

**Curia Meeting
MFRC Halifax
April 07/2007**

In attendance:

Tina Oliver c
Robbie Hilton c
Nick Hue c
Pierre Longtin
Jo Worden
Karren Worden Seneschal
Sue Richter c
Nichole Chaffey
Preston McIntosh
Dianne Grant
Maria Crook c
Donna McKay
Corinne Lewandowski
Alastair Simpson
Georgina Tarrant
Gail Heinze-Milne
Wendy Regular
Joan Chiasson c
Kelly Grant
Joy Pye-MacSwain

Regrets: Mike Reid, James Crook, Joanna MacDonald

Meeting was called to order and a quorum was present. Minutes of **January 4, 2007** were approved as amended.

Reports

Chatelaine – Tina Oliver

Hard copy report submitted

Family days is coming up we don't know if we are participating as yet. When this is finalized we will have an update.

Herald - Joan Chiasson

OP list is done, everyone has been ranked. This OP is only valid for Ruantallan. There are 180 people on the list, but over half do not have a ranking. Copy will be submitted to the Seneschal.

Regalia was to be detailed for this meeting but it hasn't been completed yet. An inventory of the regalia in the B&B possession is being undertaken. There are new items to be included. This inventory should be completed for War Camp

The Baronial Herald reported that her term is up and there will need to be a new Chronicler for the October meeting. There are errors in the Doomsday book and it will need to come down.

Baron and Baroness – Maria Crook

Hopefully when the new B&B is announced the regalia will be transferred immediately, the inventory has been completed.

This is Maria's last curia meeting. The Baroness announced that she will no longer sit on curia as after 15 years sitting on curia, she has had enough.

Seashire Seneschal – Wendy Regular

We have in Seashire, 75 actual members, and around 80 non members. The Seneschal will be doing a census beginning at the 25 anniversary of the barony. There will be forms available at fight practice for people to sign up so we can see how many citizens we have.

Online/ hard copy of the report has been submitted

Website Minister – Susan Richter

Submitted online

Minister of Lists – Nick Hue

Some marshalls have wrong authorization forms and have been submitting them.

Someone's computer crashed and took all the data with it so MOLs need to contact the Knight Marshall to have all pertinent information resubmitted. They are enforcing the 6 week temporary authorization card – no card no play. Any time a temp card is issued the KM will contact Kingdom/Cosmano and they will be tracked to ensure that the authorization is valid and any kinks in the system can be identified.

There have been a couple of responses to this issue and the issues will be fixed. There is a website to download the forms but there have been some difficulties with the site.

Nick will submit a list of all the marshalls in the barony to the Seneschal's office so that there is a list available for any upcoming events and demos.

A&S report Georgina Tarrant

In January there was the NS Regional Champ. 4 entrants from Ruantallan. Distant shore and Readford holm have been holding regular garb making days and there have been interest shown in sewing and cooking by the children.

Hard copy of the A& S report was submitted.

Exchequer's report

Submitted in hard copy

Discussion re: Wolfsgate money and assets Exchequer requested the curia's opinion on whether to open a separate account for the Wolfsgate account or to keep the

funds in the general fund. We have to hold the money for Wolfsgate. There has been no decision yet on the dispersion of funds from the canton of Wolfsgate. There has been some indication that the money should be held in case Wolfsgate decides to re activate, however at this point that does not look likely to happen. Discussion ensued regarding online banking – it is not appropriate for SCA banking according to Kingdom. The money has to be readily accessible, however this money has to be held and if it is in the regular account it is difficult to maintain an accurate record over time and keep these funds separate from the baronial funds.

It was suggested by the Exchequer that future events should be planned in a manner to ensure that events make a small profit not lose money in order to cover ongoing costs such as banking fees, travel funds for B&B, and other expenditures the Barony has been incurring.

There should actually be a budget that the Barony can follow in order to prepare for expenses and incidentals. There should be working capital of \$2500 minimum in order to cover expenditures.

The Exchequer submitted her resignation for personal reasons.

Question as to the average profit on an event – Seashire event recently made approx. \$300, there was a loss of \$175 at EKV. As a general rule reservations will give an accurate measurement of what the event will cost to put on, however when there are a number of people who do not show up then the actual does not match the estimates.

The process needs to be more thorough so that guidelines are followed when planning events, and people need to be more aware when they are doing budgets for events. Curia should also be asking more questions when presented with event bids and be more cautious when approving event bids.

If there are any questions regarding budgeting process, Robbie will be available to assist.

Seneschal Report – Karren Worden

There have been some problems submitting reports to kingdom that are arising due to problems with the technology. Reports have been submitted but there is no record kept by the computer that these have been sent. The Seneschal is not aware when the reports have not been received, and has no way to verify that the report has been sent.

Issues arose at a recent Distant Shore practice that required the Seneschal to make a decision on the spot that has given rise to some controversy. There was a boffer practice held in conjunction with regular fight practice.

There have been a number of meetings via telephone etc. regarding events and what the definition is of an event is. The definition for Kingdom is different than what is accepted in Ruantallan. In Ruantallan, any event is where the public is involved, or where it is required that a waiver is signed, is considered an event. As far as kingdom is concerned, their definition is that an event is when people pay admission to attend, or a fee is paid to rent a hall where the event is held. In Ruantallan, we do not often have to rent space to hold practices or demos so there is an inconsistency in the definition.

For the record, our chronicler had telephone conversations with kingdom chronicler. All events and activities, demos, practices etc. must go through a chronicler, there has to be a record with the chronicler, and the event needs to be published in a

newsletter of somekind. An email (emails have a timestamp) at least must go to the chronicler to let him know that the event is occurring. The rules are grey especially when children are involved. The Seneschal pulled the authorization for the boffer practice in Distant Shore because the autocrat did not submit any information to the chronicler prior to the practice. There is some question of whether boffer practice is a childrens activities or a fight practice. It is probably both but probably this is not good enough, and there needs to be some clarity from kingdom on this topic. This kind of event needs to be covered off by both the rules of fight practice, and the rules for children's activities. There was a lot of backlash because of the seneschal's decision to pull authorization for the boffer practice, and the rules are now being clarified at the kingdom level because of this. The Seneschal advised if you know you are having a demo in the future, send a notice to a chronicler, electronic newsletters are okay as long as the chronicler has a copy of the notice.

If forms are filled out, the chronicler should be cc'd as well because he cannot go to the website and pull off the information he needs. There needs to be a hard copy of everything sent to the chronicler as he is the historian for the barony and he should be automatically copied on every event bid.

No distant shore report submitted
No YYG report submitted

Business arising from the minutes

New Business

Wendy Regular - how many actual members in the Barony -144.

The Seneschal had reported some issues with the process of electing the new Baron and Baroness. Kingdom wanted a ballot sent to a man who passed away and the seneschal refused. The member in question is still listed as a member although he has expired. Curia was asked to indicate whether or not they supported the Seneschal's refusal to send a ballot to the deceased person even though she was in disagreement with Kingdom officials on the matter.

Motion – Georgina Tarrant move to support the Seneschal's decision to refuse to send a ballot for the baronial election to the deceased member

Seconded by Nick Hue

In favour 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Joan Chaisson left the meeting

Event bids/ proposals and reports for events should be posted to the curia list. The Exchequer asked that the event bid (proposed budget) and the report of the actual expenditures for that event be posted on the same page to facilitate ease of comparison.

Motion: That autocrat is responsible to submit a digital copy of the event bid to either the Seneschal or the Exchequer to then be posted on the curia list.

Seconded by Wendy Regular

In favour 6

Against 0

Abstain 0

Motion: Request that the Exchequer post the event report on the curia list once the Exchequer has approved the event report.

Seconded by Tina Oliver

In favour 6

Against 0

Abstain 0

Motion: To have event announcement “submit event form” sent simultaneously to the chronicler and webminister.

Seconded by Robbie Hilton

In favour 6

Against 0

Abstain 0

Motion to have Feedback forms at feedback@ruantallan.org email added to the baronial curia list with posting permissions so that forms are sent directly to the curia list

Moved by Sue Richter

Seconded by Nick Hue

In favour 6

Against 0

Abstain 0

Domain name registration is due the cost is \$24.72 per year and we can register for multiple years. Does curia want to purchase the domain name for more than one year?

Motion: To renew the domain name for one year.

Second: Robbie Hilton

In favour 6

Against 0

Abstain 0

Nick Hue reported that his position as MOL will be vacant as of the next meeting.

Susan Richter reported that her position as Webminister will be vacant as of the next meeting.

Event reports and budget reports. It would be a good idea for the exchequer to do a budget projection for event bids etc. The report will include estimates and actual figures for number of attendees, financial estimates and actuals for events in addition to

estimated travel expenses, website expenses, etc. A database should be prepared with the financial budget information for all baronial events so that comparisons can be made from year to year on the expenditures for each baronial event.

Move that an annual budget projection for the financial year of January to December be prepared by the Exchequer and submitted to curia for approval at the meeting held in October, and a rough draft posted on the curia list by September first for discussion.

Moved Robbie
Seconded - ?
In favour 6
Against 0
Abstain 0

In the past there had been in Baronial funds amounts included \$150 travel funds, \$50 A&S fund, and \$300 pavilion fund, and \$100 regalia fund. Originally there was approx. \$1000 in the pavilion fund and expenditures were made for pavilions etc. This money was raised by the people to buy pavilions and the remainders have been rolled back into the general funds.

The **motion** was made to reallocate the previously allocated pavilion funds (estimated at \$300) to a baronial pavilion fund.

Moved Donna McKay
Seconded Wendy Regular
In favour 6
Against 0
Abstain 0

Event bids

Current Baronial rapier champion has plans to hold the next baronial rapier championship at an Inn event to be held in Distant Shore on June 2, 2007. This is a baronial event that will be held at a canton event. The champion will not be announced until the next baronial event which will be War Camp. This has been discussed with the autocrat of the event and it is okay with the autocrat to hold the championship at this event.

With regard to a previous email to the Seneschal regarding a tradition in the barony for the current champion to plan and hold the next championship event. Most championships are effectively fixed at a particular event. The only event that is not tied to a regular event is the Baronial Rapier championship. Tying championships to particular events is a good idea and the proposal is to tie the Rapier championship to an event (Swishy Pokey).

Motion: That the Barony establish a regular event to host the Baronial Rapier Championship in the spring of the year between March and May.

Moved: Alastair Simpson

Seconded: Wendy Regular
In favour 6
Against 0
Abstain 0

Motion: to Reiterate that at the 12th Night event, Baronial A&S championship and Bardic Championships are to be held; at War Camp, archery championship is to be held, and at BIA the baronial Rattan Championship is to be held.

Moved by Robbie Hilton
Seconded; Tina Oliver
In favour 6
Against 0
Abstain 0

Karren Worden reported that she will post an event bid for EKV in November, and is submitting a proposal for this to be held in conjunction with a toy drive. The charge for taking a class would be a toy, for any other activity it will cost a toy. Toys collected will be dispersed through the Salvation Army.

Meeting adjourned