

Cardinal District Committee Monthly Meeting

June 15, 2023

The meeting began by Zoom at 7:00 pm. There were 18 participants.

Vice Chair Ben Freeman chaired the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the May 2023 monthly meeting. The minutes were approved.

District Commissioner Patrick Sperlein provided the following report. The district has 72 units consisting of 27 packs, 27 troops, 7 crews and 1 ship. The unit health score is 4.18. There are two additional units which are expected to register within the next three months: Pack 23 in Apex, and Troop 210G in Cary. Troop 391G is currently a unit of concern with membership under five Scouts.

Cardinal District presently has 23 registered Commissioners, with 1 District Commissioner, 5 Assistant District Commissioners, 11 Unit Commissioners, and 6 Roundtable Commissioners. Recommended Staffing Levels provide for 18 to 24 Unit Commissioners (3-4 units/commissioner) and 5 Assistant District Commissioners.

For unit service, commissioners reported 514 recorded contacts (as of 13 June) with 64 units having been contacted at least 3 times (88.89%). Seventeen of twenty-three commissioners have recorded contacts. The goal is for all units to have at least 6 recorded contacts and for all commissioners to have a recorded contact. Twenty-four Detailed Assessments have been completed (33.33%), with a goal of all units having one Detailed Assessment per year.

As for unit health indicators, commissioners will be collecting the following data between now and August for the Council Commissioner:

- Is the primary Unit Leader trained in position?
- Did the unit attend Day/Summer Camp last year?
- Did the unit have any advancements in the last six (6) months
- Did the unit have any new members in the last six (6) months?
- Does the unit have more than 10 active youth participants?

These metrics have been used in other councils to provide an at-a-glance indication of units in danger of not rechartering.

At the June 2023 Roundtable, there were 55 participants from 31 units. During the general session, Mohammed Arafa spoke on "The Care and Feeding of the Muslim Scouts in Your Unit." During the breakout session, the Cub Scout breakout discussed Cub Scout Recruiting, and the Scouts BSA breakout discussed Effective Use of the Patrol Method. There will not be a roundtable in July with the next roundtable on August 3, 2023. The speaker for the August

general session is still to be announced; the Cub Scout breakout will discuss Welcoming New Families and the Scouts BSA breakout will be on Resources for Skits.

Patrick advised the committee on the National Registration Fees for 2023/2024, which will take effect on August 1, 2023.

Youth - \$80

Adult Volunteers - \$60

Merit Badge Counselors - \$25

Joining Fee - \$25

Charter/Affiliation Fee - \$100

There will be no change to Council Fees: Youth Program Fee - \$54, and Insurance Fee - \$12. Membership fees will no longer be pro-rated; the full fee will be paid for the twelve-month period. Patrick advised he and the commissioners are waiting for answers on how the new fees will work. Ben advised that District Committee Chair Tim Forrest was asking the Council President and Council Executive for clarification. Patrick advised the commissioner staff would be meeting with the Council Commissioner, and Field Director Tyler Perkinson advised the council staff would be having a question-and-answer session with National next week.

Effective June 1, 2023, Cub Scout Family Packs may have Family Dens for Lions through Webelos, although Arrow of Light Dens are to remain as single-gender Dens to help Scouts prepare to bridge into single-gender troops. Additional program changes for 2024/2025 program year are expected to be released in late 2023.

The operating committees broke out for individual meetings for approximately twenty minutes. Upon reconvening, the operating committees provided the following reports.

Finance – Ken Griffo reported that the Council’s fund-raising luncheon would be in early October 2023. There is no word on the guest speaker yet. Efforts are being made in the coming weeks to reach out to past donors. Two golf tournaments are planned for this fall: a tournament on October 2, 2023 at The Hasentree Club to support Scoutreach; and a tournament on November 13, 2023 at Governors Club to support Exploring.

Membership – Neil Smith passed along the report from District Executive Erin Shifflet that Cardinal District presently has 2,105 Scouts, a 4.99% increase over the past year. The growth rate for Cub Scouts was 6.77% and for Scouts BSA 4.13%; Crews showed a decline of 4.44%.

Communications & Marketing – no report.

Camping & Outdoor Programs – Donna Dragon provided a combined report for C&OP with Activities & Civic Service. There is still a need for help with the remaining summer Cub Scout

events: Fishing Derby in June, Twilight Camp in July, and NOVA Days in August. There was a challenge getting adequate staff for the Cub Scouts Shooting Sports Day on June 10, 2023. A host unit needs to be determined for the 2024 District Pinewood Derby. The committee was asked to think about creative ideas for a location for the PWD. Cabela's in Garner was suggested as a possibility. The idea was also raised of the district committee running the PWD.

Training – Eddie Wilson advised that IOLS/BALOO training would be conducted on August 25-26 at Camp Agape. That should go up on the calendar soon with registration opening.

Advancement & Recognition – Tom Allen reported that, so far this year, Cub Scouts had earned 743 rank advancements with 109 AOLs earned. Scouts BSA have completed 480 ranks and there have been 46 Eagle ranks to date. Gantt reminded the committee that Merit Badge Counselors could sign up at any time during the year, but the process had begun to suspend the registrations of MBCs with expired YPT certifications.

Old business - None

New business – None

Open forum – The suggestion was made to move the Open Forum to after the Field Director/District Executive remarks. Gantt reminded everyone that the grade rollover for Scouts' registrations was June 14, 2023. There was a brief discussion concerning the Messengers of Peace award.

Field Director/District Executive – Erin advised that October 14, 2023 was a potential Scout Night with the NC Football Club. Erin is in contact with schools and churches as part of our recruiting efforts. For the Cub Scout Shooting Sports Day last Saturday, there were 97 registrants and 70 Cub Scouts showed up. Those Cubs represented 27 packs, with three out-of-district packs represented. Erin repeated the need for staff for the remaining summer Cub events and that the events were a good opportunity for service by Scouts BSA.

The next district committee meeting will be on August 17, 2023. The meeting adjourned upon motion.