

Minutes of the Heathen Freehold Society of British Columbia

Online: Date commencing: 29 January 2018

Old Business:

1. Society Reports

1.1. Guild & Council Reports

1.1.1. Council of Guilds

1.1.1.1. Men's Guild

Nothing to report.

1.1.1.2. Women's Guild

Nothing to report.

1.1.1.3. Brewer's Guild

Nothing to report.

1.1.1.4. Craftsmen's Guild

John T. Mainer crafted a spear to honour Odin.

1.1.1.5. Skald's Guild

Progress was made on Kindertales III we are now waiting for artwork and editing to publish this fall.

1.1.1.6. Warrior's Guild

Nothing to report.

1.1.2. Ritual and Lore Council

Since the previous Althing the RLC has approved a Calendar, Pantheon, and Liturgical Guide. Progress has also been made on a Cosmology overview document and the Introduction to Freehold Heathenry course. The next item on our agenda is the Freehold Liturgist Program.

1.2. Kindred Reports

1.2.1. Serpent Lake Kindred

SLK has held a Disablot, Sigrblot, Æcerbot, and Midsummer since the previous Althing. Membership consists of 1 Wita, 1 Member, 1 Probationary Member, and 4 Friends of the Freehold. Consistent activity and growth has resulted in the separation of SMK at Midsummer, so that now there are two local Kindreds in the North-Okanagan and Shuswap regions.

1.2.2. Njord's Nook Kindred

NNK has held a rite each month since the last Althing. We are now organised into a NNK-North lead by Jarl Laura Cooper and NNK-South lead by Keith Baldwin. We are continuing to grow and expand our religious services to the local Heathen and Pagan communities. We have 2 Witan and 1 Member of the Freehold.

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1.2.3. Skadhi's Mountain Kindred

SMK was formed at Midsummer and has celebrated Midsummer jointly with SLK and Lammas for our selves. We have attempted to reach out to the local Churches to establish a local dialogue between our faiths. We have 1 Wita, 2 Members, 1 Probationary Member, and 1 Friend of the Freehold.

1.3. Witan Reports

1.3.1. Freyr

The Kindreds are firmly established and continue to provide benefit and growth to our local communities.

1.3.2. Treasurer

Kindertales remains our largest revenue stream. We have not yet established our print-on-demand store, it is expected to be another significant revenue stream. We have approximately \$2000 available for use, exact amounts will depend on closing out the cost of our Althing.

1.3.3. Secretary

1.3.3.1. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

1.3.3.2. Membership Count

1 new Member.

Bringing the total at the start of the Althing to

Witan: 7

Members: 4

Probationary: 9

Friends: 8

1.4. Event Reports

(suggested format/questions below)

- was it held? where? when? who held it?
- what did it cost us? what did it earn?
- what did we learn?
- would we do it again?

The Freehold assisted in a joint Yule Rite with Heathens of the Nine Realms in Vancouver.

1.5. Project Report

1.5.1. Kindertales

All stories have been completed and submitted. We are just waiting on artwork to begin the final push for publication this fall.

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1.5.2. Ritual Guide

Ritual and Lore Council has created a Liturgical guide that is free to use for members and friends of the Freehold

1.5.3. Website

We have not yet established the new website via WordPress. It is planned to be online this fall or winter.

1.6. Motion to accept Reports

1.6.1. Motioned by Laura, seconded by Keith

1.6.2. Unanimous approval

1.6.3. Reports are accepted by the Althing.

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2. New Business

2.1. Proposal to amend the Freehold By-laws to remove Secretary and Treasurer from the Witan and replace them with the non-director officers Clerk (responsible for administration of Freehold Accounts, and Records) and Editor (responsible for the publication of all Freehold Books, Pamphlets, and other printable materials) who will be appointed by the Freyr and confirmed by the Witangemot. This will be accomplished by removing current articles 2 and 3 from Section 3- Officers of the Freehold, and bringing all subsequent sections forward. And adding a new Article 6 – Non-Director Officers, after new Article 5 Removal of Officers of the Freehold. This new Article will be written as follows:

Article 6: Non-Director Officers of the Freehold

3.6.1 Clerk

a) The duties of the Clerk shall include:

- i) keep custody of all administrative and financial records of the Freehold;*
- ii) consolidation of all administrative and financial reports from the Kindreds, Councils, and Guilds of the Freehold.*
- iii) maintain the record of members;*
- iv) any other duties appropriate for the Secretary or Treasurer of a Society to perform;*
- v) the Clerk may delegate any of these duties to assistants chosen by the Clerk and Freyr.*

b) The Clerk shall be appointed by the Freyr and confirmed by a simple majority of the Witangemot.

c) The Clerk serves at the pleasure of the Freyr, with no limits on length of service.

3.6.2 Editor

a) The duties of the Editor shall include:

- i) publishing of the Freehold official Newsletter;*
- ii) editing and publishing of all Official Freehold documents for sale or access by those outside of the Freehold;*
- iii) oversight of creation and distribution of all Freehold merchandise;*
- iv) any other duties as delegated by the Freyr of the Freehold;*
- v) the Editor may delegate any of these duties to assistants chosen by the Editor and Freyr.*

b) The Editor shall be appointed by the Freyr and confirmed by a simple majority of the Witangemot.

c) The Editor serves at the pleasure of the Freyr, with no limits on length of service.

This will also result in the removal of the Secretary and Treasurer from the Order of Precedence, and the designation of Trustees becoming a matter of seniority amongst the Witan.

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- 2.1.1. Motioned by Aaron 2nd by Keith
- 2.1.2. Unanimous approval.
- 2.1.3. By-laws are amended as stated.
- 2.2. Proposal to add a new status for Guilds, to keep their records alive while having no active members. The Keeper of the Council of Guilds will be responsible for administering the records of deactivated Guilds. This new article will be appended to the end of Section 5 – Councils and Guilds of the Freehold, the text as follows:

Article 6: Guilds on Inactive Status:

- 5.6.1 Any Guild that has not conducted any teaching, business, or other activities for a period of more than one year, may be on inactive status by a simple majority vote of either the Council of Guilds or the Althing of the Freehold.*
- 5.6.2 All records, and non-financial resources of the Guild shall be placed into the custody of the Keeper of the Council of Guilds and held in trust until reactivation of the Guild.*
- 5.6.3 Guilds on Inactive status can be reactivated by three or more Members of the Freehold asking permission from the Council of Guilds and choosing a Drighten from amongst themselves.*

- 2.2.1. Motion to approve by Keith, seconded by Laura
- 2.2.2. Unanimous approval.
- 2.2.3. By-laws amended as stated.
- 2.3. Proposal to deactivate all Guilds of the Freehold, with the Freyr serving as Keeper of the CoG, until that body is reconstituted to at least three members.
 - 2.3.1. Motion to approve by Laura, seconded by John
 - 2.3.2. Unanimous approval
 - 2.3.3. All guilds have been placed on inactive status, with the Freyr serving as Keeper of CoG.
- 2.4. Proposal to advance Skadhi's Mountain Kindred from Provisional Kindred to Kindred status, with Aaron Brookes acting as Jarl until a Kindred Moot can be held to establish Kindred Thews and elect a Jarl. SMK has celebrated more than 2 rituals for Freeholders and other Heathens in the Shuswap and North-Okanagan, and their members hosted several events while under the auspices of SLK. Three Freehold members belong to SMK namely: Aaron Brookes, Kate Brookes, and Nina Mikulin. While the requirement to host 3 Rites has not been met, a dispensation is asked for as the membership of SMK assisted with the hosting of rites for SLK before their separation at Midsummer.
 - 2.4.1. Motion by Laura, seconded by Keith
 - 2.4.2. Unanimous approval
 - 2.4.3. Skadhi's Mountain Kindred is elevated to be a Kindred of the Freehold, with Aaron acting as Jarl until an election can be held.

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- 2.5. Proposal to spend \$100 to commission an artist for Kindertales III, to include a cover picture and one full-page picture for each story (9 stories), preference to be given to a Heathen Artist.
 - 2.5.1. Motion by Aaron, seconded by John
 - 2.5.2. Unanimous approval
 - 2.5.3. The Witan is authorised to pay an artist \$100 for artwork for Kindertales Volume III
 - 2.6. Nominations for awards
 - 2.6.1. Lifetime Achievement Award-for those who have contributed to the growth of heathenry through their lifetime work as organizers, as authors, artists, leaders, or simply by their works in any form. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.1.1. John Mainer nominated by Kate Brookes, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 2.6.1.2. No other candidates, John Mainer wins by acclamation.
 - 2.6.2. Tyrbold Award: for those who have exemplified the virtues of Tyr in standing steadfast for what is right. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.2.1. No candidates were nominated
 - 2.6.3. Shield Maiden Award: To recognize an outstanding woman in Heathenry. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.3.1. Lorrie Wood nominated by Kate Brookes, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 2.6.3.2. No other candidates, Lorrie Wood wins by acclamation.
 - 2.6.4. Wyrd Spinner Award: to recognize exceptional contributions to the development and practice of Heathen magical techniques. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.4.1. Diana Paxson nominated by Aaron Brookes, seconded by Laura Cooper
 - 2.6.4.2. No other candidates, Diana Paxson wins by acclamation.
 - 2.6.5. Freeholder of the Year: to recognize the Freeholder who has excelled the most since the last Althing. Must have at least one nominee.
 - 2.6.5.1. Aaron Brookes nominated by John Mainer, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 2.6.5.2. No other Candidates, Aaron Brookes wins by acclamation
 - 2.6.6. Frigga's Loom: to recognize an individual who has rendered exceptional service to the creation or maintenance of Frithful environments. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.6.1. Kate Brookes nominated by Aaron Brookes, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 2.6.6.2. No other Candidates Kate Brookes wins by acclamation.
 - 2.6.7. Volund's Forge: to recognize an exceptional Heathen Crafter. Is not mandatory each year.
 - 2.6.7.1. Monica Burden nominated by Laura Cooper, seconded by Aaron Brookes
 - 2.6.7.2. No other candidates, Monica Burden wins by acclamation
 - 2.7. New business as put forward by members
No business put forward by the membership.
3. Elevation of Probationary Members to Full Members
 - 3.1. N/A

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4. Open nominations for Witan
 - 4.1. Open nominations for Freehold Officers
 - 4.1.1. Treasurer, defunct
 - 4.1.2. Secretary, defunct
 - 4.1.3. Ombudsman
 - 4.1.3.1. Sheldon Ingvisman nominated by John Mainer, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 4.1.3.2. No other candidates, Sheldon Ingvisman wins by acclamation.
 - 4.1.4. Open nominations for up to three Thaness
 - 4.1.4.1. John Mainer nominated by Kate Brookes, seconded by Laura Cooper
 - 4.1.4.1.1. Votes: 6 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain
 - 4.1.4.1.2. Result: John Mainer is elected as a Thane of the Freehold.
 - 4.1.4.2. Keith Baldwin nominated by Aaron Brookes, seconded by Kate Brookes
 - 4.1.4.2.1. Votes: 6 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain
 - 4.1.4.2.2. Result: Keith Baldwin is elected as a Thane of the Freehold.
 - 4.1.4.3. There was no third candidate for Thane this year.
 - 4.1.5. Freyr, chosen from amongst the Witan by the Witan.
 - 4.1.5.1. Aaron Brookes nominated by John Mainer, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 4.1.5.2. John Mainer nominated by Aaron Brookes, seconded by Keith Baldwin
 - 4.1.5.3. John Mainer declined the nomination, no other candidates, Aaron Brookes becomes Freyr of the Freehold by acclamation.
 - 4.2. Guild & Council elections to be opened by the Guild or Council members and results reported to the Witan
 - 4.3. Motion to conclude Althing by Aaron Brookes, seconded by Laura Cooper
 - 4.3.1. None opposed, Althing concluded.