

## Althing 2020 Minutes

Date commencing: 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2020, 14 Members of the Freehold in attendance online.

### 1. Old Business:

#### 1.1. Guild & Council Reports

1.1.1. Ritual and Lore Council – Liturgist Program released last August. Online fainings by Freyr for Eastertide, Æcerbot, Midsummer, & Lammas. With Covid lock-downs, not a lot else happening.

1.1.2. Council of Guilds – with the reinstatement of the Skalds' and Brewers' Guilds, the CoG now has enough members to function as intended. There will be a CoG meeting following the Althing to elect a Keeper and set Council procedures on the recognition of new Kindreds.

1.1.2.1. Women's Guild - nil

1.1.2.2. Seidh Guild - nil

1.1.2.3. Rune Guild – Adopted Intro to Runeworking from the Liturgist Program to use as the first stage of instruction in guild training program

1.1.2.4. Skalds' Guild – Freehold Skalds are having their work featured by groups and communities far and wide, including by some communities that are not Heathen or even Pagan. Largely among the Veteran community, but frequently outside of them as well.

1.1.2.5. Brewers' Guild – 6 members, activity is lagging, likely due to Covid-19

#### 1.2. Kindred Reports

1.2.1. Skadhi's Mountain Kindred – Fainings prior to Covid-19 conducted, relying on streamed fainings until vaccine is widely available and utilised. 8 Members.

1.2.2. Burrardfjord Kindred – Large Yule faining, online Midsummer. No firm membership count.

#### 1.3. Officer's Reports

##### 1.3.1. Clerk

1.3.1.1. Financial Records - \$1770 balance in accounts

1.3.1.2. Official Correspondence - nil

1.3.1.3. Membership Count - 51 members, friends, and children.

##### 1.3.2. Editor – See attached

1.3.2.1. Kindertales

##### 1.3.3. Webmaster's Report

1.3.3.1. Website – Operational with ever increasing features. Looking for contributors for content. Membership application page seems to be well used.

1.3.3.2. Social Media – Facebook page has good levels of engagement. Twitter exists but has very little engagement. Anyone who would like to volunteer with Social Media for the Freehold is welcome, especially for Twitter or a so-far unused platform.

##### 1.3.4. Ombudsman - Nil

1.3.5. Freyr – The Witan have drafted a new constitution and amendments to the by-laws, with these new governing documents we will hopefully streamline our applications to be recognised federally as a religious charity and provincially to solemnise marriages. Due to Covid-19 the Freehold has had to restrict physical gatherings to meet provincial health officials recommendations. For the foreseeable future I will continue to conduct live-streamed fainings in accordance with our calendar.

1.4. Event Reports (host, what, where, when, cost, revenue, attendance, lessons learned)  
No event reports

1.5. Vote to accept reports

Moved by Paula Maylin      Seconder w. Keith Baldwin  
For 11      Against 0      Abstain 3      Motion approved

2. New Business

2.1. Proposal to adopt a new Constitution for the BCHF that reflects the current beliefs, structures, and identity of our community.

Moved by w. Keith Baldwin      Seconder Paula Maylin  
For 12      Against 0      Abstain 2      Motion approved

2.2. Proposal to amend the by-laws to reflect changes in the Constitution and recommended operating practices for religious communities. Amendment to the submitted draft, sub-paragraph 2.1.3.c now reads “If a Probationary Member does not have a sponsor the Goði/Gyðia of their Kindred will be deemed to be their sponsor. If a Probationary Member is not part of a Kindred, or if their Kindred has dissolved, the Freyr/Freyra shall act as their sponsor.”

Moved by Paula Maylin      Seconder W. Keith Baldwin  
For 13      Against 0      Abstain 1      Motion approved

2.3. If necessary, Proposal to give current Goðar two years to complete the Liturgist Program.

Moved by Paula Maylin      Seconder Kristy Williams  
For 13      Against 0      Abstain 1      Motion approved

2.4. Proposal to adopt the budget as presented to, or amended by, the Althing.

Nominator Kate Brookes      Seconder W. Keith Baldwin  
For 9      Against 0      Abstain 5      Motion approved/defeated

New business from the floor:

No new business from the floor

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3. Awards

3.1. Lifetime Achievement Award: for those who have contributed to the growth of heathenry through their lifetime work in any form. Is not mandatory each year.

No nominees this year.

3.2. Tyrbold Award: for those who have exemplified the virtues of Tyr in standing steadfast for what is right. Is not mandatory each year.

Candidate	Nominator	Seconder	Votes
<u>Joshua Wood</u>	<u>John Mainer</u>	<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

3.3. Shield Maiden Award: To recognize an outstanding woman in Heathenry. Is not mandatory each year.

Candidate	Nominator	Seconder	Votes
<u>Lorrie Wood</u>	<u>Teunis Peters</u>	<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

3.4. Wyrd Spinner Award: to recognize exceptional contributions to the development and practice of Heathen magical techniques. Is not mandatory each year.

Candidate	Nominator	Seconder	Votes
<u>Lorrie Wood</u>	<u>John Mainer</u>	<u>Venesa Vallese</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

3.5. Freeholder of the Year: to recognize the Freeholder who has excelled the most since the last Althing. Must have at least one nominee.

Candidate	Nominator	Seconder	Votes
<u>John Mainer</u>	<u>Teunis Peters</u>	<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

3.6. 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.

Candidate	Nominator	Seconder	Votes
<u>Paula Maylin</u>	<u>Teunis Peters</u>	<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

3.7. Volund's Forge: to recognize an exceptional Heathen Crafter. Is not mandatory each year. No nominees this year.

4. Elevation of Probationary Members to Full Members

4.1. Paula Maylin

For 9 Against 0 Abstain 1 Member accepted

4.2. Lorrie Wood

For 10 Against 0 Abstain 0 Member accepted

5. Elections

5.1. Ombudsman

Candidate	Nominator	Second	Votes
<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>John Mainer</u>	<u>Venesa Vallese</u>	<u>Declined</u>
<u>Paula Maylin</u>	<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>Aaron Brookes</u>	<u>Acclaim</u>

5.2. Thaners (up to three Thaners may be nominated, each is elected separately)

No nominations this year.

5.3. Freyr (nominated from amongst the Witan, only the Witan may vote) (Not necessary this year, next scheduled election is in 2021)

5.4. Confirmation of the Jarl by the Witan (The Freyr will nominate a Candidate for approval, if rejected the Freyr will nominate another candidate).

Candidate	For	Against
<u>W. Keith Baldwin</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>

5.5. Motion to instruct the Council of Guilds to, "Hold elections and report results to the Witan."

For 9 Against 0 Abstain 5 Motion approved

6. Motion to close the Althing.

Nominator Aaron Brookes Second W. Keith Baldwin

For 8 Against 0 Abstain 6 Motion approved

Althing closed at 10:00 pm, 11 August 2020