

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
November 10, 1981

Board members Present:

Rhea Stone III, Chair
Tracie Brown
Henrik Olsgaard
Larry Mannion
Carol Bowman-Porter

Staff Members Present:

Gordon Monson, Chancellor of the
Exchequer
Cliveden Chew Haas, Registrar
William Hearter, Chirurgeon
General
Deborah W. Bennett, Clerk

Others Present:___

Ed Rush
Mike Woodford
Jack P. Martin
Yoko Olsgaard

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 at the house of Cliveden Chew Haas.

I. Establishing the agenda: The following agenda items were added: V E, VI A, VII.B.6

M/s/c Tracie-Carol to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was passed unanimously.

II. Approval of minutes: It was noted that the minutes from the October meeting had been approved by mail.

III. Reports:

A. Steward: There was a brief report from Sandra. The Norse group in the East is going to petition the East Kingdom for Shire status. The group in Independence Kansas that had wanted to switch to Ansteorra has decided to remain in the Middle. Trimaris is beginning to settle into becoming a Principality and will be holding its Coronet Lists soon.

The two things she brought up that needed possible action by the Board were 1) a request to consider reimbursing the Deputy Steward for the money he spent on plane fare to come to the October meeting. It was a somewhat unusual circumstance as he had been planning to attend the meeting as her representative when it was still scheduled to be in Los Angeles (in which area he resides). However, when the site of the meeting was changed it necessitated unforeseen expenditure of money in order to attend....

M/s/c Carol -Larry that the Board direct the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reimburse Derek Foster for the \$120 spent on plane fare to attend the October Board meeting in his capacity as Deputy Steward. The motion was passed unanimously.

And 2) the possibility of sending all Kingoom newsletters to the incipient SCA group in Australia. Sandra felt that they would really benefit from seeing the newsletters, not only to give them an idea of the kinds of events and structures that exist in the SCA but also to show them something of the diversity. She suggested as a possible arrangement that if they came up with a certain proportion of the members necessary for Baronial status, the SCA could then fund a subscription for them to all the Kingdom newsletters. Cliveden said that if this happened, the SCA would just about break even on the amount of money that came in from the memberships vs the amount of money that was spent on the newsletters.

M/s/c Larry-Henrik that should the incipient Barony in Australia register

ten foreign members the SCA will provide a one year airmail subscription to all Kingdom newsletters. The motion was passed unanimously.

M/s/c Tracie-Carol to receive the Steward's report. The motion was passed unanimously.

B. Chancellor of the Exchequer: Not a great deal to report since last time, except that the new account, authorized at the last meeting, had been established, and that in the three days of its existence at the end of October had earned \$75. Yes the SCA still is solvent.

M/s/c Henrik-Larry to accept the report of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The motion was passed unanimously.

C. Registrar: Cliveden wished it recorded in the minutes that she had not received a list of had checks from Gordon since February, and she really did not believe it was because there had been no bounced checks.

At this time she also wished to present her contract proposal for 1982, which was the basic figures she had calculated for the combined offices of Registrar, Clerk of the Board, and Stock Clerk. Figuring on the Registry using 60 hours of work a week, the Clerk of the Board approximately 60 hours of work a month, and the Stock Clerk at an estimated 15 hours a month, and multiplying this all out by a \$3.50 an hour wage, it comes to \$1,102.50 a month in salary. Operating expenses were not included in the estimate at this time. Cliveden said that she was actually appalled by how much money it came to, but those were the most realistic figures she could come up with.

Much discussion ensued about the proposal to establish a central office structure under this facilities management contract. Cliveden said that she would prefer it if the Board would state its intent to establish the office, and if they were to accept the contract as she had presented it, to approve it for six months, to be reviewed in July.

M/s/c Carol-Tracie That a combined business office be established for the Society to be run by an independent contractor, this office to be titled Corporate Secretary and to include the current responsibilities of the Registrar, Clerk of the Board, and Stock Clerk. This office will be an arm of the President's (Steward's) Office. The motion was passed unanimously.

It was noted that in order to establish the office as described in the motion, changes would need to be made in both Corpora and By-laws in the sections describing the Corporate officers. Cliveden said that Dave had offered his services in the necessary rewriting, and she would try to have the changes (or proposed changes) to the Board by the December meeting.

M/s/c Carol-Henrik that pending approval of the necessary changes in the Corpora and By-laws, the Board of Directors accept the contract bid of Cliveden Chew Haas for the combined business office to the amount of \$1,102.50 per month, the contract to begin January 1, 1982 and to be reviewed after six months. The motion was passed unanimously.

M/s/c Carol-Larry to accept the report of the Registrar. The motion was passed unanimously.

- D. Marshal's Report: there was none
- E. Chronicler's Report: The Board had in hand a report from Bertram and Eromene that had arrived one day too late for the last meeting (the fault of Federal Express, in this case...). The Board wished it noted that they had already approved by phone in the interim the concept of the pamphlet series that the new Chroniclers would like to establish, and were looking forward to a formal proposal on the matter at the December meeting.

The Chroniclers also had raised a question concerning the warranting of Kingdom level officers, or more precisely, the removal of warrants from Kingdom level officers. The main question is, can a National officer void the warrant and remove from office a Kingdom level officer under their jurisdiction if that officer is not in fact doing their job properly. It has come up occasionally in all National Offices as an issue, often when the Crown does not wish to remove that same officer, with a resulting deadlock. The underlying question is what kind of authority does a National Officer have?

The Board did not think that a National Officer should be allowed to unilaterally void a warrant. They reiterated that the current means of removing an officer is to warrant a replacement for the position (as warrants of removal are no longer part of the format). In the case of a situation where the Crown for whatever reason refuses to remove an offending officer on the recommendation of the National Officer, the National Officer should appeal to the Board.

M/s/c Henrik-Larry to receive the report of the Chroniclers. The motion was passed unanimously.

- F. Arts: There was no report
- G. Sciences: There was no report
- H. Heralds: Bill had sent his copy of his monthly report to the College of Arms. There was no Board business contained in it.

M/s/c Larry-Tracie to receive the report of the Laurel King of Arms. The motion was passed unanimously.

- I. Chirurgeon General: Bohemund had finally made it to a Board meeting, in part to meet everybody and watch how they did it, and also to appeal the Board's statement concerning the Chiropractor issue. His main concern was that as the Board's interpretation of his previous policy statement applied only to warranted medics, there was a potentially serious liability problem with people with Chiropractic training treating nonacute problems at events. Unless they had emergency medical training, Chiropractors would not be warranted. However, non-warranted people engaging in medical treatment (by which he did not mean applying bandages, 'popping' backs, handing out aspirin or antihistamines, etc.) were not under his supervision or authority. This might not be as much of a problem in some other offices of the SCA, but the medics are very much responsible in a twentieth-century legal context.

It was pointed out that although there was always the problem of someone with Chiropractic - or any other non-standard medical - training treating someone at an event, aggravating a problem and having that result in suit, The SCA was not in fact liable for actions between private individuals at events. The greater problem would be if someone who was in fact a warranted

medic and thus an officer and representative of the organization were to be involved in the above situation. And if the person was a warranted medic they would be under the jurisdiction of the Chirurgeon General already. It was seen that the problem was not in the non-warranted persons, but in making sure that the warranted ones stayed within the bounds of appropriate professional conduct.

The Board recommended that Bohemund send to the legal committee a formal statement of his position on the issue and his concerns, as that could go into the general input that tied into insurance and liability questions.

M/s/c Henrik-Carol that the Board accept the report (Bohemund insisted it was a diatribe) of the Chirurgeon General. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Routine

- A. Changes in status: there were none
- B. Legal Agents: the Clerk requested that the Board approve a new legal agent for the State of Mississippi, as the former legal agent had moved to New York.

M/s/c Larry-Tracie that Jeff D Parker be appointed as legal agent in Mississippi to replace E.L. Wimett. The motion was passed unanimously.

- C. Establishment of next meeting: It was reaffirmed that the next meeting would be December 8 at 7:00 at Cliveden's. It was also noted that this agenda item was in fact irrelevant until April, as the dates of the meetings had been set until then.

V. Old Business:

- A. Changes in Board structure: this was not considered at this time
- B. Status of the KWH: the Clerk reported a letter from Vargskol saying that he was removing the Officer's Lists from this edition, and was getting good information from the Steward so that he could update the maps.
- C. Registry computers: Cliveden said that she had written the first draft of the proposal for purchasing the computer system, and would have the final draft for the December Board meeting. The primary users for this would be the Registry and the Steward, she said, and she hoped that they could get something that would also allow the Heralds to store their files in the system.

At this point Ed Rush (Renfield) wished to bring up something about the existing computer system that the Laurel Office was using. The updated armorial is overdue, and one of the problems is that the equipment they are using is simply inadequate to do the job. He was inquiring as to the possibility of the Board funding the College of Arms for a small hard disk and controller for the Apple that the office is using to store and maintain the files of the College. This would cost some \$1900. Alternatively, he could try and buy it himself and then donate it to the College, buying it back when the Registry system was set up. The problem was that the project of getting the armorial printed simply could not wait the six months or more for the Registry computers to be acquired, programmed, etc., as it was already so long overdue.

The Board was more inclined to have Renfield take the second path, of buying and donating the equipment himself. Gordon, however, proposed an alternate solution to the problem..which the Clerk, not being a computer person, did not quite catch, but involved buying time/spare from an entity known as CompuServe. Gordon and Renfield were going to talk about it all later, and Renfield said that if it was still apparently necessary to seek funds from the Board he would do so.

- D. Facilities management proposal: this was dealt with in the Registry report.
- E. Letter from Mr. Vincent at Heimdal Publications: This was his response to our response to his query about publishing an English translation of all or parts of the Encyclopedie Medievale. They were willing to undertake the process of printing and translation if we would advertise, collect monies, and mail the books. However, he was of the opinion that it might well be cheaper to translate and publish in the U.S., and there was a question of whether the SCA wished to undertake some of the publishing costs. He reiterated his willingness to come out to California and meet with the Board if some kind of proposal could be set up.

Several questions were brought up about the project. One was how do we make sure that this is in fact a reputable publishing company and that we were not making a horrendous mistake if we chose to actively undertake the project. Since calling the Better Business Bureau was not the answer, Cliveden said that she was personally acquainted with a gentleman who had been a general under DeGaulle, and she would contact him and see if he could advise us as to the proper manner to investigate the reputation of a French company. With any luck, she added, he would check on it himself... Also the question was raised about the legal implications of entering into a contract with a foreign company, especially since they are a profit-making organization and we are not. Cliveden said that she would inquire about this, since we had legal counsel to advise us on things like this.

It was pointed out that within the SCA we might well be able to come up with people who would be competent translators and would do it free, or at reduced rates or something. Tracie said that she would contact people about that. The Clerk, having the sample volume in French, said that she would make some inquiries about possible publishing costs. In this manner we might be able to establish what a possible cost would be in the U.S. for translating and publishing the materials, which would give us more information to begin any kind of negotiations with. The Clerk was instructed to write back to the publisher and tell him that we were investigating costs over here.

VI. New Business

- A. The Bifurcation (Mitosis?) Of Atenveldt: Woodford of Lurien, Seneschal of the Principality of the Sun was present, and distributed copies of several letters concerning the possibility of splitting Atenveldt into two Kingdoms. This has been floating around that Kingdom for a while now as an idea, and one of the basic questions deals with how to accomplish the split... the Kingdom is somewhat thinly populated, with groups in very definite population centers as a result of the combined geographic influences of the desert and the Rocky Mountains. The two basic divisions would be North-South, with the South composed of Arizona and New Mexico, or East-West, which would combine Arizona with Utah and southern Idaho, and New Mexico with Colorado and Wyoming.

At this stage the matter was not truly business for the Board, as they only act on such matters after they have gone through channels and then recommended

by the Steward. The Board recommended that if the Kingdom wished to pursue the issue, the populace of Atenveldt should be polled as to their preferences, and formal proposals and petitions should be made to the Steward etc.

VII. Communications:

- A. Yrjö Kirjawiisas: This was his regular communication about his library project. However, some problems have come up concerning this. One thing is that it seems to be not at all clear in many areas that this library project is not in fact an official project of the SCA. Master Yrjö has set the structure up to be parallel to an SCA office, with Kingdom librarians, some of which are warranted officers in their Kingdoms. There is nothing wrong with that per se, but it has the effect of making it appear like an official project when it is not, and is confusing the issue. There is also the problem that Master Yrjö titles himself the "Librarian of the SCA" which also sounds more official than it is, and tends to put his non-official status disclaimers in small print. The Board agrees that the project itself is excellent and much needed, but perceives that there are certain problems with the way the structure around that project is currently being handled.

There were also in the report some remarks that were in extremely bad taste, suitable more for private opinion than being put in a document that has a certain amount of public exposure.

M/s/c Tracie-Carol that a letter be written to David McGlone advising him that a public apology to the Board of the SCA is required for statements appearing on page three of his Sept-Oct library report. The motion was passed unanimously. It was determined that Stone, as Chairman, should write the letter.

M/s/c Henrik-Tracie that the Board investigate the possibility of establishing an office of National Librarian of the Society. The motion was passed unanimously.

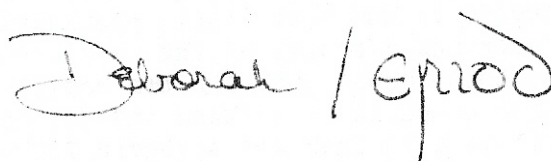
- B. More letters about Lord Laurel's proposals: these were from: Duke Finvarr de Taahe; Master Rory O'Tomrair; Ivannes Nikaias, Lady Leonora Simonetta d'Este; Lord Ulrich Vikingjager; Thin Robert of Lawrence.

M/s/c Henrik-Larry that the Board receive the letters and remand them to the April meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

VIII. Executive session: none was held

- IX. Summary and dissemination: Cliveden was going to call the Steward the next night with the pertinent information, as Sandra had said not to bother that evening unless something critical came up.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 P.M.



Deborah W. Bennett
(Eriod of Eire)
Clerk