

## Shire of Hartshorn-dale Shire Meeting August 4, 2005. Minutes

In attendance were: Elizabet Marshall, Gavan MacBane, Kolosvari Arpadne Julia, Arlyn Bell, Michel Wolffauer, Diana Alene, Helena Hrolfdottir, Jasper Millar, Palotzi Marti, Doucette de Verdun, Sabatina da Valle, Samuel DiBianco, Finn Finnegan O'Flynn and Brynn. (*Note that the attendance list is offered in the order the attendance sheet was signed. In accordance with the discussion during this meeting (see below), only SCA names are given, where available. Also in accordance with that discussion, reference to people will be by their most common name. A more formal list of names or clarification is available upon request.*)

*A note on timing. In the interest of having a logical, narrative format, I have grouped discussions together in headings, rather than a specific time-line format. They are not necessarily in the order in which they occurred. If discussion of a specific topic took place more than once, I have grouped them together, but note that it was separate discussions.*

### **I. Demos**

#### **A. Completed demos**

The demos to this point have all gone well. Diana read a thank you letter from the Upper Merion library. Finn reported that he was also contacted by Upper Merion who said they are doing a video of activities and that our demo will be on it. They will provide us a copy when it is complete.

Mike reported receipt of a donation from the Horsham library. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to return the same to the library for them to use as they see fit.

#### **B. Upcoming Demos**

Royersford library August 5; Huntingdon Valley on August 9 is on; Upper Moreland is on August 23.

Finn reported receiving contact from the Sebastian Riding Associates seeking a demo. This was posted to the list serve as well. More information will be gathered so that a decision can be made.

### **II. Events**

#### **A. Alles Faire**

Helena and Jasper formally requested permission to have their wedding at Alles Faire. Discussion followed. The question of a conflict of interest was raised should Diana serve as both mother of the bride and autocrat. This matter is being addressed. Discussion is underway for Margarete to serve as co-autocrat, working on areas relative to the event, while Diana will work on areas relative to the wedding.

A short overview of plans was provided. The wedding will be on Sunday. Wedding guests who attend on Saturday will pay the normal attendance fees. Persons attending on Sunday for the wedding only (not expected to be a majority of the guests), will have a separate troll location. The Sunday feast will be paid for by the family; non-guest attendees are welcome to attend, assuming they have opted in to the feast at reservation. There will be a cap to the number of places for feast both Saturday and Sunday.

Alles Faire was raised again at a later point in the meeting. Diana stated that she expects to have a proposal for the event at the next meeting. Sam will be the feastocrat and is looking for cooking staff. He will be doing the Sunday dinner. Helena and Jasper have specifically requested that there be a lot of heraldic display.

B. Green Lane

Allison was not present at the meeting to discuss Green Lane. The September Shire Meeting will be at her house and plans will be finalized at that time.

C. Schola

At first, Brynn was not at the meeting and discussion of the Fall Schola was tabled until she arrived. At her later arrival, Brynn noted that the only date available both at the Church and on the EK calendar is the last Saturday in November (the Saturday after Thanksgiving). She is waiting for the church's Board to confirm. Several people expressed problems with that weekend. After discussion it was decided to not hold the Schola this year.

D. Spring Event.

Bethany and Sabatina would like to do a spring event at the time that Games & Galliards is typically held. They are looking for a "feastocrat" and other people to fill key positions. They are considering a "tavern" type event, possibly pirate or Viking themed. They have many ideas. They would like some people to come to them with ideas, such as "here's a general menu" to start discussion. There was discussion of thoughts and ideas.

**III. Officer Reports**

A. Chatelaine

Chatelaine was not present. The demos have already been discussed.

B. Exchequer

Mike reported cash on hand and assets held by the Shire (*since this is available on open list, this information is available upon request to Secretarie or Exchequer*). Tall Cedars still owes the return of the security deposit for Games and Galliards and this is being pursued.

C. Secretarie

Elizabeth noted the change of the title from “Scribe” which has a specific connotation within the SCA.

The July minutes were approved.

Elizabeth requested opinions on the format of the minutes. It was agreed that SCA names will be used for the minutes, with full information available on request. Within the body of the minutes, the “most familiar” name for each person will be used. Again, clarification will be available upon request.

D. Deputy Seneschal

Finn is working on assembling an official shire list. The Domesday is not actually that list because it includes people not within the bounds of the Shire, and does not include everyone who is. There was a short discussion of ways to set up the official list.

E. Domesday

During the discussion of the official Shire list, there was also discussion regarding the Domesday. It was noted that it is quickly out of date as people move, or details change. Elizabeth suggested the update information could be put in the Herald.

F. Marshall (Heavy)

There will be no practices until August 29.

G. Marshall (Thrown Weapons)

Practice will resume August 30

H. Dance

Dance will resume the last Friday in August.

I. Heralds

The Heralds will aim to have a meeting at the end of August for commentary and name/device help.

J. A&S

There are plans to organize a once a month “Random A&S” meeting. People will be approached to host basic classes in a variety of A&S. In the planning stages are a metalworker and a woodworker.

**IV. Calendar**

September: Shire meeting will be September 1 at Allison's house. There will be no fight practice on Labor Day, it will resume September 12 in its usual time. Thrown Weapons will be at its usual time. Archery will be announced after Pennsic. Newcomers is scheduled for September 2 (in absence of Allison and Lilia, it was not clear where this will be). The Brewers' meeting will be September 14 at Violet and Mike's house. Bardic Circle in Ambler on September 15. A&S at Sabatina's will be on September 21 and will be a "Show and Tell" meeting for classes taken at Pennsic. Dance will be September 9 and 23.

Finn will be hosting a Castle Wall Repair session. Date, time and place will be announced on the list.

## **V. Charter Discussion**

A draft charter was sent out on the list serve by Finn, and he received many comments.

### **A. Sections for Ratification**

The general decision making process and process for selection of officers for the Shire were discussed at the July meeting. The policies agreed at that meeting were written into the draft charter as the "Decision Making Process" and "Selection of Officers" sections. These two sections were offered for ratification.

#### **1. Decision Making Process**

Following discussion, the section was ratified by unanimous vote as follows:

Any proposal or agenda item that requires approval from the Shire membership can only take place at a Shire business meeting.

All shire members present at the meeting may participate in the decision process. In most cases, a majority consensus shall be taken by a simple hand vote. If a hand vote is not appropriate, such as officer selections for a contested office, a "blind vote" (names in hat or similar method) will be used.

Votes will be counted by the Seneschal and Exchequer. If either Seneschal or Exchequer are being voted on, then another shire officer will fill in for the officer being voted on. Results will be announced immediately. In the case of a blind vote, the result will be announced as a simple yes/no; the count will not be announced.

Simple items (small expenditures, local demos, local events not published in Kingdom newsletter, small Shire projects,

etc.) should be approved by a simple consensus right at the Shire meeting in which they are raised.

Larger items (officer selection, event selection, large capital expenditures, etc.) will be discussed at the Shire meeting in which they are raised. Final approval to be granted at the next Shire meeting

## 2. Selection of Officers

Following discussion, the section was ratified by unanimous vote as follows:

Officer selection will be held each year for these offices:

In odd-numbered years: Seneschal; Knight-Marshal; Minister of A&S; Chatelaine; Chirurgion; Fencing Marshal; Demo Coordinator; Domesday Editor; Accessibility Porter.

In even-numbered years: Exchequer; Herald; Chronicler; Webminister; Archery Marshal; Thrown Weapons Marshal; Minister of Lists; Chamberlain; Dance Master/Mistress; Secretarie

New offices can be created by the shire and added to the above list as suits the shire's needs.

\* In September (Reminder): A reminder of officer positions that are up for selection should be announced to the Shire. (See list above for offices based on current year.)

\* In October (Nomination): Potential candidates must state their interest in holding a Shire office to the Seneschal or current office holder at or before the business meeting.

\* In November (Selection): At the business meeting, candidates should make a presentation followed by questions. Afterwards, the candidate(s) should leave the meeting so Shire members may discuss freely. After the discussion is over, selection will follow the normal Shire decision making process.

The officer-elect will work with the current officer and will assume the office in January, after the end of year report is submitted (if applicable). The Shire also has the option to leave a non-required office vacant.

In the event that an officer is unable to finish the term of office, a replacement should be nominated at the next

regular business meeting, with selection to take place the following month. If the officer is unable to fulfill the duties of the office until a replacement can be selected, a stand-in should be appointed until the selection process is finished.

People who wish to hold a currently vacant office, should state their interest at a business meeting with selection to take place at the following business meeting.

In all cases where an officer is selected mid-term, that officer will serve out the remainder of that term.

## B. Sections for New Discussion

The following sections were discussed and will be offered for ratification at the September meeting:

### 1. Statement of Purpose.

The Statement of Purpose section was read and discussion followed. The following text was moved, seconded and carried by unanimous vote to be offered to the Shire for ratification at the September meeting:

#### Statement of Purpose

This is the Charter of the Shire of Hartshorn-dale. These guidelines are an unofficial publication of the Shire of Hartshorn-dale of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies. Moreover, in any case where this Charter conflicts with East Kingdom Law and Policies or with Corpora, those higher laws take precedence.

This Charter will be reviewed by the Shire every two years to ensure that it still reflects the practice and intent of the Shire. The review will consist of distributing a copy of the Charter at the Shire business meeting and inviting commentary from the populace for discussion at the following meeting. Any changes must be approved by the Shire.

Note: At the time of the writing of this Charter, Shire business meetings are conducted at the beginning of each month. Timeframes for officer selection and any Shire decisions are based on this once per month meeting timeframe.

We recognize that emergencies can come up and Shire officers may act accordingly

## 2. Members

The Members section of the proposed draft was read and discussion followed. The following text was moved, seconded and carried by majority vote to be offered to the Shire for ratification at the September meeting:

### Membership

Membership requirements for the SCA are clearly delineated in Corporate Law; privileges pertaining to that membership are not the business of the Shire.

For Shire business only, any SCA member who resides within the boundaries of Hartshorn-dale or anyone who actively participates within the Shire, is considered a member of the Shire. Any member 14 years old or older may vote in elections and on proposals.

## 3. Officers

The Officers section of the proposed draft was read and discussion followed. The following text was moved, seconded and carried by unanimous vote to be offered to the Shire for ratification at the September meeting:

### Officers

Officers are required to attend a majority of Shire business meetings. If an officer or a representative cannot attend a meeting, the officer should contact the Seneschal with an officer's report.

Any problem with an officer's performance that cannot be dealt with on a local level will be handled in accordance with Kingdom law

## 4. Shire Meetings

Discussion was begun regarding the Shire Meetings section, however, the hour being late this and other sections were tabled for discussion at the next meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
Elizabet Marshall  
(Kandy Fling)