

## **Cardinal District Committee Monthly Meeting**

**March 16, 2023**

The meeting began by Zoom at 7:00 pm. There were 24 participants, to include Council VP for District Operations Bob Shelton.

District Chairman Tim Forrest advised that there will be a discussion with the Council Commissioner concerning Council-Registered Units by Zoom on March 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm. An expanded invitation is being sent to all district CRUs to attend. A form is being sent out to solicit questions in advance of the meeting to aid in the discussion. The POC is District Executive Erin Shiflett.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the February 2023 monthly meeting. The minutes were approved.

District Commissioner Patrick Sperlein provided the following report. The district presently has 71 units - 27 Packs, 36 Troops, 7 Crews, 1 Ship - with a Unit Health Score of 4.17. One additional unit is expected to be added in the next three months, Pack 373 in Apex.

Commissioners have recorded 293 contacts, and 61 units have been contacted at least twice (85.92%). Sixteen commissioners have recorded contacts (61.54%). The goals are for all units to have at least 6 recorded contacts and for all commissioners to have a recorded contact. 23 Detailed Assessments have been completed (32.39%), and the goal is for all units to have one Detailed Assessment per year.

The district currently has 24 registered commissioners: one District Commissioner; six Assistant District Commissioners; eleven Unit Commissioners; and six roundtable commissioners. Recommended staffing levels indicate the district should have 18 to 24 Unit Commissioners (3-4 units per commissioner) and 5 Assistant District Commissioners.

A College of Commissioner Sciences was held the previous weekend. Earning degrees were: Mike Pitney, Batchelor of Commissioner Science; Des Nazareth and William Paige, Batchelor of Roundtable Commissioner Science; Beatriz Froom, Don Gantt and Chris Harmon, Masters of Commissioner Science; Tim Gillespie, Doctorate of Commissioner Science Year 1; and Will Highsmith, Doctorate of Commissioner Science Year 2. Receiving awards were: Will Highsmith, Commissioner's Key and Award of Excellence in Unit Service; Patrick Sperlein, Doctorate of Commissioner Science Knot Award; and Debra Hall and Patrick Sperlein, Distinguished Commissioner Service Award.

The March 2023 district roundtable had 103 participants from 42 units. District adult recognitions were presented during the general session. The Cub Scout breakout addressed

advancement policies, and the Scouts BSA breakout discussed best practices for troop trailers. The next roundtable is scheduled for April 6, 2023. During the general session there will be a presentation on Historic Trails of North Carolina. The Cub Scout breakout will discuss the Summertime Pack Award, and the Scouts BSA breakout will address streamlining camping meal planning.

The operating committees broke out for individual meetings for approximately fifteen minutes.

When the entire committee returned, Richard Connelly brought up the idea of a dedicated Cub Scout Camp at Camp Durant. Courtney Trujillo proposed starting a Cub Scout camping program through the district to allow Cubs to camp longer than the one-night limitation on pack camping. Camping in conjunction with district camporees was discussed and the possible need to limit such camping opportunities to district units. Brian Lehrschall related a discussion he had with the council program director that the reason for the one-night limitation on pack camping was concern that new Cub parents did not have the experience for longer camping.

Camping & Outdoor Program Chair Donna Dragon advised that Cub Scouts could not camp in the same campsites as Scouts BSA Scouts. In addition, camping events would be required to have separate staff for Cubs and Scouts BSA. Donna advised that notices had gone out for campsites for the upcoming District Camporee. At present, 23 troops, 1 crew, 1 ship, and 14 packs had registered. The 2024 camporee is projected to be held March 22-24, 2024.

District Vice Chair for Program Chris Harmon advised that all these matters had been discussed in the recent camporee committee meeting. Program Director Kenna McIntire has advised that the district will be required to have separate Cub and Scouts BSA events next year. Chris expressed concern that the district might not have the manpower to pull off a dual event.

Tim advised that the Cub one-night camping was not a new rule but was being pushed by BSA's insurer. He reiterated the importance of Cub programs and Cub growth. Gantt Edmiston had a question concerning "Webelos World" events, and Patrick advised they could still be done with limitations. Tim asked Chris and Courtney to work together to see what the district can do for Cub Scout camping. Donna expressed the need to have more people on Cub camping on the Camping & Outdoor Program Committee.

Tom Allen gave a report from the Advancement & Recognition Committee. Tom thanked Patrick for allowing the adult recognition event to happen during the March roundtable. Patrick advised that we should look to do the adult recognitions next year during the February roundtable. Tom advised that there had been 498 Cub advancements; 1,073 merit badges and 116 ranks for Scouts BSA; and 20 Eagle ranks earned. Since the creation of Cardinal District on April 1, 2021, the district has had 205 Eagle ranks earned. The council board will consider a

resolution next week to limit the number of merit badges a MB counselor can counsel. Many councils limit it to eight.

Old business - None

New business – None

Open forum – No discussion.

Field Director/District Executive's remarks – Scout card sales are underway.

Next Meeting:

April 20, 2023