

## **Philmont 2008 Contingent Committee**

Minutes for the July 16, 2007 meeting  
Morganville Service Center

### **Attendance**

The following were in attendance:

Rich Bascue, Karen Bentivenga, Jim Brown, Patrick Dwyer, Richard Edgar, Kenneth Eng, John Erickson, Frank Fishedick, Dale Harman, Allen Jones, Bruce Kaplan, Joan Keenan, Thomas Magg, Timothy Makin, Lee Marconi, Allison Mitsching, Tim Neher, John Ostovich, Andrew Pinto, Mike Rouchwerk, Don Schaffner, Rich Standt| Brian Wilson, Maurice Zagha

### **Opening**

Maurice Zagha opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Handout of meeting agenda was distributed. Minutes from previous meeting were approved without any changes.

### **Old Business:**

It was noted that minutes from previous meetings have been posted on Monmouth Council's Philmont website. The meeting agendas are posted as well. Maurice reminded all again to make sure they are registered with the BSA. Important dates were reviewed with emphasis placed on the impending kickoff date of August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **New Business:**

Scout Executive Lee Marconi thanked everyone for volunteering for the 2008 Philmont contingent. He explained that being part of the committee entails a lot of hard work and effort and he stated that there was a high caliber of volunteers involved.

Brian Wilson spoke about the full contingent meeting scheduled for September. He stated that this meeting is still without a definite date. He is presently checking school calendars to make sure that the date chosen does not conflict with any back to school nites.

It was announced that the new dates for conservation days are May 10, 2008 at Quail Hill and May 17, 2008 at Forestburg.

Maurice discussed the subject of conditioning. He reminded everyone that they need to begin a regular exercise program. He tabled the committee to learn about each individual's training plan. Lee Marconi reminded the committee that they are welcome to use Quail Hill and Forestburg facilities for hiking and training purposes. Maurice explained that addressing the committee's individual training plans should also be an

exercise that is done at the crew level. This should be incorporated into each crew's training.

Frank Fishedick discussed the adult shakedown hike that took place on June 30, 2007. There were 13 adults that participated in this hike. The hike was approx. 9.2 miles and took place at Stokes State Forest. Two different trails were covered. The first trail was not difficult apart from a small stretch. There is an area on this trail that hikers can sit out and it is easy to spot crews. The second trail was a little more difficult to follow. Several markers were missed, however the group was still able to check the trail. There are places to sit and it is not far from the road, should there be any injuries that need attention. The third trail was not looked at on this trip. Frank stated that he would like to do one more adult shakedown hike and would like to cover this third trail. Frank asked for a volunteer to head up this third hike and explained that he has already mapped out the trail. Rich Standt volunteered to head up this hike. It was decided to offer this hike after the August 23<sup>rd</sup> kickoff meeting, so that all adults would have the ability to attend.

Jim Brown reported on the adult backpacking course. It is to be offered on 9/20, 9/27 and 10/13-10/14. Jim said that a wide range of backpacking information is covered in this course including, equipment, cooking, clothing, preparation. He stated that it was a good learning experience and a hands on course. He stated that the course is presented by 15 staff members who are well versed in backpacking. Those attendees who are able to make all 4 days of the course will receive a certificate at completion. Jim also mentioned that there is an optional overnite backpacking trip at the end of the course which will be offered 10/27-10/28.

Maurice reviewed the required certifications necessary for the Philmont 2008 trip. The Youth Protection training course, which can be taken online, needs to be renewed each year. In order to attend Philmont 2008, you must have Youth Protection training certificate that is current within 1 year of the trip, per national requirements.

Maurice explained that a new requirement for 2008 is that all attendees must have the wilderness first aid component in their first aid certification. Wilderness first aid is being covered in the SOLO course on Wilderness Survival Training. This course will fulfill the first aid and wilderness first aid requirements for Philmont. A discussion about adding the CPR portion of required training to this SOLO course ensued. Ken Eng stated that the CPR component is an option that can be added to the course. It would be an additional \$35 fee to add this option onto the course. It can be done over the same weekend as the first aid and wilderness first aid is offered. Ken explained that the SOLO course surpasses the standard first aid requirement. Upon completion of the course a Wilderness First Aid Card will be issued to each participant. Ken also reminded all that this course was for adults only. Ken listed several dates in early 2008 that the course could be offered. The committee voted to accept the dates of February 2-3, 2008 for the SOLO course.

Ken will advise the committee of availability and interest in the CPR portion of the course. Maurice reminded all that the committee also has a number of CPR certified

individuals who can offer the necessary CPR training at another time. Ken will advise deposit amount for the course. Deposit checks should be mailed to Maurice Zaghera.

Maurice reported that there are no changes to the Philmont 2008 data sheet, except for the updates to conservation dates.

The 50-miler award was discussed. Maurice explained that this award entails 10 hours of conservation project work. Per national requirements, 3 hours of this work must be done at Philmont. Maurice stated that conservation projects must be done before the Philmont 2008 trip. The committee has arranged two dates for this purpose, May 10 and May 17. It was stressed that all crews are to be made aware and make a personal commitment to do the conservation projects at these two dates. Maurice said that it is a good team building exercise and encourages activities together within the crews.

The kickoff agenda was discussed and reviewed in detail. Maurice stated that there will be another meeting about a week before the kickoff to review the details again. Frank Fishedick noted an error on the kickoff agenda sheet regarding the starting time of the meeting. He reminded all that the August 23 kickoff meeting will begin at 7 P.M. All youth participating in demonstrations for this meeting were asked to arrive at 6 P.M. in order to do setup. There will be youth coordinators to ensure all demonstrations are set up and working properly. The youth coordinators are Evan, Carlson and Zach. Maurice asked each volunteer on the kickoff agenda list to confirm their responsibilities. Once this was accomplished, Maurice reviewed all responsibilities for the kickoff meeting. He also reminded all that they need to wear the summer Class A uniform to the meeting. This is the same uniform that will be worn while traveling to Philmont.

Brian Wilson discussed the fall Open House. This event is still without a definite date. A possible date of 9/27 was mentioned, but not confirmed. Brian is also checking locations for the meeting.

Dale Harman reviewed plans for the Fall Contingent Hike at Stokes State Forest on Oct 19-21, 2007. At present, bus arrangements have not been confirmed. Bruce Kaplan stated that he had received two quotes of \$600 each. This price includes a driver. Bruce is still awaiting a few more estimates. Mike reported on plans for food for this hike. The committee discussed how bulk purchased food should be broken down. After discussion, Mike stated that it was easier to keep the food at his home and do the repackaging there. Volunteers will be solicited for this purpose at a later date.

As of this meeting, current participation levels for Philmont 2008 were reported to be 43 youth and 12 adults.

The Forestburg advertising campaign was reviewed. During week 1, John Ostovich visited all the camps and distributed the flyer. He was able to make copies at Forestburg for this purpose. All information was distributed. During week 2, Pat Dwyer and John Kilduff handled flyer distribution. Pat mentioned that his son was able to take the flyers

around and visited most of the campsites. Lee Marconi stated that every Wednesday he makes the rounds and distributes the Philmont flyer.

Maurice reminded all that they need to make deposits for the Philmont trip as soon as possible before the trip gets closed out. He also mentioned that there is a Philmont video available to show at troop meetings, if necessary.

Pat Dwyer spoke about the shirt/hat/patch design. There were no new design submissions as of this meeting. There were only a few submissions in total. Maurice took the design submissions to review for a later decision.

Maurice asked for a volunteer to keep track of conservation days. Pat Dwyer and Frank Fishedick volunteered for this assignment.

Lee Marconi mentioned that the Monmouth Council BSA will have a booth set up at the Monmouth County Fair. The Fair will be held 7/25-7/29. Any scout or adult is welcome to volunteer to man the booth. There is a sign up sheet at council for this purpose.

Frank Fishedick announced that he was going to Philmont in the next few weeks and offered his assistance to anyone who might need anything from Philmont.

There was no other new business and the meeting was closed by Maurice Zaghera. The next Contingent Committee Meeting will be the kickoff meeting to be held on August 23, 2007 at Morganville Service Center.

Minutes prepared by Allison Mitsching