

53rd St. Barnabas Scout Group

Minutes of Parents Meeting held Saturday 27th January 2018

Attendees: Group Scout Leader Tracey Vlamis, Andreas Moraris, Isaias Ioannides, Skip, Maria Athenites, Estelle Kousoulidou, Elizabeth Photiou, Ann Karekla, Andri Anastasiou, Bitte Lager, Eva Galati.

1. Works covered over the Christmas Holidays – the cover for the outdoor sink has been done and kiosk was the main jobs done. The cover for the kiosk and the cover for the sinks cost of 600 euros. The person who did the work was someone which was suggested from the parents committee. More work will be done by adding lights. Also the water pipes and the outside lights were replaced by Andreas. There was some cleaning up in Yermasoyia. The steps that were done, all the stones left over were put away so it's ready for the group's meetings.
2. The Duke of Edinburgh International Award – at this moment there are 8 participants from the 53rd already registered online. They have started their Awards. As the meeting was taking place there were three more registering for the award. Scouts over the age of 14 can register for the DOE. The 53rd has also helped some of the participants by organizing self-defence lessons twice a month on a Thursday for the Physical Section of the Award, for two hours with six people taking part. Cost 15 euros for the month. The instructor's gets paid 50 euros per month. It works out cheaper than parents paying at an institute 50-60 per month for the same sort of thing. The instructor brings his own equipment except the mats. The group has four mats and will buy another two from the profit made from this activity. Cost of the mats is €150 euros. The mats can be used for any future events the group may have. Only expenses for this activity are to buy two more mats. There is another group which will be doing a workshop with Andreas, as he has offered his time. This group will be doing woodwork for the Skill Section of the Award every other Wednesday for two hours. Two have already started with another 1 or 2 starting at a later stage. Participants will be making benches for the group which are needed and a window frame for the Yermasoyia hut. Originally the participants wanted to make a canoe. The cost would have been 2000 euros. These activities have also been organized to save some costs for the parents. There are some participants doing other activities like basketball, piano etc. These activities are going for one year for the gold level. Bronze level only need to do three months. The participant have been instructed what to do.
3. There are twenty people going to Karpenissi Greece. Next Saturday there will be a presentation explaining all the details of the trip. The trip will be similar to the previous occasion when the group went. There are two less days and more activities have been added like Cycling and hiking in some of the areas. When going to Athens the group will be going to the Acropolis museum, Acropolis, and the memorial wall of Athens.

At this time we have ten people going to the World Scout Jamboree USA the letters have been given out. The February 15th is the cut-off date. All forms handed in with deposits and the forms need to be signed by the district commissioner and be in the hands of the person in charge of the trip.

There are 15 people going Roverway in Holland. That will be in the summer. Meetings have already started organising the trip. The groups's 15 have been split into three different groups. Out of the three leaders going, two will be from our group which are Nafsika and Andreas. The group have already agreed to pay for them to go. Richard will be taking the third group.

4. First aid courses – the older children will have the chance to take part in a 6 hour First Aid Course in English (Emergency First Aid at Work). The course will be held on the 17th February. The course will start at 8.00am and finish at 2.00pm at the Moutayiaka Scout Hut. The course will cost €20 to be paid on the 10th Feb. This is an Adult course with a written test and a certificate from the UK. Parents can also take part in the course.
Also we will have a 30 Hour Advanced First Aid course in English with the St Johns Association. The course will be every Tuesday starting on Tuesday 27th Feb from 5.30pm to 8.30pm at the St Johns Ambulance training centre behind the Old hospital in town. It takes about two months to complete. The cost of this course is €112.50. This course is available for older Explorers and Parents. Some of the leaders will be doing the refresher course in order to keep their licence for the next three years. 8 people are required for the course to go ahead. A letter went out today.
5. The bowling Jamboree competition Jambowlree - the 53rd will be doing it in a big way this year. The Explorers have already been going for training. Scouts will be going next week for some training. The scouts will be doing their jamboree on the 3rd March in the morning, the Explorers later on and the Jambowlree will be done in the UK by the group's network scouts which are the fourth Section of the 53rd.
6. This year two of our Explorers will be getting their republic awards. Usually is more but it's a difficult Award to get.
7. For the parents we've got the district weekend stay on the 3rd & 4th March including lunch. We will also organise the family Caledonia walk down for the 25th March.
8. Election of new chairmans and the Commissioners for all the Cyprus Scouts Association will also be held in May 2018. (Elections for the Chef Scout of Cyprus and District Commissioner of Limassol). Someone from the district will come to our AGM and monitor. This happens every three years.
9. Next expenses for the group –
 - the outdoor sink where the cover was done 600 plus VAT. It's like a commercial base. Without the taps. The sink will be bolted in.
 - The minivan road tax 225 euros and the insurance 284 euros. The horn has not yet fixed.
 - Another expense are tents, the group have people going to Roverway. The group was going get new poles to repair the old tents but it wasn't cost effective so now we are going to buy a new tent from the UK to test it. The idea is also to get tents big enough for the cubs to use as well. But right now water proof tents are needed for Roverway. The light weight tents that were used for the world jamboree for Sweden have holes in them and are very old. Only one is left which is good enough to use for Roverway. The cost of the tent from the UK is euros 200. It can sleep up to 4 per and 5 if needed. It's hard to find tents that are any good, that's why one was brought in order to test it out. Overall cost will be around euros 1000.

- Another expense is the 60th year badge. This will be given out, the design has being made and hopefully there is enough time to send to Taiwan to be manufactured as it's cheaper than having it made in Cyprus. We are heading towards the 60th year.
- The group already has the Thinking Day pin which will be given out on the 24th February. The Thinking day will be on 22nd February. Last year the event that was done at St Barnabas not a lot people turned up. Not sure what to do at present due to the district planning something but the programme hasn't been given out.

10. Saturday 24th March will be the Lantern March around the scouts hut in Moutayiaka along with the 53rd Marching band. A suggestion was made for a cake sale after the march along with hot chocolate making it more a social evening. The march will be done after the normal scout meeting. A social evening was discussed but due to the family Caledonia walk down the following day it was agreed just do a cake sale and hot chocolate. The target is to hand out the 60th badge to the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers on the 24th March so they can start wearing it on the uniforms
11. In May the parents committee will be giving out a T-shirt just for the summer marking the 60th year of the scout group with the design saying "since 1958." This will be the summer uniform. Also it was mentioned today, that today was the first day that the whole group was in the same uniform.
12. June there is the Three Peaks Challenge in the UK. This will be done by the 53rd Network, 9 will be participating. Starting in Scotland Ben Nevis going to the Lake District and finishing at Snowdonia. It starts on the Friday and finishes on the Sunday. It will finish with a meal in Liverpool before everyone goes their own way. It's already been arranged and Richard has approved the activity. 40 pounds has already been asked from those interested. The whole cost will be 100 pounds per person. The participants are organising themselves to keep the cost down. Some of the group leaders are going over to help with the transportation. The group are asking the parents committee for 500 euros to help towards the cost to keep the cost down. If done through a company it would cost 250 per person. The participants have planned and organised everything even the costing for everything including the car hire to make life much easier. The committee approved the cost.
13. During August there will be the main celebration for the group's 60th. The plan is to do it at a restaurant near the beach towards the end of August. The overseas students have asked for this as they wanted to join in.
14. October the going up parade will be a special event. This will be the last celebration of the 60th. The group are still waiting on the Gibraltar group. All information has been given to them just waiting on them to confirm.
15. Fund rising – Change of plans for the fete due to the fact the group need to raise money for the group sooner. It was agreed to bring the fete from October back to May. Approx 12th May. We need to check the dates before the committee and the group agrees on the date. Cinema nights will also be an option to make money. One for cubs and one for scouts. The Last weekend in April around the 29th April to arrange for the family treasure hunt. Those are the main fund raisers.

16. The group has grown; the group is nearly at 120 members. The Scouts are over 50 people; as soon as the weather gets better the scouts will be going down to the yermasoyia hut. The cubs will stay at the Moutayiaka hut. The Explorers will be floating between the two huts.
17. The groups bank account signatures - there is a problem the group does not have anyone else to sign. There is only Isaias that has offered to sign. Estelle Kousoulidou and Maria Athenites have agreed to be signatories for the group. The committee agreed there should be three persons to be signatories and any two out of the three can sign should one person be unavailable to sign. This has to be arranged as soon as possible.
18. World scout jamboree sponsorship – The group knows there are 10 persons going, most likely 13 will go. The committee already agreed to sponsor the 2 leaders to go which are Stephanos and Tracey. The cost from the group is euros 5000 to send them. Over the next two years the group has to find this money. The group will start paying that money as per the payment plan. The group split it over the two years, the parents know they have to pay this year 1,200. What can the group do for the sponsorship!! It was suggested by the group leader to find ideas to help raise the 200 euros per person for this year and see how much for next year to help bring down the price. The group will need to cut down on some expenses to also get to the target needed. Maybe make some more from the activities. Maybe do a lottery ticket for the 60th celebration. Car boot can also be organized after the fete by the members of the committee and voluntary parents. The group has changed a lot over the years. The group used to operate out of two containers but now have been raising money for the buildings and outside areas for safety of the children. Costs of running the group have gone up a lot. This has been mentioned in order for the parents to know the group are doing their best for the safety of the group's children. Also to sell the T-shirt at the 60th celebration was also suggested as funds are urgently needed.
19. Another event is a walk for your health from marina to marina. You pay 10 euros just for the t-shirt. The parents committee's needs to involve as many people as possible. This will be open to family and friends of the 53rd.
20. A suggestion was made that someone from the parents committee could be at the gate to ask parents for help on the activities. Or put a white board or a table with someone available to ask questions regarding fund raising activities and to ask for volunteers for activities when needed and to give information on who to contact in order to get parents more involved in the group.
21. The Christmas dinner dance – it would be better to organize the date and venue before the end of the scouting year.
22. Another suggestion was to organize a quiz night. Details need to be found to organize the quiz night.

Estelle Kousoulidou Parents Committee Secretary.

Approved by Isaias Ioannides on : 31.01.2018
53rd Parent Committee Chairman.