

Safe Scouting Committee Meeting
January 12th, 2010
Council Service Center 5:30 – 6:30

Attendance: Tom Bergquist, Mike Lee, Steve Altchuler, Steve Carlin, Marlowe Bennett, Tom Barry

Action Items:

1. Steve Carlin will follow up with Lou on tornado siren
2. Steve Carlin will continue to research communications for camp staff
3. Steve Carlin will follow up with Art F. on the tornado shelter
4. Tom Bergquist and Tom Barry will work with Gini Plote on making the Safe Scouting domain fully function again
5. Tom Barry will work with the council Marketing Department on logo idea and the suggested newsletter ideas

Report and Discussion:

1. Tornado Siren
 - a. Steve Carlin mentioned the computer to finish the tornado siren will be put in place when snow melts. Everything else is ready to go.
 - i. Marlowe asked how the system works
 1. According to Steve Carling the system is not plugged into the power grid but is instead powered by deep cycle batteries that are connected to the grid. This way the siren will work when power is out.
 2. Siren can be set off manually or through the National Weather Service
 - ii. Marlowe suggested that written instructions be given to unit leaders (those not attending a structured summer camp where leaders and staff are instructed on policies) on policies and procedures when the siren goes off.
 - b. The topic of staff communications during severe weather, especially difficulties in reaching staff on the lake, was also discussed. Steve Altchuler commented that local businesses may be willing to donate radios.
2. Tornado Shelter
 - a. Steve Carlin mentioned the county had yet to produce useful information on specifications of shelters
 - i. Art, from the Properties Committee, will speak with Yaggy Colby on Thursday (1/14) about specifics in Olmsted County. Yaggy Colby has designed shelters in this county before.
 - ii. Shelters need to be spaced evenly throughout camp. One main shelter would not be sufficient.
 - iii. Steve Carlin reported that \$1000 / square foot would not be out of line to build a shelter

- iv. Committee agreed we need a cost estimate to help apply for a grant or funding through the council
- v. Steve Altchuler commented that there must be an off the shelf design and cost estimates, possibly with Yaggy Colby
- vi. Marlowe reminded the committee we have to consider both the cost of building and the value of human life
- vii. Steve Altchuler commented that its not a matter of if a severe storm hits camp, but when.
- viii. Steve Altchuler reminded us that the shelters need to be maintained as shelter, not storage space.

3. Website Domain

- a. Tom Bergquist suggested we update the links that were not working
- b. Steve Altchuler asked:
 - i. Who Administrator the website
 - ii. Who gives the information to the administrator
 - iii. If we aren't going to continue campaigning for safety, why should the domain continue to be paid for?
- c. Tom Bergquist suggested Gini Plote, the website administrator, come to the next meeting
- d. Altchuler reminded the committee that it is our job to remind the masses about safety. Procedures only work if everyone knows about them. If only one leaders knows, it is easy for him / her to bypass safety concerns.

4. Marketing

- a. Tom Bergquist suggested the committee have a Risk Management logo contest to promote the committee, the work it does, and the safety of the Scouts
- b. Newsletter Ideas
 - i. Hot weather – mid spring newsletter
 - ii. Cold weather – fall newsletter
 - iii. Two deep leadership
 - iv. Physical fitness
 - v. Insurance – liability and accident / sickness
 - vi. Trailer security

5. Upcoming meetings

- a. April 13th, 5:30 – 6:30 @ Council Office (quarterly meeting)
- b. May 8th, TBD @ GSR (pre-camp inspection)
- c. July 13th, 5:30 – 6:30 @ GSR (quarterly meeting)
- d. August 28th, TBD @ GSR (post-camp inspection)
- e. October 12th, 5:30 – 6:30 @ Council Office (quarterly meeting)