

Crossroads District Committee Meeting
October 7, 2020

Attending: Mike Cargill, Rob Clark, Peter Demlein, Al Dominy, Rob Fredericks, Kathy Kaffenberger, Thom Kubicki, Matt Lacy, Bob Lombardi, Adam Selsley, Terry Richmond, & Pat Ward. Each member shared their role and some trivia.

Bob L called the meeting to order at 7:04pm with the Pledge, Oath, and Law. Minutes from September were approved.

State of the District: Bob discussed recruiting changes due to the pandemic and how it will affect Scouting. Units are starting to return to full operations and existing units are starting complementary units (girl Troop, “feeder” Pack) to help expand Scouting in local areas. He also briefly discussed the district’s finance efforts, severely hampered by the pandemic: many unit Friends of Scouting presentations were canceled because of the spread of the virus.

Membership: Due to the number of programs that did not run this year due to the pandemic, current membership has declined approximately 30% from our 12/31/2019 totals. One program alone accounts for 7% of the total decline. Mike noted that since the focus of this fall’s membership campaign will be retention, he is scheduling time in the next two weeks with Pat Ward, Thom Kubicki, and Mike Romeo to engage commissioners in this effort. Matt noted that potential recruitment efforts were discussed at the council staff meeting today and that he would share with Mike after the meeting.

Program: The council Spooktacular event has sold out – both shifts on both days are filled and a waiting list has started. Depending on volunteer availability, other shifts may be added.

Popcorn: Rob reported that he is posting information to the Longhouse Popcorn Swap group and helping units within the district manage their sale. Supply limitations imposed by Trails-End are a constant challenge council-wide and are hindering the true fundraising efforts that units would be able to do. The top three products by sales volume are caramel corn and white cheddar, followed by the new honey-roasted peanuts.

Finance: Kathy reported that she has sent an email and will follow up with calls to donors from last year to increase our Friends of Scouting support. She will also be participating in a phone-a-thon to make direct and personal asks to each lapsed donor; additional volunteers willing to help make calls should contact her directly. She also noted that she is working on a potential arrangement with a locally-owned pizza chain to help support the district and council, and is willing to speak to local civic organizations to ask for their support of Scouting once gathering restrictions loosen.

Advancement: Adam noted that his committee reviewed and approved its first Eagle Project proposal last night and has two Eagle Rank applications ready for a Board of Review. Plans are to hold both by the end of this month. He apologized for the slow formation of the committee, but feels he is currently on the right trajectory.

Training: Al Dominy introduced himself as the District Training Chair and laid out his plans for ensuring each leader knows their path to be considered fully trained. As role models for the district, the committee and commissioner staff are expected to complete their training as well! Matt noted that each district member (committee or commissioner) should re-take the online courses for their position as there was a major update to each in 2019.

Commissioners: Pat Ward noted that overall, units are doing much better than expected due to the gathering restrictions and varying levels of advice given by chartered organizations to their units. She also noted that more commissioners have been recruited and will be registered shortly. Unit assignments for commissioners will be finalized and updated in Commissioner Tools by the end of this week. Roundtable topics for October will focus on **Scouting with COVID Precautions** and **Changes to the JTE Rubrics**. Bill Wallick, Jason Rieth, and Keith Dupra will be our presenters.

Bob & Matt thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to making sure the Scouts of our district are given the best chance to succeed. Many hands do make light work. The meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

Submitted by:
Matt Lacy
Senior District Executive