



Coastal Sage District Committee Meeting – March 11, 2020

1) District Chair Comments:

- a) JTE – CSD received gold. We were 1 of 3 Districts in SDIC to get gold. This is a testament to all the hard work our volunteers and DE accomplished this year. Thanks to you all.
- b) We discussed the BSA National bankruptcy filing. The bankruptcy filing represents National's effort to balance the need to compensate those who were victims of sexual abuse while fulfilling the mission of bringing scouting to our youth. There are 3 important points to remember about this filing if anyone asks you:
 - **Scouting is safer now than ever before.** Approximately 90% of the pending and asserted abuse claims against the BSA relate to abuse that occurred more than 30 years ago. As you know, the safety of children in our programs is the BSA's absolute top priority. That's precisely why over many years we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization.
 - **Scouting continues.** Scouting programs will continue to serve youth, families and our communities throughout this process and for many years to come.
 - **Local councils have not filed for bankruptcy.** Local councils are legally separate, distinct and financially independent from the national organization. However, the national organization is working diligently to advocate for local councils' interests through this process.

If you want further information, you can go to this website: www.BSArestructuring.org.

- c) Mataguay. At the Executive Committee meeting on February 19, the 2020 council budget was approved. It was decided that, with the significantly reduced sign ups to date, it would be fiscally irresponsible to run a resident summer camp program at Mataguay Scout Ranch in 2020. We are working with Troops that have shown interest in Mataguay Scout Ranch for the 2020 season to assist with meeting their unit camping needs. This includes added program features at Camp Fiesta Island that will be announced in the next few weeks. All other activities including overnight camping, shooting sports weekends, COPE weekends, camporees, NYLT and Wood Badge will continue as scheduled at Mataguay Scout Ranch.
- d) Some of our Committee Volunteers have not registered or have not registered as a multiple. If you have not done so, please take care of that at your earliest opportunity (this is, of course, impacted by the next item).
- e) Mark has received the names of 3 potential volunteers, and scheduled meetings with two of them.
- f) **This is an add-on since our meeting.** COVID-19 has greatly impacted scouting. At this time, the scouting offices are shutdown, along with the Scout Shop. All Unit, District and Committee meetings must be conducted virtually by using some form of conferencing



service. Many of the items discussed at our meeting and reported here will be changing as a result of the changing course of the virus, and ongoing or new directives from the Federal, State or Local authorities. Also, SDIC has published guidelines on its website at <https://www.sdicbsa.org>. For the latest guidelines from our Council along with some FAQ's, go to: <https://www.sdicbsa.org/Misc/SDICCOVID-19Memo-0320Update.pdf>

- 2) District Commissioner Report (Mike Tullio):
 - a) Commissioners met on 3/5/20. Getting registered as adult leader was one topic. Also discussed the roles of commissioners, including: 1. Supporting growth through JTE. 2. Contacting units and entering strengths and issues in tools. 3. Linking unit needs to District resources. 4. Timely support charter renewal.
- 3) Training
 - a) As reported previously, our Training Chair, Jodi Balazs, and her family are relocating to Washington based on her husband's recent orders. She is looking for a replacement, but with the current shutdown, this is more difficult. If you know someone who would be a good fit, please let Rob or Mark know.
- 4) Eagle Board of Review (Ken Brinkman)
 - a) Ken reported that the new Board of Review site at Madison High School worked pretty smoothly, with some glitches that got figured out. There was some question about what to do during summer months when the school is closed. There were 7 Boards last month, and 5 scheduled for this month.
 - b) **Update – Because the schools are shutdown, we no longer have a physical location for Boards. Regardless, because of the restrictions on gathering, there cannot be a physical Board in any event. Ken is looking into doing virtual Boards of Review. There are policies for such, which we expect to be refined based on the current situation. More to follow.**
- 5) Advancement (Doris McCarthy in Gregg's absence)
 - a) Doris will be giving presentation on what Advancement Chairs should be doing. In short, should be getting from the DE and reviewing the reports monthly and disseminate that information at the District meeting. If there is no advancement, contact the unit about helping them. The report also gives Commissioners information they can use on advancement.
 - b) Life to Eagle workshops are being planned. Will be held on Sunday afternoons at Balboa.
 - c) **Update – These workshops will be on hold. The Council is looking at ways to do virtual merit badge workshops.**
- 6) Membership (Mark)
 - a) This is going to be a critical focus this year. As troop numbers flatten, we need to have Cubs who move up to Boy Scouts to keep the troops vibrant and strong. Without recruiting for Cubs, we will see our numbers dwindle.
 - b) Others suggested that troops should also be encouraged to recruit, and not just wait and hope for Cubs to join them.
 - c) We need someone to provide training to units so they know how to set up and run a school recruitment, and do recruiting at other venues, and then be able to assist those who need additional help. I am happy to report that Claire Smith has agreed to chair the committee, and has come up with a host of ideas.



- d) **Update – School shutdown for the rest of the school year makes school recruitment more problematic. We are going to need to explore some alternatives and how to get the word out without having access through the schools.**
- 7) Community Service (Vanessa Kampnich)
 - a) “Scouting for Food” door hangers are in and being distributed. There was a kickoff with KUSI on 2/27. Scouts just need to collect food, log it, and let Vanessa know so arrangements can be made to pick up food.
 - b) **Update – Scouts can collect food, but need to practice social distancing. People can leave the bags on their doorsteps or some agreed location to be retrieved by the scouts. Some adult needs to supervise this. The need for food has dramatically increased as a result of COVID-19. So our efforts are even more critically needed now.**
- 8) OA (Susan Abernathy)
 - a) There have been problems with elections, with some units not voting in eligible members. There is a concern this has gotten to be a popularity contest. Need to promote this more to the leaders so they get the message across to their Scouts.
 - b) Part of the problem is that our contacts list may not be up to date, so we are contacting folks who are no longer leaders in the Unit.
- 9) Camporee – (Michael Szuch)
 - a) **Update – Camporee has been rescheduled to August 28-30.**
- 10) The Annual District Dinner (Vanessa Kampnich)
 - a) Vanessa and Doris have been contacting venues to get pricing and menus. They have narrowed the search. Currently set for June 5, but this may likely change given the current shutdown. More to follow.
- 11) DE Report.
 - a) Rob reports there have been changes to JTE scorecard. 5 areas they score on. Gold is based on total points and subgroup points. Will now have to hit at least bronze level in all 5 subgroups to get gold.
 - b) Discussed goals from Council. Rob’s objective is to add 1 troop and 2 packs. Currently, our target is to have 35 on the committee. Many of our members are not really involved. Rob says there are about 8 who are involved, and would like to build that to 16.
 - c) FOS went from \$114k to \$115,5K. Popcorn target went from \$180K to \$193K. FOS contributions are way down.
 - d) Trained leaders - we are at 33%. Target is 55%.
 - e) Target for community service is 8 hours per scout. Folks think units are probably hitting that number, but not properly reporting those hours.
 - f) **Update – Scouting is going to be in a state of flux because of COVID-19. Rob is working on an outline of things units can and should be doing. This will be a changing menu of ideas and suggestions as this situation plays out. JTE targets are not likely very realistic given the impact of the virus.**

THANK YOU ALL FOR THE WORK YOU DO ON BEHALF OF OUR SCOUTS

