



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

DENVER AREA COUNCIL

Jewish Committee on Scouting

Minutes

03/23/2017

Attendees: Hyiam Reiffman, Mike Shapiro (via Skype), Shawn Connelly

Opening

Pledge of Allegiance

D'var Torah – Hyiam

This one of the two parshas week is Vayakhel ending Exodus. The parsha contains lots of laws, specifically dealing with the construction of the Temple. Construction of any type needs supplies. The parsha reads that the people were very giving of the supplies needed for construction, in fact, giving more than what was needed. The question arises, why? For any mitzvot, everyone gets really excited in the beginning, but over time, this feeling wears off. However, with the temple, the people just kept on giving and giving.

In Scouting, we have the same type of people as volunteers who give from the heart. Our committee show this spirit in their devotion to the work.

Review February meeting minutes

Mike pointed on in the D'var Torah section, a correction needed to change “onus” to ”on us”. Minutes accepted pending change.

Old Business

New unit / recruitment initiatives

No news on new units forming.

Existing units – health/prognosis: Troop 1613 has been rechartered. Lindsay came out and toured the school. Also, discussed about how having the Scouting unit has help with recruiting at the school.

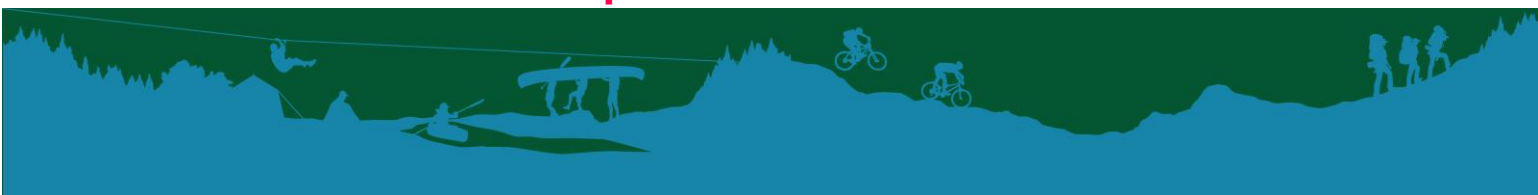
STEM

Any interest/progress @ DAT? - Might be a possibility for the next academic year.

Eagle Scout candidates - progress/status updates?

Mayer only has two more merit badges to complete all the requirements.

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Publicity:

JCOS Banner – Banner ordered and should arrive prior to Scout Show.

Patches - Scout Shabbat have been received. Committee decided not to order Pesach patches.

Programs –

Kinus – Mike was trying to remember what we did the last time we held a Kinnus around Sukkot. We need to make sure the work done stays within Halakhic law. The law says we must only gather for what we intend to use during the holiday. Hyiam will contact the rabbi who oversees Halakhic law for DAT to get final determination of if the work is conforming to Halakhic law. Mike will contact the school to see what work is to be performed. For reference, Hyiam consulted with the Orthodox Union page at <https://www.ou.org/holidays/sukkot/hilchos-chol-hamoed/> for clarification.

Religious awards – No updates (On a side note, Mayer's actions during an ice accident have resulted in his submissions for the Lifesaving Award.)

Chair Succession – Scott Markowitz and Mike spoke and Scott is currently not available to take over as chair.

New Business

Mayer's Yeshiva Fundraiser – Mike got no response to an inquiry to Dave. No further action required.

Chabad Video – Need to have the rest of the committee review the video. While it's old, it still might make an impact when recruiting in the Chabad community. Shawn will download and post to the internet for review.

Next Meeting - April 27th / 6:00 pm / DAT

Closing

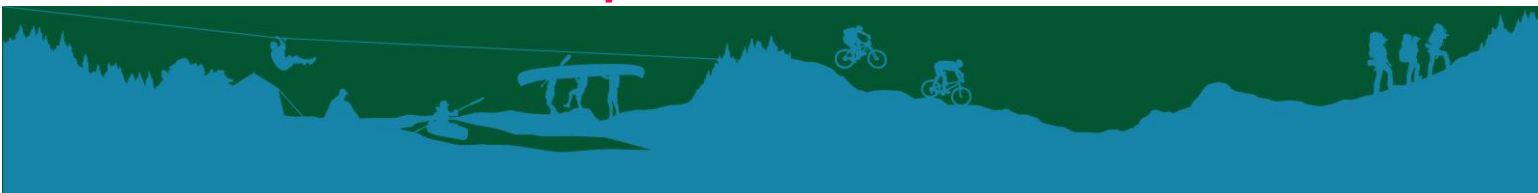
(Scoutmasters Minute) – Mike

If There's a Will, There's a Way

Every man whose heart inspired him came... (Ex. 35:21)

Moshe called upon the people to assist in the construction of the mishkan, the tabernacle. The skills needed for this job included weaving, sewing and building. Despite this, the Jewish people seemed to have no problem in fulfilling their tasks. The backbreaking labor to which the people had been subjected in Egypt did not develop these skills. Where did they acquire the skills necessary?

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Deep inside every person there are hidden talents which can be tapped into when one has a real desire to achieve something. The people who stepped forward to work in the mishkan did not know that they had such skills. However, as a result of their burning desire to be of assistance, they found untapped talents and hidden abilities that were used to fulfill their tasks.

Rashi's daughter came home one night crying. Her 7-year-old son asked her, "Mommy, why are you crying?" She replied, "The light of the world just went out; your grandfather Rashi passed away."

The little boy thought for a moment and said, "Mommy, I'm going to re-ignite that light!" This little boy grew up to become known as Rabbeinu Tam, the most famous of the Tosafists!

Sometime a person may feel that he is inadequate, thinking, "I am just not cut out for this," or "I don't have the brains..." He may well be lacking something else - the desire to succeed. If someone has a strong will to accomplish something, he will achieve it. We have the ability to break beyond our limits and achieve the seemingly impossible - if there is a will.

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