

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Doctoral Project

College of Commissioner Science

John Martin

8/1/2011



TABLE OF CONTENT

Table of ContentPage 2

Request for Project ApprovalPage 3

Reply to Request for Project ApprovalPage 4

Outline of Project ProductionPage 5

Chronological order of EventsPage 6

I. Request for Project Approval

TO: Paul Flagg, Council Commissioner,
Greg Jones, ACC/Dean – College of Commissioner Science

February 5, 2011

SUBJECT: Doctor of Commissioner Science – Project Approval

Reply To: John Martin

1. Having completed and been award a Master of Commissioner Science, completed the 1 year required service to the College of Commissioner Science I am ready to begin work on my doctorate. After much thought on whether to use my time developing a thesis or completing a project I became aware of a specific need that pointed me toward the latter.
2. Having long thought that program improvements were necessary in the transition from Cub Scout to Boy Scout I have concluded that a project to support cub to scout transition is the best way to utilize my time. Hence, my project is to construct a fundraising program that would benefit this process for the long-term and be sustainable for future generations.
3. Discussions with the Webelos' Camp Director and staff have identified specific funding requirements for the camp that would be beneficial to future camps and are currently beyond that which the council can provide. My conclusion is to establish a program that funds yearly camp staff requirements. Example: Last year's camp had a requirement was for a large rope (monkey) bridge used for 'crossover' ceremony at the close of camp. Out of pocket funds from commissioners and equipment from Troop 51 met this year's bridge requirement; which paid big dividends in the growth of the boys in just a few hours of fun. But funding for large requirements like this runs into the hundreds of dollars and cannot be 'ad hoc'ed' year to year.
4. My project is to provide a unique way of raising funds to support the Camp and its director and staff. This project will not compete with any other BSA fund raising project, will be unique to the Ecunchatee commissioner staff and support the council Webelos camp.
5. The project will incorporate the manufacture of survival bracelet. (Survival bracelet get their name from the cord (trade name Survival Cord) from which they are made. These bracelets have been made by military personnel for years; the purpose of wearing the bracelet is to always have on hand a few yards of 550 lb test strength cord that can be used for any number of emergency repairs on webbing and personal equipment in the field). The project bracelets will be unique to scouting because these bracelet and will made in scout colors, blue/yellow for cubs, olive/khaki for boy scouts, etc. Bracelet will

be for sale at scouting events, ordered via an order form at the scout office and at summer camp trading post in kit form.

6. This project has council fundraising approval, if approved as my doctorate project the project will be set up to continue year-to-year and support the Webelos' camp ad hoc funding needs.

John Martin, DC/Ecunchatee

II. Project Approval

On Feb 9, 2011 9:36 PM, "John Martin" <john.martin1944@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
> Paul, Greg
>
> Please review the attached proposal for my doctorate project.
>
> If you have any questions please feel free to email or call me.
>
> Would appreciate your early attention as this project needs to be beta tested and in effect before Conclave and Summer Camp.
>
> Yours in Scouting,
>
>
> John Martin
> District Commissioner, Ecunchatee

I really like the "project" choice for DCC, more useful and long lasting results rather than a research and thesis paper. I also did a project choice for my PHD, I approve this choice and topic.

*Greg Jones
Assistant Council Commissioner
Tukabatchee Area Council*

Yes, there are so many reasons to go in this direction that it's no contest. Besides that Greg won't have to edit your paper.

One thought, could scouts make these bracelets at camp in arts and crafts?

Go for it. Paul

Project approval was on February 9, 2011 granted by the Council Commissioner Paul Flagg, CC and College Dean Gregg Jones, AAC, DCS.

Project Outline

- I. Identify the need
- II. Define the project
- III. Address project application and identified objectives
- IV. Address logistical needs
- V. Implement project
- VI. Review Project for “lessons learned”
- VII. Adjust project requirements based on lessons learned/need changes
- VIII. List project results
- IX. Write Project report
- X. Third party review of Project report
- XI. Submit report for completion of Doctoral project

I. Identify a need within scouting community

In November of 2010 the Arrow-of-Light camp director ask for assistance to improve the camp appeal and generate some excitement for the boys. It was decided that a rope bridge for 'crossover' would meet the requirement of excitement for the boys and also provide a symbolic realism for the Arrow-of-Light camp.

Funding for the bridge became the next challenge. Ad hoc funding for the bridge was out of the question because in tapped in the same funding sources as Friends of Scouting. The initial bridge cost for material was too high for council funding and raising the camp fees to fund the bridge was not appropriate. So in effect the initial funding challenge for the bridge became an opportunity to create a project that would address the ad hoc funding issues generated by camp staffer.

II. Define a project form that addresses the need

The project form had to meet the following requirements to:

- Had not been previously done within the council.
- Did not directly compete for funding within the council.
- Was repeatable or continuous for ad hoc funding of camp/commissioner projects.

The project form would be to make and sell a unique material item, which could be made by the commissioner staff and sold to raise funds as needed to support camp/commissioner projects.

The commissioner staff was presented with a number of BSA color (OD and Tan) survival bracelets. This type of bracelet originated in the military and was made from parachute, aka para-cord or 550 cord, because of it 550 lbs loading capacity. The commissioner staff gave the project a thumbs up.

III. Address project application as necessary to meet identified objectives

The manufacture of bracelet for scouts would have to reflect the specific type scout unit, troop, pack, crew, etc., or mark a special event or training. The following bracelet designs were field tested and approved for manufacture and sales.

Bracelet would have half curved buckles (this was later changed to hardwood toggles, as the wooden toggles had a more scouting appeal, see VII. Identify “lessons learned”). The standard bracelet lacing would be a cobra knot. Colors would be standard as listed below, but special order would be made available as necessary

Troop - tan and olive drab

Pack – yellow and midnight blue

Crew – dark green with white and yellow strands

Ship – white and navy blue

Teams – team colors

Eagle Scout – white w/interlaced red & blue strands

Commissioner – olive drab with red and silver strands

Scouter - olive drab and bleached tan

Wood Badge – Wood Badge tartar color interlaced

Webelos – neckerchief colors laced in

Order-of-the-Arrow – white and red

Bracelets were initially all made to order.

IV. Address logistical needs of project/opportunities fund camp needs

Supplies were initially paid for out of pocket until sales could generate funding for supplying demand. Suggestions for improving bracelet were taken on board. This led to the replacement of the half curve buckle with the toggle and generated the search for an adjustable bracelet. An adjustable bracelet was field tested in May and marketed in June. Non-adjustable bracelets were still available on request.

The original funding need was the rope bridge for the Arrow-of-Light Camp. Other opportunities to enhance camp programs were: Sound system and PA for Camp Hobbs

that would support Cub and Webelos Camps, OLS training, BALOO training, Wood Badge and other training session held at Camp Hobbs. Initial capabilities for a Venturing pistol course at Camp Tukabatchee during summer camp. Buying a field book for all new commissioners in Ecunchatee District.

V. Implement project

Project implementation on a large scale start in February 2011 with the Ecunchatee commissioner staff meeting to process material need to make Cub and Boy Scout bracelets. The first session produced an initial run of 68 bracelets. Focus was then placed on upcoming scouting events that would provide an opportunity to sell bracelets. Ad hoc meetings were called to provide the manpower to produce bracelets for these events and was an effective measure to meet demands. Special orders could be called in to key bracelet maker who specialized in different bracelet types.

VI. Identify “lessons learned”

Continuous review of the process was started at the beginning of the project. Key “lessons learned” early in the project was the need to field test changes prior to marketing the change. Testers were chosen from the general scouting family and response was good and no problems with the product were identified.

A side effect of explaining the purpose of the bracelet sale was that a number of donations from units and individuals were received. These usually came in the order of giving extra money when buying a bracelet. A few individuals give money because of special interest in programs that the project was funding. In all cases the funds received were of no impact on Council fund raising efforts.

VII. Adjust project requirements based on lessons learned/need changes

In all cases where reality impacted the project adjustments were made to address the issue. Specifically, the change in buckles that were used as standard was changed, although the original buckle was still available on request. Expanding the colors available and the special order addition of Auburn and Alabama “battle bracelet” were added. Designing an adjustable bracelet and identifying the replacement parts necessary to manufacture the bracelet and market it.

VIII. Report project results

Project supported items are listed below by title and amount of funded by the project.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount funded</u>
Rope bridge (Arrow-of-Light Camp)	\$ 234.48
Sound System (Camp Hobbs facility)	\$1775.37
Venturing Shooting Sports	\$2782.49
Commissioner Field books	\$ 7.98
Commissioner Name Tags	\$ 35.46
Roundtable Door Prizes	\$ 37.98
Installation of Wireless Network (Council Service Center)	\$ 185.00
Project Total	\$5058.76

IX. Write Project report

X. Third party review of Project report

XI. Submit report for completion of Doctoral project

Chronological Order of Project Events

Nov 2010 - Scouting need identified – Arrow of Light Camp

Dec 2010 - Limiting scope of project, ordered initial project material

Jan 2011 - Discussion of project idea with key commissioners within district and implemented project basic effectiveness test/analyze (BETA)

Feb 2011 - Requested approval of project for Doctorate of Commissioner Science, project was approved. Project fundraising begins.

Mar 2011 - defined initial elements that project would support

Arrow of Light Camp – rope bridge

Webelos Camp – Sound System (Camp Hobbs)

Venturing Shooting Sports Program (basic)

Apr 2011 – New rope and other materials purchased for rope bridge

May 2011 – Completed funding requirement for Venturing Shooting Sports Program

Jun 2011 – Sound system purchased and installed at Camp Hobbs

Jun 2011 – Completed Venturing Summer Camp Pistol Program

Jul 2011 – Completed installation of Wireless network at CSC

Aug 2011 – Completed project report