

# **Blue Grass Council Venturing**

## **VOA Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2016**

Run by Nathan Vick (current Council Venturing President)

Minutes taken by Bryan S.

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### **Attendance**

Nathan Vick – Council Venturing President (2016)

Calvin Tennant – Vice President of Administration (2016/2017)

Olivia V. – Vice President of Program (2016/2017)

Adena Grubb – Vice President of Administration Assistant (2016/2017)

Rayna Weibrecht – Council Venturing President (2017)

Bryan S. – Vice President of Communications (2017)

Ryan Wharton – President of Crew 73

Maddie K. – President of Crew 99

Leta Davenport – Council Venturing Advisor

Marty Krut – Advisor in Training of Crew 99

### **2016 Officer Reports**

*Calvin Tennant (VP of Admin):* Reelected for VP of Admin for 2017; starting to organize event.

*Olivia V (VP of Program):* KCA camporee was a success; Venturing forum in February 11th (Venturers gather talk about what's going on in crews).

*Chance Bullock (VP of Communications):* (Absent, report given by Nathan) Venturing website theme was redesigned ([venturing.bgbsa.net](http://venturing.bgbsa.net)).

*Nathan Vick (Council Venturing President):* University of Scouting was a success, including advisor trainings; KCA camporee went well; JTE for the council VOA looks like we'll get Gold (need adult leadership training and 1 more area meeting).

## **Crew Updates**

### *Crew 73 (Ryan Wharton)*

Banquet on Dec 1st; 4 people earned Venturing award, 5 earned Discovery award. Selling Christmas trees in downtown Lexington by Central Bank to raise money for Sea Base; request for blurb about this to be put on the VOA website (Nathan said that could be done, just send it to him).

### *Crew 99 (Maddy K.)*

Having regular meetings, not getting much planned because of schedules. Went hiking at the Gorge; working on recruiting; going to do a Christmas fundraiser. Set up Facebook group for Crew 99 (Crew 99 of Paris, KY).

### *Crew 204 (Olivia V.)*

Doing well, have events once a month and meetings twice a month (one in-person, one online). Have a shooting sports campout planned for December 9-11; rank advancement is going well.

Suggestion — put up a calendar on the VOA website.

Suggestion — send out email blasts for important info in addition to GroupMe, since GroupMe isn't working for everyone.

### *Crew 488 (Adena Grubb)*

Four meetings/month every Monday (unless complications) from 7-8:30. Went on canoe campout, having a crew Thanksgiving dinner, planning for recruitment, currently have 3 active members, working on Ranger awards. Waiting to hold lots of events until recruiting works out, running recruiting booth at a high school, planning a camp-in in Corbin at Sacred Heart Catholic Church (holding "super-scout" competition (fun stuff), cook off maybe, chill out) sometime in January or February, perhaps December (everyone invited).

Information — Buy patches on scoutstuff.org or Louisville scout shop.

## **Discussion of *The Key***

*The Key* is the bylaws of the VOA. It is 16 pages long and contains everything the council VOA would need to know to run effectively.

### *Changes in latest draft version*

- Fonts changed to follow National BSA font guide
- Tightened up wording
- Fixed Table of Contents
- Took out branding guide
- Other minor stuff (not much)

### *Discussion/suggestions/comments*

- Question about people reporting to themselves with regards to the council Venturing Committee (resolved)
- Question about whether we should include district affiliations in the preamble. Resolution: the council VOA is not associated with districts, but we are associated with the council and with Area 6.
- Question regarding voting members on the VOA. VOA officers refers to the council VOA and not the area VOA. Resolution: for simplicity, changed definition to "all current council VOA members"
- Liaisons don't have to be either youth or adult.
- Add attendance policy for adults? Not going to be put into effect until necessary
- Clarification – adults are to support the VOA officers
- Clarification – youth removal from office: only to be used in extreme cases (youth completely unresponsive, not doing job, violating BSA policy, etc.). Having an established removal from office protocol is a protection for the VOA and the council.
- Clarification of "consent of Council Key 3" – is it only two or all three members? Answer: "consent of the Key 3" is a term used to ensure that the Key 3 is okay with whatever is being decided.
- Clarification of "VOA officers and subsidiary members will be held accountable for event and meeting attendance" – means they are responsible for showing up to events and meetings.

- Clarification: Crew presidents are part of the VOA
- Attendance policy doesn't apply to crew presidents
- Clarification: crew presidents are like patrol leaders in a troop and their primary responsibility is to their crews; hence, they are not required to attend VOA events.

## **Changes**

- Addition of the word "Council" – page 5 under part C, section 1, part A, clause 1
- Updated Section 3, part A, clause 1, page 7 – changed "called VOA president in these descriptions" to "also referred to as VOA president"

## **Vote on *The Key***

(need 3/4 majority vote of 2016 VOA officers to pass; the president doesn't vote except to break a tie)

Motion by Ryan Wharton

Second by Olivia V.

All in favor; none opposed. *The Key* approved and adopted as the official VOA bylaws

## *Summary of 2016 accomplishments (Nathan)*

Beginning in the last week of November, 2015: created a council Venturing website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Held several trainings, have a full VOA, established contact with crew presidents, have all advisor positions filled, have a council Venturing committee, held Ranger Week with an in-council crew for the first time, held the first event sponsored/hosted by council VOA, put Venturing events on the council calendar, had a special Venturing program at the KCA Camporee, and held youth-led Venturing trainings at University of Scouting. Have a good group of officers in place for 2017, and the VOA looks like it will continue to be sustainable.

(Calvin and Adina had to leave)

### *Journey to Excellence (Nathan)*

- Nathan gave a quick summary of the VOA's position regarding Journey to Excellence (technically known as the Council Standards of Venturing Excellence).
- We are on track to achieve Gold status, which no other council in the nation earned in 2015.
- We are Gold in all core requirements except for membership growth, where we are Silver because five crews dropped this year.
- We should be Gold in all electives except for Youth Protection.
- We only lack one more area meeting and to confirm that Venturing adults attended higher-level leadership training this year.

### *2017 planning*

- Random idea – make and sell some merchandise. Hoodies would be cool, good to have a few products, like a t-shirt for spring adventure. Make a HAT!!! Could have one piece of merchandise for Spring AdVENTURE, and one for the KCA Camporee. Have to put merchandise in event budget, but we could tie early 2017 merchandise into the council Venturing forum budget.
- Set VOA meeting date for early 2017: Proposed date, January 15th 3:00PM EKU library.
- Venturing Forum: Feb 10-11. Ryan working on a location option at Centenary Methodist Church, Nathan looking into Immanuel Baptist Church.
- Spring Adventure, June 2nd-4th @McKee
- Scoutish games sometime in early May @McKee

### *Advisor's Minute (Leta)*

Requests goals for the year from the VOA. (SMART goals, names for adults who might be interested in helping out VOA)

Nathan thanked everyone for attending.

Motion to end by Olivia, seconded, all in favor. Meeting ended.