

Chapter 11 Smiley News 5/27/21 – Final Copy

Update on National BSA Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Reorganization

As you know, the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed for bankruptcy in February 2020 to equitably compensate victims of past abuse and make every effort to ensure that Scouting's mission continues. Note, that Samoset Council did not file for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection.

Since January 2021 the National BSA has been in active mediations with the bankruptcy court and has filed two amended plans for reorganization, a critical step to emerge from Chapter 11. The plan outlines the BSA's proposed strategy to provide equitable compensation to survivors and to position the organization to continue serving youth for years to come.

The National BSA is committed to continuing its work with survivors, local councils, insurers, and other parties during mediation to achieve a global resolution through the proposed plan of reorganization.

Key members of Samoset's Executive Board have been closely engaged in the situation since the bankruptcy began. Additionally, legal counsel has advised the board and council staff.

The National BSA may not be successful in their efforts and emergence from bankruptcy without the help of each of the 253 local Scout councils who would also find it challenging to operate local Scouting without the support and resources of the National BSA. This means that Samoset, along with all other councils may need to participate in a global resolution with the National BSA in order for them to re-emerge from bankruptcy. While we do not know yet what will be asked of us the executive board is ready to review a global resolution plan if it is presented.

The National BSA Bankruptcy proceedings have not affected our members Scouting experience, and we plan to do our best to keep it that way. One significant part of that plan is ensuring that any Friends of Scouting donation to Samoset has not and will not be used for the National BSA Bankruptcy. These donations are critical to maintaining our operations and provide "real time" budget support throughout the year.

Scouting keeps youth safe through a multi-layered process of safeguards that are consistently updated. The latest update is a revised adult leader online training video (effective June 1). Scouting helps improve the safety of all children as leaders and parents apply our youth protection training and practices in other aspects of their community. Learn more at <http://www.samoset.org/resources/youth-protection>.

As the National BSA Bankruptcy proceedings continue, there will be more national and local media attention between now and late summer. We will continue to keep you updated through *Smiley News*, the council website or email as the situation progresses. If you should have any questions, you can contact the Samoset Scout Executive, John Overland at 715-301-9824. You may also find www.bsarestructuring.org an informative resource from the National BSA.