

Barony of Lions Gate Council Minutes - September 16, 2020

Attending

- Caemgen mac Garbith ui Andrais (Kevin Garvey) - seneschal
- Sathbh Bheag (Angela Gallant) – Red Flame herald
- James Irvein (Jay Irvine) – webminister
- Jaqueline Lefleur (Kirsten Masse) - interim chronicler - minutes
- Baroness Arianna Freemont (Dawn Malin)
- Anika Styfe (Christi Frank) – exchequer
- Briana Cassia / (Nancy Jeanne Hedge) – chatelaine
- Baron Miles Fitz Hubert (Rob Nicolls) - guest
- Viscount Kheron Azov (Richard Bertrand) - guest
- Isabella da Firenze (Jen Peters) – guest
- Elvina Effeynewoode (Jacqueline Lee) – scribe
- Lokki (Stephen Jones) – deputy seneschal
- Gunnar the Wanderer (Simon Thomsen) - archery
- Baron Cyneric Bearson (Darren Cocking)
- Beatriz (Joana Dornellas) – guest

Approval of minutes from last meeting: Chair

Motion to approve minutes for July 2020 made, seconded, and approved.

Seneschal report

Good evening friends,

Thank you for joining us again online. My apologies for the slim feeling this month, things have been a little tense for me mundanely and I was not able to more fully engage with the Barony in time for council tonight.

We recently had the An Tir Grand Ithra, and I know many of the Barony participated, but it sadly slipped under the radar for me.

Other administrative updates, I've been slowly reaching out to our suspended contracts to update them on our January 2021 hold. I have not had any new contacts regarding online events through the Barony. I am still waiting on guidance regarding officer paperwork but hope to have that resolved in time for next council.

Once again, "in these uncertain times", I thank you all for everything you are doing in all your wonderful ways to keep the Dream alive while we stay safe, apart but not alone.
Caemgen, Seneschal

REMINDERS AND NOTES:**Reminder, please check your branch email account weekly if not more**

- You can access it via a free app on your phone, or outlook.com on your phone or computer.
- Reliably checking your official Officer correspondence is a part of the position.
- Repeated issues with communication will be followed up with, and we will see how to best support struggling officers.

Similarly: Reports are a quick way to show you are active, that there are activities taking place in your area and to let council know of any potential issues or victories!

Officer Reports are requested by Monday evening the week of council. This allows me time to follow up with any absent reports.

Exchequer report

I made a mistake the last couple of months, but it does not affect the quarterly report or available funds. I made an error on the financial spreadsheet that affects our net loss report. August reporting should have shown Income of \$8,543.40 and Expenses of \$9,100.51 with a net loss of \$557.11. (Numbers to be corrected)

2020 Financial YTD:

Income of \$8,543.40 and expenses of \$9,383.56 shows as a net loss of \$840.16.

Available Funds

As of September 15, 2020, total available funds are \$19,797.75 which includes the following Special Funds:

- Archery \$298.76

Not yet deposited from the Return-It Express account:

- \$70.38

Receivables & Other Assets \$1,585.00:

- \$50 rapier practice float for 2020
- \$1,535 Advance for banquet food (balance received – receipts still outstanding)

Prepaid expenses \$1,675.80:

- \$1,675.80 to Public Storage for October 2020 to March 2021 (April 2021 will be free)

Where money will go during the pandemic:

- Expenses will increase for the locker, but it is pre-paid so will not affect our bank account
- Monthly bank fees \$3.75

Current Items:

1. Return-It Express bottle returns
 - Instructions have been posted in the Facebook Groups.
 - I have chosen the phone number **604-608-1976** as the account code (Lions Gate started June 8, 1976.)
 - Three donations to date totalling \$70.38.
 - As we cannot show favouritism donating to other shires/baronies, we discussed donating to the SCA corporate (who is showing a shortage due to lack of membership renewals.)
 - Still looking at how to disburse the funds. Anika to contact the Principality for possible disbursement ideas or systems already in place.

2. Financial Policy
 - Draft of the policy has been forwarded to the Financial Committee and Principality Exchequer – awaiting feedback
 - Includes PayPal policy and increasing the amount the Financial Committee can approve without council (to cover the cost of emergency insurance, for example).

3. Looking for a deputy exchequer.
 - One person is considering the role.

2020 Combat Practices (no changes):

Practice	Type	Sum of Amount
Heavy		
	Income	1155.06
Heavy Total		1155.06
Rapier		
	Income	820.00
	Rental	-258.75
Rapier Total		561.25
Archery		
	Income	935.00
	Rental	-1404.00
Archery Total		-469.00
Grand Total		1247.31

2020 Events (no changes):

Event	Income	Expenses	Gain/Loss	Attendance	Remarks
Canterbury Fayre (cancelled)	\$ -	\$ 425.00	\$ (425.00)	n/a	Report Complete!
Lions Stage	\$ 431.83	\$ 20.00	\$ 411.83	Total: 50 42 Adults, 1 Youth, 4 Children, 3 Comp 6 NMR	Report Complete!
Tir Righ February Investiture	\$4,762.34	\$2,368.91	\$ 559.61	Total: Adults, Seniors, Students, Youth, Children, Comp NMR	Event \$2,238.43

Past event reports

- **Lions Stage** - Complete
- **February Investiture** - Complete

Upcoming events

Events for 2020

- Canterbury Fayre (Mar 21) - Cancelled
- Sealion War (May 22) – Cancelled
- LG Champs (May 30) – Cancelled
- Lion's War (Aug 1) - Cancelled
- Trials (Aug 14) - Cancelled
- Baronial Banquet (Oct 24) - cancelled
- Baroness' Tourney (Nov 21) - cancelled

Reminder: there are no official events or practices of any kind. All events are cancelled for the Kingdom of An Tir. Any gathering of friends or household is not to be done on SCA pages or social media pages. Any such gatherings are individual decisions and are not to be connected to the SCA in any way.

Continued business

Customary, FP and budget updates – Their Excellencies

- Awaiting B&B for review/input
- Financial Policy Update!!
- Award wordings to be finalized. Seneschal to check in with Their Excellencies.

Officer Vacancies

Note all greater offices are required to have a deputy so things can continue if the officer needs to step away. Ideally all officers that are stepping down need to advertise their vacancy 3 months in advance, if we get applicants we can “hire” after 30 days and leave 60 days to train/shadow and hand over the role. All jobs are to be posted and interested parties write to their Excellencies and the Seneschal to apply, and the outgoing officer can supply a recommendation.

Vacancies:

- YAC
- YAFA
- TUTR
- Chronicler (Council minutes currently being taken by Madame Jaqueline.)

Baron Miles is considering the Chronicler office and is interested in publishing the NorthWind. Miles has spoken to Master James, who used a template for the Northwind when he was chronicler. Miles suggested he could republish some past articles. (Jaqueline suggested checking with Master James, a previous chronicler, about rights to republish.) Jaqueline willing to continue taking minutes in future.

Paperwork Outstanding:

- Archery – change over
- Thrown Weapons – change over
- Chamberlain – office extension
- Games – office extension
- Chatelaine – office extension

Explorers Program

- Explorers are exploring.

Unpacking Events Project

- On hold

Online events

- Update on online events

Return-It Fund

- Policies
- Duplicating efforts
- Balancing needs

Archery equipment storage

No changes to the location of the equipment. It is still at Master James Wolfden's home.

New business

Web site review

Jay asked all officers to double check their officer's list on the web site. One officer does not have a byname. Excellencies requested to please check their retinue. Also, can all officers check their listing for accuracy. Lokki is missing.

Deputy seneschal and Chronicler and deputy A&S need to be updated.

Largess

Baroness Arianna noted that this time of few events may be a great time for people to consider working on largess.

Briana suggested holding an online largess competition! Announce the winner in a virtual court.

Baron Miles: offered to make game boards.

Jaqueline suggested holding classes on how to make largess. A series of classes could be held for simple and quick items, such as felt animals, game boards, trim, etc. The items made in the class could then go towards Baronial largess.

Baronial events

Virtual events

Baroness Arianna asked about online events for the Barony. Described a virtual Baronial banquet, separate but together, social and sharing of food by candlelight.

Briana suggested a social, casual event (there are many options for classes and meetings already.) Ariel's Bardic gathering on Facebook has been going well.

Jaqueline interested in pitching an event. Possibly able to write up over the next month (but not to be run until spring 2021.)

Lions Gate Virtual Court

Baroness Arianna asked about thoughts on holding a virtual Baronial Court. SCA (An Tir?) regulations: awards cannot be made official without an in-person court, but names can be announced. (To be confirmed.)

Caemgen – has had some requests for a Baronial court from the populace.

Caemgen requested Their Excellencies write up a reminder for the populace requesting award recommendations. They are still being considered!

Event hosting technology solutions

Caemgen asked for suggestions on which virtual conference system would be preferred (since not everyone is on Facebook.) Zoom has been well-used, WebEx, Discord, MeetUp all possibilities.

Loki has used Teams (limited attendees), zoom (can handle large groups – up to 500, depending on the account type), Discord (24-30 attendees). Each system has its own unique quirks.

Sadhbh Beahg noted some people are not present on Facebook, so web page announcements or email list postings should be made as well.

Briana – there are alternatives to Facebook for video casting: Youtube Live. Google Hangouts.

Elvina noted the Facebook pages for the Barony of Lions Gate and the Monday Night Fight Practice are now visible to non-Facebook users. Video of a Baronial court could be posted on the Barony Facebook page or events could be run through Facebook (although non-Facebook viewers could not directly contribute as the access is view-only.)

Communication venues other than Facebook

Lions Gate email list – did it go away with the change of the An Tir servers? Is it functioning? Jay is not aware. Email communication used to be under the chronicler's office. Jay passed the password onto Faith, most recent previous chronicler.

Jaqueline will send an email to test the old Lions Gate list.

Briana is willing to collect email addresses for those people not on Facebook so they can be informed of upcoming events.

Caemgen and Briana to discuss how to collect email addresses for non-FB people.

Coronet report

Please insert

Next Council meeting

Online via Microsoft Teams; October 21, 2020 at 7:30 pm PDT.