

Shire of Mountain Edge Meeting Minutes - June 2025

Quick recap

The meeting covered a range of topics including event planning, financial matters, and organizational updates. Discussions focused on upcoming demonstrations, fundraising options, and the coordination of Arts and Sciences activities within the shire. The group also addressed administrative tasks, such as inventory management and meeting minute reviews, while exploring potential venues for future gatherings and considering ways to improve community engagement.

Next steps

- Asny: Contact Kingdom Chatelaine to get approval for July 19th Mini Con demo and October 4-5th Scottish Highland Games demo
- Asny: Get specific event name and address details for the July Mini Con demo for Facebook event creation
- Asny: Check with event organizers about vendor fees and complimentary entry details for October Scottish Highland Games
- Oswyn: Follow up with PayPal deputy regarding outstanding payments from March Coronet
- Layla: Follow up with Morgan regarding the \$500-800 practice deposit refund from Dragon's Mist
- Oswyn: Write up main tasks and potential dates for summer clean-out of shire property
- Asny: Review and clarify inventory notes, then send them to Layla
- Layla: Schedule one-on-one meetings with officers for support and planning discussions
- Esja: Share Terra Pomeria Forestry Guild Facebook group information with Oswyn
- Asny: Check with First Baptist Church on rental fees, kitchen availability, and alcohol policy for potential December event
- Asny: Research and get pricing for McMinnville Senior Center as potential event venue
- Layla: Follow up with Philip for feast cost estimate for December event
- Esja: Coordinate with scribal team for creating retiring defenders' charters before December
- Asny: Contact Kathleen regarding potential involvement in scribal projects
- Asny: Check availability of Newberg Grange as potential event venue
- Asny: Prepare more substantial update about Foreign Wars planning for July meeting
- Esja: Create thank you cards for the shire
- Esja: Coordinate with Asny and Eirik for scanning and digitizing the thank you cards
- Asny: Contact Carnegie Room and Linfield College for potential Arts & Science/fighter practice venues
- Asny & Esja: Coordinate to establish regular Arts & Science/Scribal gatherings and find suitable venues
- Layla: Contact the Summits Calendar Deputy to confirm Mountain Edge's traditional event weekend for next year

- Layla: Send communication to the Seneschal and CC Feradach regarding Acorn War's absence this year and maintaining the weekend slot for future years
- Layla: Send email to identify officers interested in reviewing the governance document and schedule a work session
- Esja: Coordinate with Mergret regarding the revival of "Quills and Side Quests" activities
- Asny: Look for potential locations in June for Wednesday 5-7 PM meetings and report findings
- Esja: Determine and communicate which Wednesday of the month will not be available for meetings
- Asny: Plan for Arts & Science night meetings to start after summer, focusing on West Ward location
- Layla: Be available as backup support for extending meeting hours when needed, particularly during winter months when sunset affects Mergret's schedule

Summary

Officer Updates and Summer Planning

The meeting began with introductions and a brief discussion about the agenda and previous meeting minutes, which were approved. Layla provided updates on officer reports and mentioned that the property had been moved to Oswyn's house. Oswyn agreed to organize a summer clean-out and will provide a write-up of tasks and potential dates for volunteers. Asny confirmed she had reviewed the inventory paperwork and would clarify any notes before sharing them with Layla. Layla also announced she would be scheduling one-on-one meetings with officers to discuss their needs and how she can support them.

Upcoming Demo Events Planning

The group discussed two upcoming events: a July 19th demo at Mac Minicon and an October 4-5 demo at the Scottish Highland games. For July, they voted to make it their first official shire demo of the year, pending kingdom approval, with Asny planning to reach out to various branches once confirmed. For October, they discussed potentially having multiple groups participate in shifts over the two-day event, though specific activities and location details were still being finalized, including whether they would be inside or outside the main event area.

PayPal Payment Challenges Discussed

The group discussed financial matters, particularly regarding PayPal payments and refunds for events. Oswyne reported having \$9,236.52 but noted delays in receiving PayPal and credit card payments from March Coronet, prompting a decision to escalate the issue. The team debated the merits of using PayPal versus other payment methods, with Esja and Oswyne sharing negative experiences about PayPal's slow refund process and long turnaround times. Layla suggested that the decision to use PayPal might be best left to individual event stewards, considering factors like event size and pre-registration benefits, while maintaining current practices for day events where gate fees are collected at the door.

Project Updates and Event Planning

The group discussed several ongoing projects and events. Layla noted that a deposit of \$800 for a practice at Dragon's Mist should be recovered, and she will follow up with Morgan about this after her current event. The Marshal reported that fight practices have resumed at Beulah Park but have been canceled for May due to events and injuries. Esja mentioned a successful foraging walk held on May 31st at Bay Ocean Park, which was part of efforts to establish a foraging guild. The group also discussed a wool walking class attended by Esja and Mergret, and plans for future foraging hikes in June.

SCA Guilds and Forestry Planning

The group discussed the Scottish Games Demo in October, with Mergret reaching out to a teacher about it. They clarified the definition of guilds in the SCA context, explaining that they are recognized groups like households, not official branches. Esja and Oswyne discussed the Forestry Guild, with Oswyne expressing interest in learning about foraging on his land. The group agreed to coordinate through Esja's Facebook group for monthly hikes, with Oswyne and others expressing interest in joining.

Defender Positions and Thank You Cards

The group discussed creating thank you cards, with Esja seeking guidance on scanning and digitizing physical cards. They agreed to aim for having the cards available for painting in July. The conversation then shifted to planning scrolls for outgoing Defenders, with Layla providing resources to identify Defenders and their heraldry. They discussed retiring several Defender positions due to lack of community support, including equestrian, thrown weapons, and youth defenders, while archery had a better chance of being revived. Layla encouraged Esja to compile information on these outgoing Defenders by the end of the year to facilitate a smooth handover.

Arts & Science December Event Planning Meeting

The group discussed plans for an upcoming Arts & Science event in December, potentially themed around Brumalia, with Philip interested in being the feast coordinator. They explored various venue options, including the Dundee Community Center, McMinville Grange, and First Baptist Church, considering factors like cost, kitchen availability, and space requirements. Layla emphasized the need to ensure the event would be financially viable, with site rental, alcohol permits, and volunteer fees adding up. The group also touched on creating thank you cards with heraldry and discussed plans for recognizing outgoing defenders, with Layla aiming to coordinate this by year's end.

December Event Planning and Venues

The group discussed planning for an event in December, considering venues like the Dundee Community Center and First Baptist Church, with a potential capacity of 100 people. They agreed to follow up on obtaining an OLCC license and confirmed that Philip would provide an estimate for the feast. The team also addressed the need to communicate with the summit

calendar deputy about reserving the weekend for the event. Additionally, they discussed the possibility of organizing a Quarterly Shire Social in September or October, and explored options for future arts and science days, with Lafayette Community Center being considered as a potential venue.

Arts & Science Events Planning Initiative

The group discussed organizing regular Arts and Sciences (Arts & Science) events in the shire, with Layla supporting the initiative and suggesting coordination with Mergret as the Arts & Science minister. They agreed to explore public venue options, with Asny planning to contact the Carnegie room of the Public Library and Linfield College, while avoiding the use of private homes for these events. The group decided to develop a proposal including venue details, timing, and associated fees, with the goal of making the events free to participants while maintaining profitability for the shire's events overall.

Fundraising and Event Planning Updates

The group discussed fundraising options, including donation boxes and partnerships with local restaurants, with Oswyne emphasizing the need for clear donation purposes. They agreed to implement a new process for reviewing meeting minutes, with Layla planning to coordinate with Tyric and Mergret. The group also discussed upcoming clean-up and project days at Oswyne's, and explored the possibility of reviving Quills and Side Quests events, with Esja expressing interest in participating. Layla suggested partnering with Manacloud, a gaming store in Lafayette, to cross-promote events and potentially split rental costs for a community space.

Monthly Event Scheduling Coordination

The group discussed scheduling challenges for their monthly events, with Esja noting their end time is 7 PM during the work week and Layla emphasizing that weekdays are generally better than weekends for attendance. They agreed to start small with a monthly Arts & Science night after summer, with Asny taking the lead on finding suitable locations and reporting back at the next meeting. The group also discussed potential scheduling conflicts around holidays and sporting events, with Layla offering to help coordinate and potentially stay later during winter months when Mergret's schedule is dependent on sunset.

Old biz?

New biz?

Next meeting:

Meeting adjourned (time)