



## **Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Boy Scout Troop 640**

**5707 S Simms St.**

**Littleton, CO 80127**

**June 24, 2021**

Called to Order via Zoom: 7:00 PM

Members Present: Keel Ross, Lisa Habegger, Mike Bielkiewicz, Melissa Dawson, Jon Strauss, Sharon Farrar, Vincent Grishman, Toni Grishman, Katherine Strozinski

**Scoutmaster:** Jon Strauss

**Committee Chair:** Keel Ross

**Treasurer:** Mike Bielkiewicz ( interim) Melissa Dawson (incoming)

**Secretary:** Sharon Farrar

**Advancement Co-Chairs:** Toni and Vincent Grishman

**Treasurer Report:** Mike B. addressed frustration with on-going confusing requirements from the bank. He is considering changing banks-possibly 1st Bank? Local and smaller. Continuing to seek resolution.

**Committee Chair Report:** The close of the sale of Genesis Church to Columbine Hills Nazarene Church was finalized last week. Details of our relationship will be forthcoming as the new owners settle in. Genesis expressed gratitude for the troop clean up of the shed area and storage closet. We still have a mailbox at the church. Access to it may reveal paperwork to re-register the trailer which will need to happen before camp if we need to use it (Expired in March?)

**Scout Master Report:** Jon shared results of his search for a troop specific patch to replace the "6-4-0" patches parents now have to purchase at the scout shop. Screenshots of several options were shared. The initial output required by most companies is in the \$200 range. The committee was in unanimous agreement for him to order what seems best from those shown. He is also looking for "frost point" recognition patches.  
4 scouts are attending NYLT this summer.

**Advancement:** Swim testing went so well that several scouts stayed and worked on their Swimming merit badge. Ideas were presented to maintain this energy: once a month merit badge focus, merit badge counselor nite, coming early to work on a specific badge with that counsellor. Suggested to present these ideas at PLC. As an aside, Sharon and Katherine confirmed concerns that many boys feel a lack of direction at meetings, especially if they do not need the skill presented. We want to honor boy led, but perhaps we need a bit more adult involvement, especially, as pointed out, our small troop does not provide enough boys to do the traditional troop guides and Covid has changed our organization footprint. Scouts attending NYLT have received additional training in troop organization/leadership through their ILST. As more scouts mature, this should improve. In the meantime, it was suggested that adults mentor patrol leaders. Jon shared that there is a Kodiak program for 13yo's who are 1st class where they can get more leadership in a course which will be with Powderhorn August 6,7,8 pre-NYLT. The course can be taken any time, however.

Toni shared that the scouts are doing a better job of recording in their books for her to photograph validation for advancement. They need to improve on recording dates, however.

Plans a link for BOR requests to be added to the troop web site.

Keel proposed that earlier rank advancement get immediate recognition-perhaps in the meeting after their BOR?? to add energy and make it available to be worn right away. The official card can still be given with additional recognition at COH. Jon was in favor and acknowledged that this would be a scout approved approach. The rest of the committee was in favor, as well. Some discussion about merit badge recognition resulted in ideas for once a month acknowledgement but COH remained the choice for now.

The next COH is August 30th. Due to Covid we have had fewer. Mike proposed returning to the more frequent schedule, adding another by the end of the year.

**Summer Camp:** Mike B. confirmed readiness, enough adults (Keel may opt out due to this), and a Zoom meeting for the adults to be planned for this coming week. Troop t-shirts are here- will be opened at the Monday meeting!

**Popcorn Sales:** Lisa reported that Popcorn season is fast approaching at the end of August. She will announce at Monday's meeting (This prompted the idea to use the word "announcement" at the meeting to give the scouts a chance to review the words to the announcement song). This year Trails End and the Denver Council will arrange "Show-N-Sells" and troops sign up for places and times on-line.

**Committee Member Input Solicited by Keel:**

Neckerchief search with Toni and Karen Flanagan continuing.

Troop weekend cleanup/out revealed 2 new patrol boxes and parts were assembled for 4 more complete ones. Tents and stoves not needed were donated to needy organizations. Probably do not need new tents but Mike is following through on tarp/footprint search. Still need to inventory supplies and pare down, but the closet is cleaned out.

A motion to adjourn by Mike, second by Sharon and approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM

