



Timeline Festival Committee Minutes.

Sunday December 8th 2013

The meeting convened at 2.40 pm at Sandy's property at Pakenham.

Present: Committee members Keith Day, Sandy Sempel, Mark Haviland, Chase Day, Sharon Campbell and Carlisle Coulson.

Apologies received from Freda Ackroyd, Fiona Anderson and Tadd Lyons

Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the previous meeting were read and proposed as accepted as correct by Sandy Sempel and seconded by Chase Day and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

- Keith Day reported that a number of emails had been received regarding the November 23rd event, all of them favourable.
- There was no further correspondence.

Financial / Account Status

- Chase Day reported that the state of the finances was unchanged. Sandy Sempel proposed that the accounts be accepted, and Sharon Campbell seconded the motion.

New Member Applications

- There were no new member applications for considerations

Vacant committee post nominations

- Carlyle Coulson and Tad Lyons still need to fill out committee membership applications.

Update on Kryal Management / 2014 event.

- Keith Day reported that there was no date fixed for the 2014 event. Justin no longer functions as acting park manager, which means we will have to restart negotiations from scratch. Keith has yet to make contact with Justin's replacement.

- It was questioned whether the first weekend in March represented too short a deadline, with the five following weekends being booked up, meaning the next available weekend would be in May. Keith Day said that Kryal Castle has not committed to a date, but is still keen to hold the event. Their birthday celebration is in March, and Timeline would be a great vehicle to mark the event.
- Sandy Sempel said it would be possible to get an event happening in two months, as most groups were already primed for early March, and could put something together with very little notice. He added that many re-enactor groups bring paying customers with them. He noted that people would happily camp for a two day event, provided the weather is reasonable. Keith Day responded by suggesting we present Kryal Castle management with December 31st as a new deadline for fixing a date for the event.
- It was decided that a firm decision on whether the March date would still be suitable for Timeline festival Inc. would be made at the next committee meeting.

Review of the November 23rd event.

- It was reported that there had been much positive feedback regarding the event. The committee were aware of one complaint regarding the food at the feast, specifically for those with special dietary requirements. Kryal Castle management had been asked to provide options for people with specific dietary needs, but the request had clearly not reached the kitchens. There was no provision for people with allergies, those who are lactose intolerant, etc., but in the event, no one went hungry. It was suggested that communications with the kitchen be improved for next time, but since there are no plans for a banquet at the two day event; the issue is somewhat moot.
- There was general agreement that the event went well. Sandy Sempel said he was particularly pleased with the success of the Holmganger.
- Chase Day added that there were no *major* injuries, and that all went smoothly.
- Carlyle Coulson suggested shelters for both the registration desk and the viewing area at the main arena would make sense given the inclement weather in Ballarat.
- Sharon Campbell said that the tent for the High Table needs to be much closer to the steps. Furthermore, High Table did not actually have a table. High Table needs more in the way of pageantry.
- Chase Day observed that in the mind of the general public, there is no real differentiation between Kryal Castle and Timeline. Better briefing of Kryal Castle staff is called for as many staff had no idea what Timeline was or what was happening on the day.

- Sandy Sempel noted that Kryal management's licence does not permit photos to be taken of members of the public holding edged weapons, although toys are acceptable. Chase Day said that the public needed to be briefed on this issue.
- Sharon Campbell observed that the photographer from the Herald Sun got too close to re-enactors during the fighting, an issue that needs to be raised with Kryal management. During fighting, only re-enactors and marshals should be on the arena itself. Safety officers need to supervise photographers.
- With regard to the living history encampments, Chips and Household de Coucy were positioned facing each other, which impeded people from entering the stalls. Many visitors seem not to have realised that the stalls could be accessed.
- No complaints were received from the merchants, even though Roy Castell made a princely \$47.00. The non-availability of EFTPOS was an issue, as people generally don't carry large amounts of cash. This problem was exacerbated by the fact that most people were unaware of the existence of an ATM at the castle. Merchants especially need to be able to tell people where it is, and maps on stalls showing its location were thought to be a good idea.
- In discussion of the combat events, Sandy Sempel remarked that the Tasmanian Knights Templar represented a problem because they work with set combinations of moves, which people from other groups are unfamiliar with (hence the one accident of the day). Marshals thus need to enforce that groups do not fight with other groups unless this has been arranged in advance and is planned for accordingly.
- Sandy Sempel says he will talk to the Templars, and report back to the next Timeline meeting.
- Chase Day reported on a situation she had been involved in regarding remarks that were overheard relating to a costume worn by one of the LARPs. The whole issue was subsequently resolved by Tad Lyons, however, Keith mentioned that as members of the committee we all need to be aware of how our conduct is perceived by others, both re-enactors and the public and be cautious about what we do or say at events .
- Chase Day said that re-enactors have to realise that this is an event where we interact with the paying public. Sandy Sempel commented that the public were not generally encouraged to enter encampments. Keith Day said we need to do more to explain to visitors who we are and what periods we represent. More engagement with the public is called for.
- The registration process was slow, but mainly because people had not submitted their paperwork for the one day event. The registration forms were supposed to have been filled out in advance. The comment was made that if the SCA want a separate form it would make sense for them to have their own person on the registration desk to make sure the SCA are

correctly processed. Chase Day has volunteered to take principal responsibility for the registration process in future.

- Sandy Sempel noted that if we have a two-day event, many people will arrive on the Friday night, and will be able to complete the registration process then.
- Chase suggested a cut off time for registrations at which point the registration desk would be closed. This removes the necessity to keep one or two committee members at the desk for the entire event. Keith Day commented that late arrivals on the Saturday / Sunday may have to be redirected to the High Table for registration.

General Business

- There was no further business
- The next committee meeting is to be held at 2pm on January 4th 2014 at Mark's house
- The meeting closed at 3.50 pm