

Meeting of the Curia of the Middle Kingdom: Sunday, 18 October 2015 (AS 50), upon the occasion of Fall Crown Tournament, in the Barony of Brendoken

Kingdom Officers in attendance:

- Their Majesties Nikolai and Serena
- Their Highnesses Cameron and Amalie
- Dame Catriona MacDhonnachaidh, Seneschal (Kat Dyer)
- Sir Gregoire de Lyon, KEM (Greg Less)
- Mistress Crespine de la Valleé, KMOAS (Nira Lys Morning)
- THL Ælfric Greensword, Exchequer (Charles Shefferly)
- THL Kateline Eliot, Deputy Exchequer
- Lady Daniila of Dacia, Chirurgeon (Dana Mosher)
- THL Rijckaert vanUtrecht, Webminister (Dan Peacock)
- By phone: Master Gunnar Sigurdsson, Chronicler (Tom Cherry)

Minutes submitted by Dame Marie la Fauconniere, Curia Secretary (Nita Lewis)

Officer Reports

Marshallate:

- Office of Earl Marshal
 - Gregoire is starting third year in office, has begun looking for successor
 - Has had one applicant, not accepted
 - Announced on ChivNet – Kingdom tradition is for Earl Marshal to be a Knight
- Coursing
 - Duchess Runa has stepped up as DEM-Coursing
 - Working on handbook
 - Has made contact with AKC for oversight
- Paperless Authorization Card/Fighter Database Project
 - Moving slowly; transition to begin with Domesday rosters
 - Will still have paper cards available but image on phone will be acceptable
- Pennsic 44
 - Generally went okay
 - Exception: woods battle
 - Working with EK to re-engineer due to safety/liability issues
 - Fences, landmarks, maps, possibly a radio signal repeater needed to help direct EMS
 - Ruts, deadfalls, hazards need to be cleared
 - Possibility of cancelling battle altogether if safety problems can't be fixed
 - Pennsic governing doc being revised
 - Formerly implied that marshallate fell under jurisdiction of deputy mayor for battlefield activities
 - (signatories: KSen for EK, MK, and Aethelmearc)

A&S:

- A&S Faire Rule Changes and Judging Guideline Updates
 - Mail-in entry rules are outdated with the incorporation of face-to-face judging
 - Performance entries (such as equestrian) to be submitted as video up to 30 minutes (potentially via Youtube)

- Discussed acquiring a wi-fi hotspot for accessing videos at faires; include in tally room budget/equipment
 - Will permit face-to-face discussion at both Regional and Kingdom levels
 - Written entries still to be pre-submitted but will receive live judging
 - Getting pushback on changing faire entry limits to five per person – suggested compromise to limit to five entries to receive face-to-face judging
 - Removing half-point penalty for getting help with preparing documentation
 - Language change: replacing “documentation” with “supporting evidence” to reflect oral presentation
- RUM Updates
 - Online registration coming
 - Looking at attendance and repeat-teacher data collection for possible recognition similar to other Kingdoms’ programs
 - Requested purchase of mini projectors; need to look into legal ownership, depreciation, etc.
 - Query re how RUM is financed: receives \$0.50 per person attending (from site fee), current balance \$1700+

Chronicler:

- Marisa von Atzinger has stepped up as Historian; working on a single history website to replace MiddleWiki and other outdated repositories
- Publications from the Midrealm received a Blackfox award and a second-place award – best showing for the Kingdom in some years
- Noted that Society requires baronies to publish newsletters at least quarterly but some groups still not doing so – recommended notice of immediate abeyance for groups not in compliance
- Moving Kingdom-hosted group websites to commercial host is under way – 18 of 54 local sites migrated and 5 new added

Webminister:

- Midrealm.org Redesign
 - HRH Cameron is project manager
 - May want to pay for professional design/coding services – would need more funding, \$5K-\$7K
 - Objectives: meet society requirements for security and document management; better expandability; improved managability
 - Current timeline: redesign complete by end of CY2015, rebuild/recreate existing subsystems by spring Coronation, then add new requested capabilities
 - Currently many different info systems grown organically, but doesn’t need to be that way
 - Could all be in WordPress or similar format (not Weebly)
 - Need to assess what all current systems actually do – back end as well as content
- Request made that Great Officer deputies get access to update officer pages
- Webminister handbook change: officer contact info will require an active phone number and e-mail be included. Noted that Kingdom needs an overall officer policy to cover contact info, reporting, and sanctions/enforcement for lack of same.

Chirurgion:

- Culled records and paid shipping (\$10) to turn over to Society
- Will offer radios to Pennsic staff
- Turned in baldric and medallion as final report to final Curia – received thanks and applause for service

Exchequer:

- Introduced THL Kateline Eliot as deputy and successor
- Q3 report filed, for YTD the Kingdom is +\$681.83 for current balance with depreciation, assets, etc. of \$185,934.62 (includes Pale budget of \$38,644.62)
- Received profit share and travel fund donation (\$2,275) from Fall Crown
- Spent \$52 to reorder checks
- Requested expense approval (estimate \$3,500) to send Dame Catriona, THL Aelfred, and THL Kateline to 2016 Society Exchequers' and Seneschals' Symposium in February – approved
- Received proposal for new scabbard/belt for Oathbinder (estimate \$250); approved contingent on design revisions to be discussed with Curia

Herald:

- Buckler Herald (education deputy) changed over to Chaya Simka and Maelcolm Mor
 - Expanded to include heraldic education outside of RUM
 - Include building database and video resources
 - Fenris Herald (Pentamere regional) and Shield Herald offices are vacant, openings will be posted
 - Boke of Ceremonies – needs revision
 - Move historical ceremonies to separate document
 - Consider e-book-friendly version along with PDF
 - Pursuivants' Handbook – needs update, still has old name/armory submission rules
 - Term ends in May, is willing to extend for third year but will post open for successor

Their Majesties:

- Discussion on sanctions

Seneschal:

- Kingdom Event Bids – Coronation, Crown, RUM
 - No bids received yet for upcoming Coronation/Crown
 - Need better bid process
 - Parking arrangements must be included in bids
 - Possibly rotate among baronies?
 - Proposal for revised process to be sent to Curia for comment
- Dry Site Policy
 - Persons found drinking at dry event sites will be removed by event steward and/or seneschal either by driving them to their lodging or calling modern authorities
 - No tolerance, no exceptions
 - Policy to be publicized especially through groups (Red Company, Bronze Ring, etc)

- Suggested to come up with a “Dry Site” icon for the Calendar listing similar to the meeting/herald/A&S icons

New Business:

None presented.