

**Association 51
Spring 2008 Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2008**

Opening

Presented by 51-11, a poem called, "Enough" was read.

Introduction of Guests

Jim Kraftchak, Association Chair, introduced Colleen Cibula, Director of Membership for GSCNC.

Secretary's Report

Penny Halpern moved that the minutes from the Fall 2007 Meeting be approved as written. It was seconded by Pat Beauregard. Motion carried.

Association Reports

SHARE

Penny Halpern gave us a list of figures as of May 2. The Association is behind in our SHARE giving. It costs \$213 per year per girl to run Girl Scout Programming. Another possible way to get more SHARE money is to ask girls who have graduated to make a donation. Service Units 7 and 9 have reached their goal for the year. Penny handed out thank you notes to the SHARE volunteers from each Service Unit.

Cookies

Regina reported that the cookie sales were very successful this year. The trend nationally was that sales were down 3%. In our Council, sales were up, by 12,583 boxes. There was \$77,374.80 in troop profits. Regina does not yet know the theme for next year.

Training

No report.

Volunteers

Pat Beauregard reported about Dairy Day at Frying Pan Park. Teen Scouts can earn hours for volunteering. Frying Pan Park is considered an outdoor museum, so scouts may earn service hours for the Museum IPP.

Jim Kraftchak announced that Scouts may volunteer at the VA Renaissance Fair. They can work on badges while working there.

Destinations

There are two scouts who have requested money for Destinations Trips. Anna Dykhoff is going to Guatemala, and Katie Henke is going to the Great Lakes. They were given \$100 each.

Overview of Bylaw changes

The Service Units will be electing their own delegates for the Annual Meeting from now on – they will no longer be elected through the Association. Those who were elected last year and who went to the Annual meeting will still be delegates in 08-09. This will be their first year of up to 4 one year terms.

51-1 has 3 delegates, all 3 showed up. Sandy Alexander, Debbie Szymczyk, Kim Baum

51-5 has 3 delegates, one showed up. Cyndi Lapari

51-7 has 3 delegates, two showed up. Patti Hempl, Maureen Jender.

51-9 has 2 delegates, one showed up. Ruth Holt

51-11 has 3 delegates, one showed up., Chelle Youman

September 15, 2008, we need to report to Council who are delegates and alternates will be.

Voting can no longer be done by acclamation.

We no longer need to have a quorum in order to vote.

We don't need to have someone lead Nominations and Referrals, but we do need someone to lead Recognitions.

The Association is no longer involved in Policy making, so we can focus on Program. Delegates will attend meetings in Oct. and Feb. to discuss future forums. The Council and the delegates will be in direct communication with each other, and the Annual Meeting is required. The Council will give the Association a disbursement of funds that will be a given amount per scout.

Associations will receive money which will pay for meeting rooms, fees, copies, Destinations, refreshments, postage, and recognitions. The Chair and Assistant Chair for Associations will be appointed by the Board. The Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed by the Chair and Assistant Chair.

Advantages for the Association: we will have time to focus on programs and girl retention. We will be able to hold larger Girl Scout events. There is no dictation for what we have to do as an Association. We can decide how many meetings to hold. We need a vision before we can decide our operations. What Committee format do we want? This could be another help for teen advisors, as well as support for each level of scouting. We could add a blog section to the website for people to share ideas. We could try again to have an Association Girl Council.

Brainstorming

It was decided to brainstorm as one group, rather than have breakout session for what we want the Association to do. We can have events by scout levels, with each SU hosting one level. We can support Journey, which is new. We can come up with a mission statement, have a bowling night, skating, a cook off. We could have a discussion board on the website where we can give ideas for the fall meeting. We could offer more support to the new leaders. We could have break out sessions by SU jobs, in order that we can share ideas.

Service Unit Reports

51-11 reported that the SU has held a Lock-in, Daddy/Daughter Dance, Mother/Daughter Tea, Pajama Party, Girl Council, Thinking Day, and plans are in the works for Bridging and Fund Raising at the Herndon Festival.

51-1 is having a SHARE event involving archery. They are had an encampment in the fall, Thinking Day, Father/Daughter dance, Mother/Daughter Tea, and a Fashion Show for the Girl Scout Birthday, where they showed off old Girl Scout uniforms.

51-9 held Thinking Day, rescheduled their encampment for fall, had a Sing A Long hosted by a 6th grade troop, exceeded their SHARE goal, have their leader recognitions with ice cream next week, and a Father/Daughter Prom.

51-7 held a Sing A Long, Thinking Day, where they focused on good things for the earth, celebrated Girl Scout Birthday, are on task for a SU – wide girl meeting, and held a Father/Daughter Dance.

51-5 had a SHARE movie night, made Thanksgiving baskets for a shelter, went Caroling at Sunrise Nursing Home, held Thinking Day, had their annual Leader/Daughter campout in the fall, participated in the Holiday Parade, two troops planted gardens, they held a Sweetheart Dance, teens who went to the TOGA recognitions for 5 Gold Awards, 1 Silver, and 33 Bronze awards, 1 girl is on the GSCNC Bd. Of Directors, 1 girl involved with the Latino initiatives, and teens participated with the Orphan Foundation of America in putting packages, which they do 3 times a year. Cyndi Lapari is the leader of the event.

Field Director's Report

Leah was excited by all of the ideas presented. She said membership is down a bit, although the adult membership is up. She handed out a written report, and highlighted Camp Fiesta, June 18 – 20 at Herndon United Methodist Church, from 9 am – 4 pm. Volunteers are needed.

Special Guests Report

Colleen Cibula, Director of Membership reported that Council has had a great year. Many Councils across the country are not doing as well. There has been a fabulous response to changes being made. SHARE is up, Membership is up, and Cookie Sales were up. People may be needing Girl Scouts more as it is a lower budget membership, and financial assistance is offered. One goal is to work on getting and keeping adults involved.

Cindy Kirwan, Sec. of Association 50 spoke about Journey Training. When she was training with leaders from across the country, she realized that GSCNC treats and recognizes volunteers much better than other councils.

Recognitions

We have 8 Gold Awards of the 263 in the Council. We have the most by any Council ever in the US.

The Ashgrove Award is given for an outstanding level of support to Association 51. This award is not given out every year. This year, it is given to Chelle Youmans. Chelle has Directed Camp Lake Fairfax for a number of years, and often takes on adult supervision for outdoor activities by different troops.

We have 2 National Capital Awards, 1 Appreciation Pin, 13 Outstanding Leaders, 6 Outstanding Volunteers, and 1 Appreciation Plaque for Dogwood Elementary School.

It was announced that Jim and Sharon Kraftchak were given the Outstanding Volunteer Award by the Town of Herndon for their many years of service to the community through Girl Scouting.

Anne Juran received the Appreciation Pin for 51-9.

The next meeting will be in September.

Closing

The closing was a reading by 51-1.

Thanks to 51-9 for getting the meeting location, 51-7 for the snack, and 51-5 for Cleanup.