



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

DENVER AREA COUNCIL

Jewish Committee on Scouting

Minutes

10/22/15

In attendance: Mike Shapiro, Shawn Connelly, Hyiam Reiffman, Greg Ostravich

Opening

Pledge of Allegiance
Dvar Torah – Hyiam

This week's parshe is lech lecha – Story of Lot being taken captive. “And they captured lot and his possessions and they left” (Abraham's nephew); Lot on his own was a nobody; no social redeeming qualities. His uncle was his only notoriety. He was in Sodom because of all their bad habits that he took part in as well. All of us have our Sodoms; our Uncles. We have redeeming qualities we don't have to rely on. We need to make sure we aren't just somebody's nephew; be our own person and withstand those temptations. Have enough value and self control and be in development to take our message to pass that on. In the scouting world we're putting those boys out in the real world. The real world is Sodom. Prepare our kids for the real world so they can make the right choices. They had an anchor in the developing environment; prepare them so if that's gone they can succeed.

Review August meeting minutes Date is wrong. Change 07/23/15 to 08/20/15

Old Business

Lone Tee Chabad – Update;

Rabbi was busy; challenge is helping this synagogue set something up either there or somewhere else.

Eagle Scout candidates –progress / status updates?

Gavriel Asher Reiffman – Hyiam

Mayer Reynolds – Dave

Sam Ostravich – Greg

Kids are motivationally challenged; have them set a schedule.

Council Camporee – Kinus Eval

Great experience; gratitude from Council. Shul looked great.

Security lights still weren't on at the right time; but they managed.

Hyiam or Sean will share the link to the Dropbox folder with Mike Shapiro

No classes for religious award but it was a big success and the kids enjoyed it.

Aaron Hakodesh ran around \$90; had a new furniture quality latch that locks.

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JCOS Banner – Status - Dave

Dave's not here; but Shawn has an update. Shawn can make this happen January of 2016 if Dave cannot. Funds released by DAC.

New Business

JCOS Staffing –

Brian Copinsky; a former ASM at BMH is moving out of town.
Let's see if we can generate a couple more units.

Meeting with National JCOS Rep – Art Lipman

Denver representation on Nat'l Committee

Regional VP; JCOS committee; gave us some ideas.

Anybody in Denver that wants to serve on the National Committee?

Mike explained what happened with his Philmont course; wanted to join but had to pay \$300+ dollars.

Things have changed; newer people are more inclusive.

Perspective: Don't let one sect of our faith bully the other.

Current amount is \$500; are there grants?

A local foundation may underwrite that.

Can we find out why the membership is so expensive?

You need to attend one of the three meetings a year in person.

One in San Diego/Orange County, Houston, Baltimore.

Growing the number of units in Denver

new statement from Reform Judaism encouraging people to get back into scouting.

Three people should approach each organization: Somebody from the religious institution, somebody from JCOS, and somebody that's a scouting professional.

Crown Heights has a Chabad (Brooklyn) that has a Boy Scout Troop.

Israeli Scout caravan is coming through again; what's our interest? Issues with mixed gender but also costs.
Can we plug-in at Shwayder? Greg will talk with the Shwayder staff (Jodie Abrams) about this as a possibility.

Duty to God Breakfast (Wed Nov 4, 0730 – 0900) – at the National Western Center

Mayer Reynolds will receive his Ner Tamid - 6 in attendance.

Who is interested in attending?

There are sponsorships as well.

Cost is \$35 per person.

Dave and Mike are going; can Greg go?

East Side Deli is catering for those that need a Kosher meal.

Shawn will make sure the caterer doesn't plate it or warm it up so it stays Kosher.

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Outreach to potential new units?

Get the word out in the community.

Goal needs to come from above for the Scouting Executive.

Chabad / DAT / Emanuel / Sinai / Reconstructionist – lots of opportunity here.

These are the professionals that sell those units; each community is vastly different.

The old Emanuel pack and troop supported the neighborhood. Some kids that were Jewish; some that weren't.

Maybe Rabbi Leban at the Jewish Experience could start up a pack.

Other?

Flyers at round table to promote JCOS and Jewish Scouting in Denver.

Presentations at the Round Table as well as the flyer – wait until we have programming scheduled that we can promote as a part of that. Schedule for something each scouting year. Need “something in the mill first.

Ask about Chaplain training – issue where we need a Chaplain's Aide.

Heard two conflicting things for the programming Mike worked on.

Amy will take this course on the road to two or three councils that are interested.

If National comes out with some other guidance.

My friend could help staff the course as an option. Greg will e-mail Mike and Dori to put them in touch with each other to see if that can be coordinated.

Rocker under the Council Camporee patch next time for people that visit the Jewish Camporee contingent. Shawn Connelly will talk with Dave Whitner at DAC about this for more than our group. Some kind of education training.

National Jamboree – Let Greg know if anybody needs anything. Greg is mentoring and helping out but not attending.

Air Force Academy game – visit to the Synagogue. Next year Greg will talk with Mike Shapiro about the Rabbi there.

Stuart Zipper – Aaron Hakodesh – Brass plaque to remember Stuart on that.

Mike Shapiro is leaving on 11/15 – will dial in to our next meeting.

Next Meeting? - January 28th, 2016 at DAT – time: 6 PM.

Closing (Scoutmasters Minute) – Mike

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Abraham was teaching about one G-d. Abraham went as G-d commanded to spread the word. According to surveys changes are a very stressful thing. Could be very stressful for Abraham. But Abraham's stress was decreased because he was going on to a higher greater cause. If a doctor closed up his practice to move to a 3rd world country that would be less stressful. But moving his practice to another city could be filled with worry. The comfort of the familiar VS the anxiety of the unknown A greater purpose helps to make that change less stressful. If the unfamiliar will better the world than the stresses are left behind. Your higher purpose is awaiting you. That's what we're doing with the youth.

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