

Crossroads District Committee Meeting
January 6, 2021

Attending: Mike Cargill, Peter Demlein, Al Dominy, Thom Kubicki, Matt Lacy, Bob Lombardi, Mike Romeo, Bob Schad, Bill Thieke, Pat Ward, and David Whyte.

Bob L called the meeting to order at 7:10pm with the Pledge, Oath, and Law. December minutes were approved.

State of the District: It was recently determined that the true goal of the incredible pressure applied by the Council leadership was to improve the Crossroads District's fundraising performance after an abysmal first three quarters in 2020. Unofficial numbers for the end of 2020 show the district improving to 68% of the prior year's fundraising performance and into second place (from a distant last) of all districts in the council. Raising approximately \$18,179 in a year marked by a global pandemic is an incredible feat and a testament to the support and dedication of all the district's volunteers, including Friends of Scouting presenters and callers.

Popcorn & Communications: Rob will provide a full post-mortem of the popcorn sale at our February committee meeting.

Finance: Matt shared an email with tentative end-of-year figures for district level Friends of Scouting campaigns. Bob reported on the relative success of the recent virtual Winter Soiree.

Membership: The district's virtual recruitment nights netted one interested family, however they did not attend the session that they had initially signed up for. Our focus now shifts (with the help of the Commissioner corps) to the annual charter renewal process. There will be YPT courses scheduled over the next six weeks to ensure that all are given the opportunity to complete it.

Training: Al Dominy reported that there are 20 people registered for the upcoming University of Scouting, which will be held over January 7-10 via Zoom. He also reported that 53% of adult leaders in the district have completed their position-specific training, and 87% have YPT that is current. These numbers have improved from last month and will continue to improve as we near the annual charter renewal window. Further discussion on the January 16 position-specific training for Scoutmasters/Assistant Scoutmasters revealed that four individuals are currently registered. Matt will confirm if Al is receiving all Constant Contact emails.

Program: The Green Bar program, a youth-led planning committee for district activities, met on December 3 to plan the district's upcoming events. Youth in attendance developed the theme and patch for the 2021 Klondike Derby, "Escape from Ice Planet" on 2/6 at Woodland. Mike Cargill needs additional leader assistance in making the event happen. Leaders' Guide will be out next week.

Awards & Recognition: Ed Theetge will meet with David Whyte and Walt Shepard on Friday to finalize the new slate of awards for the Crossroads District. Matt shared the nomination form reviewed by the district awards committee and asked Mike Cargill and Bill Thieke to stay a few minutes after this meeting to confirm the changes needed to the document. Mike Cargill will reach out to Jim Eklund to obtain a list of individual awards to give to Bill Thieke to combine the two former districts awards histories.

Advancement: The virtual Eagle Dinner is coming up in a few weeks, please make sure all Eagle Scouts from the class of 2020 are aware and encouraged to participate. Thom Kubicki mentioned the potential of the Longhouse Council forming an official NESAs chapter after conversations with Council President Pat Rao. Suggestions for a chairperson for this committee should be made to Thom or Pat. A reminder was also made that all advancement items (including Eagle project approvals and Boards of Review) are handled through Adam Selsley, the current district advancement chair.

Commissioners: Pat Ward noted that with the holidays, her plans for December have carried over into the month of January. She also reported on a failed recruitment effort by Troop 204 due to poor communication by the unit to the school. Matt and Pat discussed the changes to the upcoming charter renewal cycle, including the first two YPT Zoom trainings scheduled for January 29 and February 13. In the future, she would appreciate messages from the Council Key 3 of District Operations include the District Commissioners.

Bob mentioned that in looking back at the year 2020, it seems as though the amount of bad luck generated can last us a lifetime. With a pandemic raging, the district committee voted to merge on Friday, March 13th. In true 2020 fashion, it never let go... but we have certainly been the dictionary definition of resilient and adaptable in the face of all of the adversity this year has thrown at us.

Matt noted that due to financial constraints due to COVID-19 and the New York State FLSA laws, the Longhouse Council has removed his "exempt" employee status effective January 1, which may affect his availability and responsiveness. Ed Theetge and Tim Herne will assist in covering items that no longer fit in Matt's schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

Submitted by:

Matt Lacy

Senior District Executive