

**National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes
December 21 2011**

American Legion Post 177 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030

1. Opening:

Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Committee Lead, welcomed attendees to the December meeting. He apologized for the “Council meeting week” falling so close to the Christmas holiday. Numerous committee members RSVP’d with conflicts for the evening. Attendees were: Gary Carroll, Carol Cass, Julia Farr, Martin L’Heureux and Ken Vierra.

Minutes of the September 21 2011 meeting were approved. Martin and Ken, from The Dive Shop (TDS) in Fairfax, VA discussed potential ways for TDS to partner with Scout units on aquatics activities. Ideas included offering aquatics merit badges support (especially Scuba Diving) and making Lake Millbrook, Haymarket VA available for scouting activities. Martin distributed PowerPoint slides listing potential activities.

2. NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:

- a. Sea Scouting – No report.
- b. High Adventure – No report.
- c. Leadership Training – No report.
- d. Venturing – Carol Cass reported on the upcoming NE Region Area 6 Venturing Phenomenon that will be held at Camp Snyder on April 20-22 2012.
- e. Advancement and Recognition – No report.
- f. Outdoor Adventure – The Aquatics Committee falls under the NCAC Outdoor Adventure (OA) committee structure. There were OA Committee meetings in October and November. The focus of the OA Committee is camp promotion. The OA Committee is a forum for the Aquatics Committee to discuss NCAC camp aquatics needs. A Goshen Scout Reservation topic was the need for rowboat replacements. Info on composite dinghies was given to Mike Donaghue. Gary Carroll will talk to Mike about getting some sliding seat rowboats.

3. **Aquatics Web Page** – Carol Cass is doing a great job keeping the NCAC Aquatics Committee web pages current. She is currently implementing online registration for upcoming aquatics supervision training courses.

4. Reports on Recent events:

- a. NCAC100 – Rush Kester and crew did a great job running the boating waterfront at the NCAC Centennial celebration day at Camp Snyder on 22 Oct.
- b. Pow Wow Training, 19 Nov. Mike Meenehan and Anne Hampton delivered two sessions of Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat Training to Cub Scout Leaders. Anne has volunteered to lead the SSD/SA sessions at the University of Scouting on 25 February 2012.

5. 2012 Aquatics Activities

- a. The 2012 NCAC Aquatics Activities flyer was distributed. It was also available at Pow Wow. Aquatics Supervision trainers are needed for the monthly Paddle Craft Safety and Swimming and Water Rescue Courses that are being offered at Camp Snyder each month. Please check your schedules and let Mike Meenehan know your availability to lead one or more training sessions.
- b. Chuck Frizzel was not available to discuss his upcoming Mile Swim program to be offered in the spring.
- c. Rush Kester is looking in to offering a BSA Lifeguard recertification course.
- d. Canoeing, Rowing and whitewater merit badges now require formal training for merit badge counselors. The Aquatics Committee needs to look into making that training available to leaders in NCAC. The American Canoe Association in Fredericksburg VA can be a resource.

6. 2012 Venture Scuba Activities – Mike Engiles is leading numerous Venturing scuba activities in 2012. These include:

- Mar 1-5 Leader training in coral restoration, Key Largo
- Mar 23-25 Beneath the Sea expo in Meadowlands, NJ
- April 9-15 Coral farm establishment, Rivera Maya
- July 14-21 Coral restoration, FLA Keys

7. American Red Cross Lifeguard Program Updates – The BSA Lifeguard program uses American Red Cross Lifeguard program instructional materials. In January 2012 the ARC is rolling out an updated Lifeguarding program.

8. Camp William B. Snyder Pool rental – Camp Snyder asked the Aquatics Committee for input on how the Camp Snyder pool could be rented to outside organizations. Numerous ideas were discussed on how to accomplish that goal. Both BSA and Prince William County guidelines and regulations would be applicable. However, whether BSA Safe Swim Defense guidelines would be applicable to outside organizations needs to be addressed by NCAC leadership. Furnishing qualified certified lifeguards would have to be done. We have a database of all BSA Lifeguards in NCAC for the past several years. They could be contacted to determine if they would be interested in being “on call” to work as lifeguards when organizations rented the pool. They should be paid for their time at prevailing lifeguard rates. A survey was done of other BSA councils that rent out their pools. Fee structures vary and several require liability releases and hold harmless agreements as a condition of rental. All this information will be furnished to Reggie Cahoon, the new Camp Snyder Director.

9. Next Aquatics Committee meeting – March 21, 2012. At the Marriott Scout Service Center in Bethesda.