

Meeting Minutes
Venturer Advisors' Forum – Voyageur Council
Scout Headquarters – National Boardroom
Tuesday, June 5, 2012 – 7:35 p.m.

Alex Gazaleh	Opemikon	John Stalker	MOOT
Allan Yates	1 st Merrickville	Kate Harris	114 th Ottawa
Ashley Schippers	Heritage Area YCmr	Larry House	1 st Manotick
Bill Bowman	1 st Nepean	Marc Couturier	VCSA
Chris Little	14 th Gloucester	Mary Hagerman	1 st Osgoode
Chris Prevost	112 th Nepean Rover	Neal Rice	Nepean Rover Crew
Chuck Fraser	1 st Glen Cairn	Nigel Ward	1 st Kanata
Cyndy Courtland	Carleton Place	Perry Schippers	Heritage Area Cmr
Don Stalker	Nepean Rover Crew	Phil Edens	VCSA
Doug MacKinnon	112 th Nepean	Sandra Redshaw	3 rd Kanata
Doug Proud	1 st Greenwood	Sharon Lefebvre	7 th Kanata
Ernie Koshman	Nepean Rover Crew	Stewart Ross	DCC Recognition
Gen Stalker	Nepean Rover Crew	Sue Robertson	VCSC
Guy Morgan	1 st Kemptville	Therese Desjardins	114 th Ottawa
Jim Peverley	CC Designate	Tim Harbinson	114 th Ottawa
John Dougherty	DCC Program	Mike Jowett	CC Voyageur

Opening Remarks – John Dougherty

VAF Chairperson Cal Clupp away sick; asked John to fill in tonight.

Call for additions to agenda. Ashley Schippers added item.

Call for additions or corrections to last month's minutes. None.

Past Activities

RSVP – Neal Rice & Gen Stalker

Camp held May 11-13 at Opemikon. Highest number of attendees yet. Perfect weather. Scavenger hunt worked out nicely in place of orienteering activity.

Troop Council Camp – various attendees

Camp held June 1-3 at Apple Hill. Gale force winds on Friday night. Dining shelter blew through sleeping area. Rain off and on all weekend. Team altered program to suit weather conditions. Deer at 4 am Sunday caused excitement. Kids had a good time. A lot of Venturers gave a lot of support.

White Water – Bill Bowman (May 25-27 WW1&3) & Allan Yates (Jun1-3 WW2 & Kayak)

First weekend had great time & good conditions. WW1 had 30 kids & WW3 had 15.

Second weekend had wet weekend, but river run did not get snowed out this year. WW2 had 36, Kayak had 11. Lower numbers than usual this year. Instructor quality was good.

One participant felt that on Sunday while going through rapids they were kept too close

together; felt it would be nicer if they were staggered so they could practice. Bill noted that normally with higher numbers they split into groups. Instructors had recommended that they not do the downriver run at all due to low water, but Bill made the call to do it. Kids were quite happy; had a wonderful time.

Upcoming Activities

Basic Canoe (June 16) & Boat Rescue (June 23-24) – John Stalker

As of today, no people signed up yet. Sign up ASAP on website or course will be cancelled. Allan Yates pointed out that Paddler Co-op website offers a canoe tripping course on same weekend as boat rescue. There will be no further action toward running a swift-water canoe rescue course, since only 2 showed interest.

Rideau Canoe Rally (Labour Day weekend) – John Dougherty

John will be finished his term by then; looking for somebody else to take over organizing this. No interest from meeting attendees. Already a lot of VAF events going on in September. Canoe Rally won't happen this year.

Heritage Area Senior Sections Camp (Sept 14-16) – Ashley Schippers

For Scouts, Venturers & Rovers at Otter Lake QC. Previously an area event, they are opening it to other groups in Voyageur Council. Theme is pirates. Activities to include marshmallow guns & cannons (kids get to fire at leaders), sword fights, fondue, archery, pirate movies, an Amazing Pirate Adventure involving revenge and chocolate brownies. They are trying to get the leaders more involved with the youth. Ashley will forward an email with more details through the VAF chair. Price to be advised.

Reports

Service Corps – Marc Couturier

May 6th attended CN cycle event for CHEO. No lost children, more of a public relations presence. Also in May planted 300 trees on private property. Collected 23 skids of electronics on recycling day; will do that again in October but not on RoVent weekend this year.

National Capital Commission has asked SC for lost children services (to run electronically) on Canada Day. **50-60 YOUTH VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.** Free food. Wicked party afterward. Sign up at Voyageur Council Service Corps events page. Also on council website if you don't have Facebook.

Doors Open Ottawa held June 2-3 at Scout HQ. A few hundred visitors, despite fact that Ottawa Citizen printed address incorrectly.

First Aid Course – Don Stalker

June 9-10, 8:30-5 each day, at Richmond library. \$50 B-level, \$55 C-level. Less than half price of regular St. John's course. There will be a re-certification course some time this fall.

VAF Equipment – Nigel Ward, Quartermaster

Have received snowshoes & archery equipment and, as of tonight, climbing gear. Guy Morgan has priced archery equipment through South Nation Archery Supplies near Winchester (contacts Larry & Cathy @ 613-989-2943). Archery nets \$399 + HST, 28x20 targets \$119, arrows \$2.80/ea. They will also re-fletch the arrows down the road. Lengthy round-table discussion followed. We do have money in our budget to cover this (currently around \$1800 but the SPOT invoices will be \$100+ each). Net will undoubtedly save arrows. Probably does not come with cable to support it. Decision was made to purchase two nets.

VAF currently has two targets. Two nets should do for three targets. John S pointed out that some targets are used for hunting bows and that our arrows will just bounce off; need to ensure we are buying the right kind of target. Allan suggested we buy a third and fourth target at same time. Since we have six bows, should we have six targets?

Sandra pointed out we don't have enough arrows; she had to buy arrows before recent event. If you lose arrows you should replace them. Tim said originally we bought six arrows per bow, for a total of 36. There were only nine when Sandra went to use them. Asked Guy to buy more arrows. Nigel said that when he packages up what is needed he will itemize the number of arrows and if you lose an arrow you must replace it. Carbon fibre arrows cost \$5/each but last three times as long as aluminum and are better than wooden. Wooden arrows break easily when kids grab them by the fletching. Feathers also get damaged very easily. Guy said there were 106 kids at his recent event and they lost only three arrows. Guy will find out price of carbon fibre arrows. Nets and arrows are more important than targets. Tim said we can use balloons in place of targets.

Sandra bought 34 arrows @ \$5/each and lost eight at the event. **Nigel proposed that instead of groups replacing lost arrows, VAF could simply keep a large stock of arrows and groups will pay for what is lost.** We can afford to buy two nets and arrows. If we go over budget we will pay from next year's budget. We don't have enough targets for two nets. It was suggested that **Guy should purchase 2 nets, 1 target and 2 dozen arrows – but that he price out the carbon fibre arrows before purchasing. In the end, we agreed that Guy will simply tell South Nation Archery Supplies that we have \$1,000 to spend and negotiate how much we can get for that amount of money.** Guy noted that the South Nation charged \$20 for four 1-hour sessions per youth, for archery instruction.

Nigel said only one quiver in VAF possession. Sandra said they can be bought in dollar store. Somebody else suggested use tubing.

Nigel said nine new pairs of snowshoes require bags. Will have to come from next year's budget.

Nigel is retiring as section Advisor but will still be on group committee. Will no longer attend VAF meetings so you must contact him by email to book VAF equipment and meet him at the storage place on March Road in Kanata. Nigel can be reached at scouter_nigel@yahoo.ca (don't miss the underscore) or at 613-435-6899 but please do not post his phone number on the website. Nigel said he has enjoyed the past four years and thanked everybody who has worked hard to provide events for his Venturers.

Other Business

Couch Rally – Kate Jackson

Sept 8, location TBA. Contact kate.jackson.17@gmail.com Will send details to Cal to forward through VAF distribution list. Event is targeted for Venturers but can use Senior Scouts to fill a team. Great bring-a-friend event. This is a scavenger hunt where you bring a couch, you get a list of clues and then you carry or roll your couch to various sites and take photos. BBQ around 3pm.

Rovent Crest Design – Doug MacKinnon

This year there were six submissions, which is five more than usual. Only one originated from outside 112th Nepean or from committee members, beautifully detailed but unfortunately not done in colour. Winner of the free admission prize was Heather MacKinnon.

Adirondack Adventure – John Dougherty

Refund cheques distributed at meeting. Two left over, will be mailed.

AdVenturee June 30 –July 7 @ Haliburton Scout Reserve – Neal Rice

350 participants total. 32 from Voyageur Council including 1st Glen Cairn & Carleton Place. Program is well under way. Site is starting to be prepared. Maintenance completed, ferries ready. Ensure your group brings a *small* trailer so as not to sink the ferry. Food equipment & prep under way. Youth will define how far they can go by pushing themselves to their personal limit. **Carleton Place has had two PAID youth drop out. To take their places, contact Cyndy Courtland.**

Rover Moot August 2013 – Michel-Olivier Matte, Director-General for MOOT

First time in Canada. Expecting 5000 from 100 countries. 35 on organizing committee. See mootcanada.ca Facebook page has 5800 followers. Trying to build more interest in Canada. Called for volunteers and got 800, but about 500 were out-of-country from Africa. Current need is to fill positions to organize and complete jobs that have to be done ahead of time. Now advertising specific job descriptions on website & newsletter. Working language of the committee is mostly in English. These positions are not part of the contingent. John Stalker in charge of OOS.

Committee of the Americas – Jim Peverley jpeverley0320@rogers.com

Thurs June 14 – Sun June 17th

There is an urgent need for two Rovers all-day each day, to drive two 7-passenger vans to shuttle 15 delegates between airport, hotels, Scouts Canada HQ. Rental van insurance for drivers under age 25 is not a problem; we received a special dispensation. This will be a test run for the National AGM. If no Rovers are available, Jim will accept adult volunteers.

Joint Council – Brittany & Stephanie

May long weekend event was camp at OPE. Good turnout. Put in the docks. Swam both days. Final event is dance on Friday June 22, 7-10pm at Calvary Lutheran Church on Smyth Rd. \$5. Once you leave the venue, you will not be re-admitted.

Elections were held tonight. New guiding rep is Katie and scouting rep is Alex. Only 53 of 77 in uniform tonight. New rule for next year: if you want to make a presentation you must be in uniform.

Venclimb – John Dougherty

Round-table discussion. Christian had previously suggested just a day for VenClimb – not a whole weekend – because they don't want vehicles on the site other than emergency vehicles and also due to Christian's availability. 1st Merrickville can also set ropes – did some in 2011 and 2010. Alex Gazaleh says there are others who are qualified to set ropes & provide training. Negotiations with Laframboise family were handled by Ray last year. Sandra Redpath volunteered to liaise with them this year. Allan Yates volunteered to do logistics again this year. Parking on road is limited; perhaps they could provide parking elsewhere. Need to discuss with family what their objections are. Farm is owned by Laframboise family but leased to another farmer. Kids would lose out if reduced to one day. Second day is more difficult rock faces and completely different experience.

Crazy Canuck – Bill Bowman

Contacted Marilyn to see if event can return to OPE for convenience' sake after five-year hiatus, but she has not responded.

Preliminary Calendar of Events for 2012-2013 – John Dougherty

Seven attendees interested in attending WBI Senior Sections. Four interested in Wilderness First Aid course. Updates and amendments made to preliminary list.

CJ 2013

July 6-13, 2013 \$625. May be pre- and post- one-week tours of Banff, Drumheller, etc. Look on CJ website.

Election – Stewart Ross

It is traditional that during the final meeting of each year we elect the VAF chairperson for the upcoming year. All in favour of Cal returning as chairperson? Vote taken. Unanimous.

Farewell – Mike Jowett, Voyager Council Commissioner

Mike's final meeting in this capacity. Expressed huge respect for this group and said great pleasure to work with all.

Adjournment – John Dougherty

Next meeting to be held Tuesday, September 4th at Scout HQ National Boardroom.