



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 146

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

May 8, 2018

To: Members and Friends of Boy Scout Troop 146

Here is a summary of the Troop Committee meeting that took place this evening in the Hoboken Multi Service Center. The next Committee meeting and Board of Review will take place on June 12, 2018 in the Multi Service Center.

1. Present

Lenny Luizzi (presiding)	Ken Howitt
Jon Davidoff	Norman Kasser
Joe Facchini	Bob Manzari
Francis Howitt	Ken Nilsen

2. New Tenderfoot Scouts

Last week Lenny convened an ad-hoc Board of Review with help from Jon Davidoff, Al Greenwood, and Vivian Altamura. Our newest Tenderfoot Scouts are Charlie Greenwood and Niklas Tseng.

3. Eagle Status for Jason Davidoff (May 12)

Jason's Eagle Scout Court of Honor will take place at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on May 12 at 2:00 PM, with Scouts arriving at 1:00 to set up. Norman said that invitations were mailed and e-mailed several weeks ago. Ken Howitt will shortly print 50 copies of the program. Norman will e-mail instructions for how to park in the nearby Stevens lot. Lenny said that he would like future Eagle ceremonies to take place in the St. Francis Parish Hall on a Saturday, saying, "That's also where we hold our blood drives, plus there's parking."

Bob told what he had done so far to prepare for Jason's ceremony, taking into account the large number of Scouts that will be away for the Mothers Day weekend. He had a floor plan showing who will be seated on the stage and where Scouts and dignitaries will be seated. Also discussed was which clerics will give the invocation and benediction. Bob said that the Color Guard will have three flags, fewer flags than usual, and that there will be no Rose Ceremony.

Jon noted that he will be one of the speakers as the "Eagle Dad," which touched off a discussion about who will speak and in what order and where they will stand. Bob said that he wanted to consult with the speakers in advance to find out their preferences, but Lenny said that it wasn't necessary, saying, "The ceremony is a gift from Troop 146 to the Scout. This is *our* ceremony." He then instructed Bob on how to plan that portion of the ceremony.

4. Eagle Status for Henry Plotka and Aaron Kurland (May 14)

The District Advancement Committee will convene an Eagle Board of Review for both Henry and Aaron, one after the other, at St. Peter's Prep on the evening of May 14. Norman said that Aaron still needs Father Chris to sign off on his Eagle project.

5. **Three Rivers District Annual Awards Dinner (Apr 22)**
District Commissioner Barry Goldman presented "Service to Scouting" certificates to Colum Ward and Joe Facchini to recognize them for the excellent job they did as Cub Scout Den Leaders, first working in separate dens, and then working together with the Arrow of Light den. Joe was cited for the many outings he organized for the pack, and Colum was also cited for his outings as well as for organizing past Blue-and-Gold banquets. Ken Howitt, who was also present with Francis, remarked that the dinner with all its presentations really went on too long. Both have signed up as members of the Three Rivers District, Ken as a Member-at-Large, and Francis as a probable Unit Commissioner.

6. **Two Hoboken Events in May (May 20 and May 23)**
As he does every year, Lenny urged Scouts to attend the Memorial Day Parade on May 23. In past years, the Vets gave us the honor of marching at the very front, just behind the Vets themselves. For Scouts not attending the Naval Academy camping trip, Lenny urged them to attend the May 20 Veteran's Memorial Service, where they will act as the opening ceremony Color Guard (6:30 PM at the Community Church at 6th and Garden).

7. **The Philmont Crew is Preparing for August (Aug 9-20)**
Looking ahead to August, our 14-man Philmont crew has already run several outings in order to ensure that they will be fit to backpack in the rugged Sangre de Cristo mountains of New Mexico. In addition to day hikes, they have also taken advantage of the "100 Steps" staircase that connects Hoboken to the Jersey City Heights. They recently ran a successful bake sale intended to cover incidental expenses, such as paying for a course in wilderness first aid.

8. **Several Recent Merit Badge Completions**
Since the March Court of Honor, several Scouts completed these merit badges:

Aaron Kurland	Communication
Tige Mauseth	First Aid
Henry Plotka	Theater
Ethan Zhang	First Aid
Ethan Zhang	Personal Fitness

 Norman pointed out that the merit badge counselors handling these awards are all in-house, listing Gretchen Schieman, David Plotka, Nick Walker, and Paul Scheiman.

9. **Pack 146 Will Also Meet at the Multi Service Center (starts May 14)**
Lenny announced that Leo Pellegrini, the city's Director of Environmental Services, had agreed to let Pack 146 meet at the Hoboken Multi Service Center, Mondays 7:00-8:00 PM. They will use the same room that the Boy Scout troop currently uses. Lenny obtained the agreement during the Mayor's recent planning meeting about the future of the center's building. Lenny also learned that any proposed changes to the building will be several years in the future. Ken Howitt said, "What was important in that meeting was that any group currently using the building will be grandfathered in to continue using it, even after the changes. Lenny added, "That's why we immediately moved Pack 146 to start meeting here."

10. **Pack 146 Will Continue as an All-Boy Cub Pack**
After a lengthy discussion, a clear majority of parents voted to have Pack 146 continue as an all-boy Cub Pack. At least two families were disappointed, saying that they would have liked their young daughters to become Cub Scouts. Lenny said that he purposely excused himself from the meeting on the assumption that parents would speak more freely. Ken said he had gotten some additional information about girls during a recent District Committee meeting indicating that BSA National will shortly make adjustments and said, "If I had been present at the pack's parent discussion, I would have advise deferring a decision for a year. I'm happy with this outcome, and perhaps the pack can

revisit it after a year." Francis added, "Because Pack 18 will accept girls in September, we can see if it works for them."

In response to Francis' question about older girls joining a Boy Scout troop, Norman said that he had gotten information that was not available when the topic was raised during last month's Troop Committee meeting. He said that BSA National will insist that a girl troop should be all-girl, so that if a new troop started in Hoboken, they would need five new girls to sign up along with five new adult leaders. He then said, "There are two options with the new all-girl troop. They can become tightly joined to our Troop 146, sharing Father Chris as their sponsor, and sharing Lenny and Marie and the current Troop 146 Troop Committee as their Committee. Or they can become a completely stand-alone Scout troop."

Joe Facchini asked if we should consider BSA National's Venturing program, since girls may sign up for that. Norman pointed out that Venturing is for youth 14 and older, whereas we're currently talking about girls aged 10½ and 11. Francis provided additional details, saying that we might have created "Venturing Crew 146." Instead, we simply created an extra patrol within Troop 146 called the "Venture Patrol," and that each Scout automatically becomes a member when he turns 14. Ken Howitt added, "It actually works very well, although a lot depends on who the adult advisor is."

11. **Finances**

Prior Scout balance: \$2220.16

Current Scout balance: \$2222.31

Money came in from troop dues.

Money went out to reimburse Bob for Eagle expenses

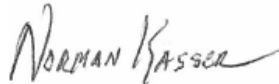
Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

Prior Cub balance: \$2052.91

Current Cub balance: \$2052.91 (no change)

Expected expense: Reimburse Norman for 1st qtr expenses.

For the Committee,



Norman Kasser
Scoutmaster