

Hi Jube –

After your call this week, I've been thinking and thinking.... Please know I mean no disrespect in the following:

I'm not completely sure of our commitment to AHG anymore. There are several reasons for this – some of which are specifically related to what's been going on since this journey started. I feel like it's important to make you aware of these things. I think AHG is still a great organization to be a part of, but I have some real concerns regarding this troop's progress to this point.

As I mentioned on the phone to you some time ago, I'm uncomfortable with you being coordinator, and your daughter being treasurer. I have absolutely nothing against either one of you, but can't in good conscience support the managing director of the troop being related to the treasurer. I think if you communicated this situation to interested families, and then polled them, you'd find I'm not the only one who objects. I also believe that this may be a good time to make a change in this area as your daughter will be unavailable in the short term to help iron out details of possible sponsors.

As I attend different events with several of the families that have expressed interest in this AHG troop, I know I'm not the only one who's concerned about progress to date. I feel like it's time to make acquiring a sponsor a group effort. In fact, something you said on the phone this week really drove home this point. You mentioned that your contact at Harvest Baptist Church keeps bringing up "of course, they are a tithing member". If we used the interested family members to make the initial contact with the church they belong to, we'd nip that argument in the bud. We could also make finding a sponsor a more group function and everyone who was interested could participate. We all only want what's best for our kids, and sitting back waiting for someone else to do everything isn't sitting all that well with several folks. I'll also point out one very real truth: Many hands make light work.

Up until yesterday, I haven't felt like I was part of the solution in moving this troop forward. While I've offered to help, I feel like you've preferred to handle things. So, I haven't done anything except beg patience on the part of folks I speak to. Now I feel compelled to say something directly to you.

Here are my proposals to alleviate some of the issues:

- Announce that due to circumstances beyond Jennifer's control, she is unable to fulfill the treasurer position at this time and someone is needed to fill that position. Interested parties should contact you directly with some sort of qualifications list.
- Create an explanatory email detailing where things are in the process, and what needs to happen next. Your email to me on 8/19 detailing the next steps would be an amazing place to start.
- Publicly beg folks to please ask any and all questions on the list. ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS ON THE LIST!!
- Create a database for sponsor contacts. Applicable items for the database TBD.
- Create an explanatory email indicating how initial contact of the churches needs to be done, and request that each person update above database with any/all information they have. Let's think this point through: Why would blind calls be made to find out who to talk to?? If someone is a member of a church, they have access to that information and can either make initial contact, or provide that information so contacts can be more productive from the beginning.

And yes, I know that there are some drawbacks to group involvement. There always is. Some folks won't do things the way you or I would. It's the nature of the beast. We are all different people, and that's a fact to be celebrated, not avoided. There'll be a lot of questions to be answered. However, if questions are posted and answered on the list, eventually more communication will result in less questions. But in the end, if you don't *allow folks to be invested* in this, *they won't be invested...* Something I'm sure you don't want – group participation and group support is necessary for this to move forward at all.

As for my family's participation, I can't say right now. I'm concerned that we are reaching maximum saturation and I'm not sure we have any more time in our schedule without negatively impacting Mia's education. However, I am more than happy to help implement the above list of recommendations for the good of all, but I think it might be wise to advertise the assistant coordinator position at this time.

I pray that this works out for all the families that may still be interested in having an AHG troop in our area. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Julie  
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