

Soaring Eagle District

District Committee Meeting, LDS Church, 10055 West Road

March 1, 2016

Attending were:

Chris Laycock, Becca Franco, John Brogan, Bobby Hale, Bob Steubing, Bobby Ausmus, Steve Ware, Ajey Chandra, Neal Farmer, Emiliano Herrera III and Cristal Razo

Opening:

Welcome by Chris Laycock, North Division Field Supervisor

Pledge by Steve Ware, SED Day Camp Director

Prayer by Bob Steubing, SED Training Chair

Introductions:

Emiliano Herrera III, program director for Cub Scout Day Camp

Chris Laycock said that there are interviews going on for a new District Chairman.

FINANCE

Friends of Scouting – The FOS goal for Soaring Eagle District currently is at \$42,000. That includes \$33,000 for the family goal and \$9,000 for the community goal. However, when the former District Latter-Day Saint units that have moved to new districts are calculated, the amount that they raised will be moved to their new districts. That will lowered the SED amount at some point in the near future.

FOS presentations are underway and units are asked to arrange to have FOS teams attend blue and gold banquets, courts of honor and any other widely attended unit events.

Joint Venture – Council officials could combine the Soaring Eagle District **Patron's Dinner** with the one in Phoenix District, which has a very large dinner. All monies raised from people invited from our community who attended this event would go to Soaring Eagle. Date is TBA.

Scout Fair Booklets – Kickoff was held Thursday, January 28 at The Foundry. Sales began February 1. Turn-ins are:

- March 3 (5% bonus): Backyard Grill (9454 Jones Rd., Houston TX 77065) from 7-9 pm
- March 31 (3% bonus): Backyard Grill (9454 Jones Rd., Houston TX 77065) from 7-9 pm
- April 7 (1% bonus): Backyard Grill (9454 Jones Rd., Houston TX 77065) from 7-9 pm
- April 16, 9 am - noon, Scout Fair (NRG Arena)

SED met the Sales Participation goal 100% with 19 units registering to see booklets. Units may still sign up to sell booklets and Unit Commissioners are encouraged to check on the units they serve to make sure they have opportunity. **Scout Fair Booth Participation** will produce 10% for units and the deadline for booth signup is March 26th.

Every unit is encouraged to sponsor a booth at the Scout Fair. This is your opportunity to show our community what Scouting is all about, and to share your Scouting skills with fellow Scouts and Scout Leaders. In the past, booths have included craft stations (Cub Scouts), rope making (Boy Scouts), orienteering (Venturing) and law enforcement (Exploring). Keep it simple and fun.

By involving all your Scouts and parents in booth preparation, set-up, manning the booth and tearing it down, the responsibilities can be shared to keep it simple and make it fun. Each unit hosting a booth will receive a ribbon. For more information regarding booth rules

and regulations, please refer to the Scout Fair booth safety guidelines. Units must register for a booth by March 31, 2016.

District Fundraiser – every 1st Wednesday at Bahama Bucks, 12105 Jones Road. Enjoy a cool shaved ice or fancy hot chocolate or coffee and help the District, as a percentage is given to Soaring Eagle.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership vice chairman John Brogan and Mark Hoffart attended the inaugural SHAC Membership meeting. John also reported that Mark Hoffart and Consuelo Worley had volunteered to assist with Membership initiatives, and others have been asked to join. John is also looking to add two “seasoned Scouters” to the team to focus on New Units. He has identified a school that is interested in starting up a new Pack, and needs some assistance. Scouters can earn the William Boyce New Unit Organizer square knot award by taking the lead in starting up a new unit.

The 2016-17 membership theme is “Rockets.” There is a call for parents to come up with ideas related to the rocket theme, like the Houston Rockets, NASA, hobby shops, etc. John asks leaders to think about spring recruiting sessions. He would like for units to target kindergarteners for Tiger kids immediately after they graduate kindergarten. Also, Troops can target Webelos II Scouts that have not transitioned into a Boy Scout unit. FOLLOW UP ACTION: Create a list of Webelos II Scouts that have not crossed over into Boy Scouts and pass those names along to corresponding Troops.

There will be a recruiting effort at St. Matthew’s Catholic Church, 9915 Hollister, to put kids into struggling Pack 771 at Reed Elementary School. There formerly was a pack and a troop at St. Matthew’s.

A **Troop Fair/Spring Rally** is planned for May 7 at West Road LDS Chapel at a time TBA. This event is transferring from Program to Membership and will be chaired by Amber Anderson. This is for troops, packs, crews and ships.

COMMISSIONERS

The District is dropping two units due to miscommunication but will re-charter them soon. The District currently is at 75 units, but that number will drop when the LDS units move to the districts in which they reside. Eight years ago, LDS officials requested that all LDS units along the 290 corridor be included in Soaring Eagle District, from Hollister to Hempstead. Those northwest of Jones Road will now be in new districts. We need approximately 100 Scouts to reach this year’s membership goal of 1,693.

COMMISSIONERS NEEDED – The commissioner core is critical during this transitional period for the district. The units in lifesaving status and the schools that no longer host units are prime targets for commissioners to act as ambassadors and mentors of Scouting to make sure that Scouting is available to any youth in Soaring Eagle District that wants to participate.

Unit commissioners are requested to fill out reports of their respective visits at my.scouting.org.

PROGRAM

Pushmobile, March 5, 2016 -- Mills Road LDS Chapel

Tammy Koenig, Chair. Pushmobile packet will be available on SED Website. The event is on Sat., March 5, at Mills Road LDS church, 10555 Mills Road, Houston 77070. Check-in is at 8 a.m. with races continuing until 4 p.m.

Trash Bash, April 2

Trash Bash is where people in our geographic area meet at Bang and clean up area waterways, such as White Oak Bayou, and receive a T-shirt and a lunch. The district is represented by Todd Running. Contact Todd at toddrunning@sbcglobal.net.

Scout Fair – April 17 at Reliant Hall

Camporee/Webelos Do Your Best – April 29-May 1 at Camp Bovay, Camporee Area. There will be access to the Tellepsen Shooting Ranges from 3-6 p.m. on Sat., April 30, for team competition. There will be an OA callout and Brotherhood ceremony at Camporee. Webelos breakout for the March Roundtable will focus on Webelos leader orientation for Webelos Do Your Best.

Cub Scout Day Camp – June 7-11

Camp director Steve Ware was excited about this year's site for 2016 Soaring Eagle Day Camp, at Jersey Village Baptist Church. Emiliano Herrera was introduced as 2016 Soaring Eagle Day Camp Program Director. A WEBELOS AOL program has been added, with much more. This Year the goal is 100 percent participation of Soaring Eagle District's Cub Scout packs. This year's Day Camp theme is Wild, Wild, West. Pack Day Camp Representative have already been contacted. Be sure to respond back. More updates in Day Camp kick-off meeting.

Training – Bob Steubing, SED Training Chair, hosted merit badge counselor training the last week of February to about 20 people in a class at Foundry United Methodist Church.

Also, Bob hosted Scoutmaster Specific Training to more than 25 people from eight districts the last week of February. Bob also hosted Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Training to 18 people from seven districts at the end of February. Another IOLS is scheduled for the last week of September and will include Webelos Outdoor Leaders Skills. Bob will be working with Becca Franco and others to put on Cub Scout, Varsity and Venturing-Specific Training this spring.

There will be Classroom Youth Protection Training in break-out sessions during the SED Roundtables in March, April and May.

Bob was vice chairman for Cub Scout Pow Wow training last year and is Chairman for the proposed Pow Wow this year. However, officials are considering combining Pow Wow with University of Scouting and having the combined event twice a year. More as it develops.

A Council Powderhorn Training Class, which readies adults and Venturers for high adventure outings, will be in April and already has 56 people signed up. Learn more at SHAC.org.

A BALOO training will be in conjunction with Bobcat Day in October on Oct. 8.

The Council has dropped the price of charges to take people to the 2017 National Jamboree from approximately \$3,000 to \$1,975 per person. That includes a round-trip

airplane ride, as well as a duffle bag, patches, a cap and a T-shirt. Bob Steubing said that SHAC is now the most-inexpensive way to get to the Jamboree from Texas. For more information, go to SHAC.org.

Summer classes for the **National Youth Leadership Training** program are available for registration on-line at SHAC.org. NYLT is a way for youths to be trained in leadership techniques.

RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS COORDINATOR – Judy Lizarraga is the **district’s religious emblems coordinator**. Each religion has its own religion award, and Judy will coordinate those for Soaring Eagle.

WEBSITE – The SED website is now hosted by Council as are all the District Websites. Please send all updates for the website to the vice chair of your area. **Commissioners:** Jim Cash at 440jim@gmail.com; **Program:** Becca Franco at francob@sbcglobal.net; **Finance:** TBD; and **Membership** to John Brogan at jtbrogan001@gmail.com. There will be a top leadership training on the website scheduled with SHAC Webmaster Darlene Scheffler.

FACEBOOK – The district has a Facebook page, called “**Soaring Eagle District.**” On Facebook, go to that site and like it. We have more than 500 who have liked our Facebook page, and the goal is to get to 550. The District’s Facebook page sports BSA-related stories from almost every facet of Scouting. Also, immediate information about the District can be found on the Facebook page. Hundreds of pictures of recent events around the district are being posted on the page by coordinator Neal Farmer.

District Executive Report

Cristal Razo thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She was in training last week and is catching up with work-related activities. She said she is “ready to do the next thing.”

This Soaring Eagle District Committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month, except for July. The only district event in July is the annual picnic. Please let me know of any changes, additions or corrections to these minutes, no matter how small or trivial.

Sincerely,

-- Neal Farmer

-- 713-849-9860 – home office