lake State Park). Canoes are \$45 each and boys will row to Goat Island to camp out again. Three people can fit in each canoe. Coordinator, scoutmaster and grub master are to be determined. A \$12 “consumption/usage fee” is required for the wildlife refuge area (Goat Island) in addition to a state park permit. Five campsites have been reserved and the fee is \$8/night/campsite. The campsites are first come-first serve. New Scouts and Scouts that have not completed a swim test in the last year will not be permitted to participate in this campout unless they can arrange for a swim test prior. Fee for this campout will be in addition to usual grub master fees. Daniel Luce made a motion to charge \$20 per person for the Caddo Lake Canoeing Campout. Jennifer Tidmore seconded. Motion carried.
- District Camporee—April 13-15 (Meadowmere Park, Lake Grapevine). Pam Morrison offered to coordinate this campout, Tony Clower will be grub master and a Scoutmaster will be determined.

Chartered Organization Representative—Robert Williams. Bob requested visibility from the troop at all four of the church services on Scout Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> (8:50 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.). Even if UMC Grapevine is not your “church home,” please consider attending once a year on Scout Sunday (observed on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday by UMC). The SPL will present colors at the 11:15 a.m. service.

### OLD BUSINESS

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Scouting for Food. Laura Lisenbee will coordinate this event again this year. Boys will need to be in Class A uniform to participate. The area assigned to the troop is around the church and bags will be distributed on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> and collected on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> (Scout Sunday).

Pancake Breakfast. Jennifer Tidmore reported that February 27<sup>th</sup> was not an available date for the Pancake Breakfast but that February 18<sup>th</sup> or March 3<sup>rd</sup> was. The committee felt March 3<sup>rd</sup> was the most logical date to allow enough time for proper preparation. Mr. Williams advised that the church will have to approve the selling of tickets for the event at the next two weekend services before tickets can be sold. Tidmore will take the event back to the PLC for discussion and will advise if the event will take place in March or a later date.

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### NEW BUSINESS

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Scout Sunday. Paul Lynch volunteered to coordinate Scout Sunday with Mr. Williams. Scouts are requested at all services. SPL is requested to present colors at the 11:15 a.m. service. Church congregation was asked to support Scouting for Food.

New Scout Orientation. March 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a meeting for new Scouts and their parents to help answer some of their questions about Troop 700. A campout specifically for the new Scouts is tentatively planned for March 31<sup>st</sup> at Lake Grapevine.

Fundraising Camp Cards. A revised copy of a sample “camp card” which offers discounts to area businesses was reviewed. The cards sell for \$5 and Scouts earn \$2.50 per card sold. It is titled “*Help Me Earn My Way to Camp*” and Kroger offers a \$5 discount on purchases of \$50 or more—exact price of the card. Interested Scouts/parents should email Pam Morrison who is coordinating this fundraiser through the Longhorn Council.

Troop Committee Role & Open Positions. Chair Deters reminded the committee that it is the role and responsibility of the committee to approve all campouts and assure they are safe and within the troop’s budget. Any changes to the schedule are to be brought to the committee by the PLC.

The troop committee needs an assistant Quartermaster (with Fred Follis accepting the Scoutmaster position, Tony Clower will assume the role of Quartermaster) and Troop Training Coordinator. Rick Mang, Associate Pastor at UMC, agreed to be troop committee chaplain. Helen Hallaron is working with Robin Carson, Advancement Chair, to assist as Membership Coordinator. Eric Davis volunteered to be Troop Training Coordinator and keep the troop’s records current on adult training. This is important for the filing of the “Journey to Excellence” program (formerly Quality Unit Award) as well as re-charter. It is important for the troop to know which adults are current on YPT and who are qualified for specific recognition awards.

Troop Bylaws. Upon review of the troop bylaws that have not been updated since 2008, Chair Deters asked for a subcommittee to review and recommend changes. Specific information that may be considered for inclusion in the bylaws:

- How is a Scoutmaster selected?
- What is the role and the Committee Chair?
- How are Assistant Scoutmasters determined?
- What are the functions of the committee positions? Terms?

The troop bylaws would be an excellent tool for new parents to assist them in learning how the troop operates. Lisa Nester, Paul Lynch, Bob Williams and Robin Hammesfahr volunteered for this subcommittee.

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Next committee meeting will be **March 5, 2012.**

Luce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Bill Mathison seconded.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Laurie Clower, Troop Secretary.*