



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 146

St. Francis Church
308 Jefferson Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030
www.troop146.org

March 21, 2017

To: Members and Friends of Boy Scout Troop 146

Here is a summary of the Troop Committee meeting and Board of Review that took place this evening in the HOPES/Rue School Conference Room. The next meeting will take place in the HOPES/Rue School on April 11, 2017.

1. Present

Marie Luizzi (presiding)	Norman Kasser
Lenny Luizzi	Gretchen Scheiman
Peter Lopez	Dave Sytsma

Also: Life Scout Jacob Grossbard

2. Board of Review for:

Aaron Kurland was reviewed and passed for Life
Henry Plotka was reviewed and passed for Life
Xavier Aniello was reviewed and passed for 2nd Class
Noel Centeno was reviewed and passed for 2nd Class

3. Eagle Scout Status Report for Jacob Grossbard

Jacob reached Life Scout during a special Board of Review convened last month and must complete all the remaining requirements for Eagle Scout by August 10, 2017. He needs six more merit badges: Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Communication, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, and Sustainability. Jacob said that all six were in progress, and Lenny invited Jacob to contact him in order to get started with Citizenship in the Community.

Jacob's Eagle project will benefit the senior residents of "Columbian Towers," owned by the Knights of Columbus at 76 Bloomfield Street. He and a team of Scouts will go door-to-door and speak with each tenant. One goal is to ensure that each senior will be prepared for an event like Hurricane Sandy. A second goal is to ensure that each tenant has a good container for water and a good flashlight so that they don't try to rely on candles. He called candles a fire hazard, and noted that a fire would add an extra burden on first responders already busy with lots of other concerns. A third goal is to list which tenants have special needs, such as an oxygen tank or a wheelchair, and might need assistance if they have to leave the building. Jacob said, "Most likely we will give that list to the city."

In response to Dave Sytsma's question, Jacob said that he will train Scouts on how to interview tenants, or better, he will arrange for a member of Hoboken's CERT team to handle that training. (CERT = Community Emergency Response Team.)

A week ago, Lenny accompanied Jacob to speak with the building manager and give an overview, but Lenny was pretty sure that she didn't really understand the intent of the project, and so it was agreed that Jacob would prepare a written proposal with details and e-mail it. Lenny was disappointed that a week had passed and that the e-mail was still outstanding. Furthermore, Lenny warned Jacob that an additional week at minimum will be needed to get approval from the Council or District Advancement Committee. Jacob

said that he "needs to refine it a bit more" and will then either hand-carry it or e-mail it to the building manager "before the end of the week." Lenny urged Jacob, "The ball is in your court! You have to get it done!"

4. Upcoming April Camping Trip (Apr 21-23, was Apr 7-9)

Lenny ask us to postpone the April camping trip by two weeks so that he and Marie will be able to participate. He also proposed that Scouts set up tents in the back yard of his and Marie's Pennsylvania vacation home. Assistant Scoutmaster Terrence Richardson volunteered to research options for the weekend, but has not yet gotten back. The trip appears on our calendar as "Whitewater Rafting," with the most likely spot being the Lehigh River near Jim Thorpe Pennsylvania.

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The committee ran out of time, and so the following agenda items were not discussed

5. Eagle Scout Status Report for Adam Gellman (Feb 25)

Adam's Eagle Scout Court of Honor took place on February 25 at St Matthew Trinity Lutheran Church. It was well attended by 11 Scouts and many guests totaling about 50, including one from the Turrell camp staff. Bob was pleased with how well the Scouts performed in their roles as Color Guard and Rose Ceremony presenters, along with Henry Plotka as the MC. Marie made it a point to welcome one of the guest presenters, Police Lieutenant Michael DeTrizio, Troop 146's second Eagle Scout. Scouts were Jason Davidoff, Patrick Groo, Jacob Grossbard, Aaron Kurland, Jack Nilsen, Henry Plotka, Liam Richardson, Julian Spilatro, Will Sytsma, Aidan Ward, and Ethan Zhang.

6. Eagle Scout Status Report for Jason Davidoff

Reprint from last month's Committee meeting:

During a prior status report to the Troop Committee, Jason was optimistic about completing his final merit badge in January and also getting started on an Eagle project to benefit the Hoboken Shelter. However, Jason instead found himself spending all his spare time working with his school's Robotics Club, requiring him to put all Scout-related activities temporarily on hold. Jason is just one merit badge short and one project short of reaching Eagle.

7. Scout Week Window Display Followup (Feb 5-11)

During the week that our display window was in place in an empty office building at 110 Washington Street, a mom walked past and decided that Scouts might be a good fit for her son. Devin Reed showed up the following Tuesday and registered on the Tuesday after that. At age 15, we think he will fit best as part of the Rolling Stones Patrol of Junior Leaders. Devin has already attended two troop events, the Pack 146 bridge ceremony and the March 19 food drive.

One week after Devin joined, Anthony Hawk showed up with his dad. He registered with the troop in time to attend the March Ski weekend. Although never a Cub Scout himself, Anthony will become a member of the Sasquatch Squad Patrol, where the other members are all former Cubs. Gabriel Weaver will be credited with recruiting Anthony.

8. Two Cub Scout Bridge Ceremonies (Mar 5 and 6)

On March 5 we welcomed Zack Scheiman from Pack 18 into the troop, with Patrick Groo and Liam Richardson assisting. On March 6 we welcomed six from Pack 146: Logan Brown, Miguel Cabelin, Guillermo Collier, Nick Facchini, Charlie Greenwood, and Andrew Lopez. Assisting were Patrick and Liam again, plus Christian Englehardt, Aaron Kurland, Tige Mauseth, Tom Morgan, Jack Nilsen, Henry Plotka, Devin Reed, Aidan Ward, and Ethan Zhang.

Several of the new Scouts attended the March 7 meeting and selected "Sasquatch Squad" as their patrol name. Just prior to tonight's committee meeting, they elected Charlie Greenwood as their Patrol Leader, and Charlie selected Zack Scheiman to be his assistant. All will be formally inducted into the troop during next week's Court of Honor.

9. Upcoming Court of Honor (Mar 28)

In addition to inducting our newest Scouts, the four Scouts reviewed tonight will receive their new badges of rank along with other advancements reviewed in prior months. Merit badges will be awarded to Jacob Grossbard, Aaron Kurland, and Henry Plotka. Several Scouts will receive position patches, including Zack Scheiman as a new Den Chief.

10. Finishing up Personal Fitness Merit Badge (Mar 7)

Merit badge counselor David Plotka completed his final indoor session for the Personal Fitness merit badge during the March 7 Tuesday Scout meeting, resulting in full completions for Henry and Aaron. Jack Nilsen and Will Sytsma also have full completions pending a couple of indoor make-up sessions. Other Scouts will also be encouraged to arrange for indoor make-ups so that they will be poised for full completions the next time the troop schedules a set of outdoor sessions.

Having completed Personal Fitness, David is now planning to offer the troop an opportunity to earn the Disabilities Awareness merit badge (often recast as "disAbilities Awareness").

11. Scout Ski Weekend at Shawnee Mountain (Mar 10-12)

Seven Scouts signed up for our annual ski weekend: Anthony Hawk, Andrew Lopez, Tom Morgan, Henry Plotka, Liam Richardson, Fernando Rosen, and Aidan Ward. Charlie Greenwood also came with his family just for the day on Saturday. A pleasant surprise was the excellent snow conditions, versus predictions of no snow at all due to weeks of record-breaking warm weather.

The bad news was that Henry took a bad fall on Saturday afternoon and broke a collarbone. His mom met him at the Emergency Room and drove him home with a sling on his arm, X-rays in hand, and a lot of pain killers. Henry said, "I was skiing too fast, tried to take a jump and get some air, and..." Fernando was with Henry on the slopes and helped the Ski Patrol get him down to the aid station.

12. Scout Meeting Canceled by a Blizzard (Mar 14)

Norman canceled the Scout meeting due to hazardous driving conditions. Luckily we did not get the 18-inch dump of some early predictions, but the inches we did get quickly became slick due to the freezing rain that followed.

13. Spring Food Drive (Mar 19)

Our food drive collection was pretty good this spring, but not one of the best. One theory about the lack of customers was that many had already done their week's worth of shopping just prior to the blizzard. Scouts attending were Nick Facchini, Andrew Lopez, Devin Reed, Liam Richardson, Zack Scheiman, Will Sytsma, Kyle Valenzuela, Aidan Ward, and Ethan Zhang. Devin gets a special nod for being the very first to arrive and among the last to depart.

14. Earth Day Service Project (Apr 29)

Norman said that he will shortly sign the troop up to participate in a "Spring Fling" cleanup day being organized by the Hoboken Shade Tree Commission on Saturday April 29, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

15. Troop 146 T-Shirts Continued

With the influx of new Scouts, it's time for round-2 of our Troop 146 T-shirt offering. Scouts Patrick Groo and Tige Mauseth will pick up from where they left off in getting names and sizes, followed by silk screening a new batch of shirts.

16. Finances - Another Fund-Raiser

Norman passed on an offer from Scout dad Jon Davidoff to organize a fund-raiser at the PATH station, such as a repeat of the bake sale that he organized in May 2016. Back then, the troop needed money for new equipment, which that sale provided and which Bob then put to good use. The question is whether or not we need a repeat in 2017. Are there more expenses in the offing? If so, does our bank account currently have enough money to cover those expenses?

17. Venture Patrol Plans - 2017 and 2018

Venture Patrol Leader Jacob Grossbard has not yet announced if the August 2017 trip to the Scout Northern Tier High Adventure Base in Minnesota is firm. As for August 2018, the troop has a firm reservation for 10 Scouts and adults at the Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico.

18. Finances

Prior Scout balance: \$1154.16

Current Scout balance: \$2071.68

Money came in from troop dues.

Money came in from adult renewals.

Money came in from our Acme bagging fund-raiser.

Money came in from a donation.

Expected expense: Reimburse Bob and Norman for Adam's Eagle ceremony.

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

Prior Cub balance: \$3238.83

Current Cub balance: \$3238.83 (no change)

Expected expense: Subsidize Feb sleepover at Liberty Science Center.

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for the Blue-and-Gold banquet.

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

For the Committee,



Norman Kasser
Scoutmaster