

# **Polaris District Committee Meeting 2 September 2009 Minutes**

## **1.0 Location**

Meeting was held at the Brenner Group, 19200 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino.

## **2.0 Attendees**

In attendance at the meeting were: Ken Bower, Tad Davis, Tracey Devereux, Mark Ellson, Wendy Glasser, Larry Grace, Chia Chia Ho, Pauli Hsueh, Debbie Jancis, Jonathan Leder, John Lucas, Kathi Lucas, Jerry McMillan, Steve Nguyen, Phu Tran, Debbie Ward, and Bob Wedig.

## **3.0 Discussion**

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 PM by Kathi Lucas.

### **3.1 Council/District News**

For those that hadn't already heard, Kathi Lucas explained that Dylan had been promoted and was now district director for Quicksilver District. Phu Tran introduced Dylan's newly hired replacement, Tracey Devereux.

Kathi Lucas discussed the status of the 2010 district nominating committee. A prospective committee chairman has been approached. But, the person is still considering whether to accept the position. Kathi encouraged each member of the current district committee to think about candidates to join the committee in 2010. The objective is for each current member to come up with three names of prospective candidates.

Kathi reported that she was attending the upcoming council budget review meetings on 3 September in preparation for the district budgeting process. These meetings are an opportunity to learn about the council budgeting process. Also covered is where the budgeted money comes from and where it goes. Kathi pointed out that the district budget is due by the end of September.

### **3.2 Finance**

As of 2 September, total FoS pledges are \$163,481. While below our goal, this is still close to where we were last year.

Fifteen Polaris units have committed to doing "show and sell" popcorn sales this year. The pickup date for show & sell popcorn is 19 September. Help is still needed at the popcorn warehouse that day. Contact Debbie Jancis for details.

### 3.3 Public Relations

Mark Ellson reported that the district page for the Santa Clarion is due to the district office on Thursday, 3 September. Needed inputs were provided to Mark at the district committee meeting.

Mark also reminded the group that Polaris Star inputs are due on Friday, 4 September, so that he can assemble the Star over the weekend.

Tracey Devereux mentioned that Dylan had been developing a service opportunity for Scouts at the "Taste of Saratoga" on 12 September. Contact Tracey for more information.

Mark Ellson mentioned that he may be out of town on business the night of the October district committee meeting. He asked for a volunteer to take notes at the October committee meetings.

### 3.4 Membership

So far, six units have committed to Fall recruiting. Steve Nguyen needs the recruiting dates from the units so that he can arrange for a district representative to be present.

The group had lots of questions regarding the details of how the 49er ticket promotion works. The suggestion was to contact Shannon Shaffer at the council office to get answers to the questions.

### 3.5 Program

**Camping.** Polaris District had the largest representation at Camp Hi-Sierra this summer of the districts in the council. The Polaris District Cub Camps were also the best attended in the council. Overall, attendance at Camp Hi-Sierra was the best it had been since 2004. Pauli Hsueh also reported that the Dragon Jamborette had been very successful at Camp Hi-Sierra.

There was a lot of discussion regarding the planned changes to Cub Camp for next summer. Some of the high points include:

- Increased use of Camp Chesebrough
- A longer sleep-over Webelos camp
- Increased use of paid staff to provide the program at Cub Camp
- Bussing to be offered from Saratoga to Camp Chesbrough

**Activity.** Debbie Ward distributed registration forms for the 2009 Polaris District Dinner. Debbie also distributed a draft program for review by the district committee members. Jonathan Leder brought up the question of what to do with the plates that the district owns. Larry Grace suggested that presenting the plates to West Valley Presbyterian Church in recognition of their support to the district might be an appropriate choice. Larry was asked to investigate appropriate groups to which the plates could be donated.

The new Scouting for Food chairman, Chia Chia Ho, was introduced. The 2009 Scouting for Food campaign is being conducted between 14 November and 21 November. Members of the committee commented that coverage of neighborhoods for Scouting for Food can be hit or miss. The suggestion was that units should sign up for specific areas to canvass. Jonathan thought that there might be an appropriate breakdown of the district in his old files at the district office. Tracey took the action to check. Discussion also ensued regarding which food banks are benefitting this year. In previous years, there have been issues with getting to the Second Harvest warehouse in time to drop off the collected food. This year, options for dropping off food closer to the district are being explored.

It was mentioned that the Coyote Creek Cycling Classic is coming up again on 10 October.

**Advancement.** For 2009, we have 27 new Eagles so far. Nine Scouts are waiting for their Eagle board of review.

**Order of the Arrow.** John Lucas reported that the OA chapter is still trying to come up with some type of one-day event in the Spring at which the OA call-out could be performed. The Fall Ordeal is being held at Camp Chesbrough on 11-13 September. The OA Conclave is being held 25-27 September at Camp Royaneh.

**Training.** Jerry McMillan reported that Scoutmaster Specifics and Outdoor Leadership Skills are coming up this month. Help is needed with conducting training. Not all help involves actually conducting training. Volunteers to act as registrars and provide other logistical help are welcome.

Upcoming training classes:

- Cubmaster Specifics – 26 September
- Scoutmaster Specifics – 12 September, 25-27 September
- Venturing Leader Specifics – 19 September

In 2010, all Cub Scout leader training is to be available on-line. The council will continue to offer live classes. But, the frequency of classes will be reduced significantly. Jerry mentioned that significant updating of the Cub Scout program is planned for next year. Field trials indicate that the program changes significantly improve youth retention.

### **3.6 Roundtable**

Tad Davis reported that the theme for the September Cub Roundtable is Jungle Safari.

Larry Grace reported that the Boy Scout Roundtable was focusing on selection and planning for summer camp.

Ken Bower reported that the Venturing Roundtable was held on 1 September. The theme was in-door climbing. Attendance set a new record. Amanda Wilson is the new Venturing Roundtable chairman.

### **3.7 Commissioner**

Bob Wedig reported that the Council Commissioners Conference is coming up on 26 September at Camp Chesebrough. This is an opportunity for commissioners to receive any refresher training that they may need.

### **3.8 District Executive**

Tracey provided a little more detail about her background. She has worked for the council previously as an activity director at Camp Hi-Sierra. Her office phone number is 408-280-5088, ext. 55. Her email address is [tracey@scccbsa.org](mailto:tracey@scccbsa.org). Her mobile number is 408-531-7676.

### **3.9 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM. Next meeting is 7 October at 8:00 PM at the Brenner Group.

### **4.0 Agreements and Actions**

Agreements and actions are as documented above.