

DAC-BSA JCOS
Meeting Minutes
8/31/10

The meeting was called to order and Rabbi Mitch Delcau (Temple Emanuel) delivered a D'var Torah. In attendance were:

Mike Shapiro, former SM, T37, Council Troop Chaplain Training Committee, JCOS Chair

Shawn Connelly, DAC-BSA, JCOS Advisor

Mitch Delcau, Rabbi, Temple Emanuel

Greg Ostravich, ASM, T873

Stuart Zipper, former SM, T700

(Because of schedule conflicts, additional interested people could not attend but will be invited to future meetings.)

After introductions and greetings by Mike and Shawn, as the first order of business, the committee agreed that the Boy Scout Law, with special emphasis on Friendly, Courteous, Reverent, and Helpful, would serve as Ground Rules for the conduct of meetings.

The committee then considered phrasing a mission statement in order to establish a focus for all future effort. The following is our working draft Mission Statement, pending reflection and reconsideration.

Mission Statement: Denver Area Council's Jewish Committee on Scouting
Promote Scouting for Jewish youth in the Denver Area Council to assure that Jewish youth and adult Scouters in the Council are afforded greater exposure, improved access and increased participation in Scouting's quality programs and service.

As the third order of business the committee listed Perceived Needs, Desires, and Issues to be addressed at future meetings. The following five topics were discussed. The tasks remain to prioritize the topics, decide when/how to address them, and revise the list on an on-going basis.

Issues – Gay and Atheist Scouts

Calendar – Ensure Jewish Holidays are reflected to minimize schedule conflicts with Council / District / Troop programming. Shawn took this as an immediate action item.

Chaplains

Encourage increased access to Jewish Chaplains for Jewish youth (Shawn provided a list of congregations, with rabbinic contact if known)

Encourage Jewish Scouters and Scouts to become Troop Chaplains and Chaplain Aide's

Enable Scouts/Scouters to "be Jewish" – establish reasonable written standards to enable Troops (and their Jewish Scouts/Scouters) with differing internal practices concerning Halacha and Kashruth to come together at District or Council events.

Liturgy – work to make "Scouts Own" services more ecumenical.

Goals Discussion – In his opening remarks, Mike Shapiro mentioned that one of his personal goals was for DAC to have a Jewish contingent at the next Jamboree (in 2013). Goals for the committee are to be defined at one or more future meetings.

Announcements:

The Western Region JCOS will be meeting in Las Vegas, Sunday, October 10th. Shawn will be attending. Registration is still open. For more information browse to <http://www.jewishscouting.org/regions/western> or, if you don't get the answers you need, feel free to contact Joel L. Levin, Conference Chair at lvscoutjoel@cox.net. For Shomer Shabbat hospitality contact Eli Goldblatt at borg173@hotmail.com

Next Meeting: Dates and times for future meetings were discussed. Several attendees and prospective attendees have recurring meetings, work obligations, or classes on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings. District Roundtables and Committee meetings occur on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays, but Thursdays in the latter part of the month look open. Given these conflicts, and our Jewish Holiday calendar, the next meeting was set for Thursday, October 28, at 7:30 PM. Most attendees live on the east side of town, so Mike Shapiro offered to host the meeting at his home, 3060 S. Roslyn St.

Mike Shapiro delivered a closing "Scoutmasters minute".