

DAC-BSA JCOS
Minutes
08/25/11

Attendees: Mike Shapiro, Hyiam Reiffman, Greg Ostravich, Laura Rosenthal, Scott Markovitz, Shawn Connelly

Opening: Pledge of allegiance

D'var Torah:

Parsha Re'eh: Moses tells his people "Do what is right in the eyes of G-d." That command is not as rhetorical as one might think. We do things based on perceptions of what others may think. G-d is following us, watching us at all times. Do we act as if we know G-d is watching?

NY City Times Square has a giant Jumbotron. What if we lived our lives as if it was shown live on the jumbotron for all to see?

Scouters that live by the Scout Law and follow the 12 points surely are doing right in the eyes of G-d.

Reviewed Minutes of last meeting. Accepted as posted.

Old Business

KINUS

Publicity:

Flyers went out to all R/Ts: Greg spoke at Arapahoe, Mike at Frontier, and Stuart at Centennial. Flyers only, no speaker at Timberline and Gateway unless the R/T commissioner read the announcement. District Executive spoke at Valley.

Other publicity: JewishDenver.com ; MileChai.com ; InterMountain Jewish News: Chris Leppek is Assistant Editor to coordinate with. Shawn will contact Nicole Cosme who is the Marketing Director at Denver Area Council to get the word out. Mike will provide an e-mail for Chris.

For Mile Chai and JewishDenver: Laura will send that out too. Laura said we should contact Young Judea through Hadassah and she contacts Highlands Ranch Teenagers too.

Also Mike suggested the Rocky Mountain Rabbinical Council; Laura has a contact there too.

Agenda – Schedule has been adjusted to not interfere with existing services.

08:00 – 09:00 Davening at DAT (optional)

08:45-09:15 Registration

09:15-09:30 Welcome (Pledge of allegiance, Scout Law, Scout Oath, Day's Schedule)

09:30 – 10:15 Religious Award Workshops and Adult Outreach Session

10:15-10:30 Break / Snack, transition to Ekkar Farm

10:30 – 12:30 Ekkar Farm Service Project

12:30 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 2:45 Religious emblem counseling / instruction

2:45 – 3:00 Close

Scott mentioned that the religious emblem requirements are a bit more complex for Aytz Chain and suggested that we put together an answer key for the more Senior scouts awards (Ner Tamid and Etz Chaim) that we share with the clergy and adult leaders helping scouts with the religious awards.

Mike suggested that Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society at DU can provide many of the answers for Etz Chaim; Jeanne Abram is the Director.

Logistics Notes:

Parking may be a challenge; need to plan where to direct people to so as not to interfere with the synagogue.

All Cub Scouts MUST have an adult (parent or designee) present the entire time for Youth Protection coverage. Add that requirement to the registration information.

Registration form should also have a reminder to bring work gloves for the service project.

At on-site registration an emergency contact needs to be listed for each Scout. Cub parents need to stay; Boy Scout guardians can leave as long as we have contact information.

We need to prepare for rain; can we get some dining fly tents for each workshop in case we're not inside? Also bring tarps?

Registration fee will be per parent and per scout; something like \$10 for each participant to cover hot dogs for each person, snacks, cleaning fees for the classroom. We'll charge \$5 for parents that stay and that will cover food and snacks; no patches. (For comparison purposes The recent Chaplains Aide course food costs were about \$300 for 40 people.)

We may decide to do a patch or kipot; Shawn will find out how much they cost.

Food details: Hot Dogs, Buns, little bags of Chips, bottles of Water, snacks, condiments (packets of ketchup, mustard, pickle relish, diced onions) cookies. We'll double check that Stuart can do this. We may be able to clean it too.

We'll put together a solid schedule from the notes and set-up registration. When we hear back from Stuart we'll firm up. If we need to meet again we can discuss on-line via e-mail.

Training Update:

Chaplain's Aide training was the 14th. Cut off at 12 teams. Preliminary review of critique forms indicate it went better than the first one. Hyiam and Mike have some issues to address. Some Christian faiths use a shepherds crook in their symbolism so there's discussion on the impact /effect on Jewish Scouts. Our forefathers, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph's brothers, Moses, David were shepherds. The very first United States Army Chaplain emblem was a shepherd's crook as well.

Should we mention the point about non-sectarian blessings and prayers to parents at the kinus and encourage their advocacy? Mike will take an action item back to the committee about blessings that are more generic and not specific to Christianity.

ITOLS; Mike has the CD. We'll do it on a non-Shabbat date for Observant Scout Leaders to be fully trained. Scott and Greg are interested in helping with this. Clair will help as well. Mike will take the lead and let us know the

schedule. Maybe a Sunday through Monday on a holiday weekend? Years ago, Mike did it in December when Shabbos ends at 4:30 PM on a Saturday night; out by late afternoon on Sunday.

Boy Scout Barachot. Greg will work with Rabbi Hyiam Reifman on that in the future. Greg will send a reminder to Hyiam about that.

New Business:

Greg will follow-up with Shawn about a Hindu troop that his friend Mohan wants to create. Mike reported someone is creating a Muslim troop as well.

Future: Jewish Executive List for JCOS. Greg mentioned it in Kinus discussion but not appropriate there. Tabled for future discussion.

Next Meeting: 9/22/2011 at 7:30 PM.

At Greg's house again. Maybe Hyiam will commute with Mike. That may change; there's a Philmont course Greg might do with Scott.

POST MEETING CHANGE: NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT DAT.

Closing Scout Master's Minute:

Deuteronomy 11:26 "... I put before you a blessing and a curse..." Why is life an enigmatic mixture of the two? Many situations that seem bad on the surface may actually contain a true benefit. Part of being wise is looking past the surface. Don't judge things based on appearances. The path before us is rarely black and white; there are often shades of gray. Look for hidden messages; think about deeper implications.