

**MKP-USA Elder Court Call  
Minutes**

**November 12, 2013 - 2:00 PM CDT**

Attending: Jim Howard, John Lindermuth, Allan Podbelsek, Rod Clay, Joe Stortz

Rod Clay provided a blessing

Check in followed.

Jim Howard reported on election to the Elder Court at the USAGE in September 2012:

Jim Fannon: Vice Chair

Rod Clay: Ritual Elder Coordinator

Roger Dobitz: Ritual Elder Vice-Coordinator

September minutes were approved

**Elder Blog:** There was a discussion of the Elder Blog. There has been a request that the Elder's take over the Elder Blog which has been existing independently from MKPUSA websites. It is maintained by Wordpress. Jim Howard will discuss this issue with Bill Gleason who coordinates the Elder pages of the MKPUSA site to determine if this Blog could be incorporated into our current web presence.

There was a request that Bill Gleason update our current Elder Website to include a link to the 2013 USAGE photos which were taken by Frank Verkley.

**USAGE 2013:** Alan commented on the USAGE. Final financial reports are not yet complete but we appear to be in the Black. It was a big success but there are always ways to improve. \$ 3,100 was spent for speaker stipends. There was no stipend expense for the speakers for the women's events. \$ 3000 was approved at the USAGE business meeting for a stipend for the Elder Chair.

**Ritual Elder Coordinator Report:** John reported that we now have a comprehensive list on MKP Connects listing active and inactive Ritual Elders. There remains some ongoing questions as to what to do with inactive Ritual Elders - keep them on list as inactive or remove them. There is also the question of the position of Ritual Elder Emeritus. This position has not been defined. Should this designation be given at the local center level? What would be the role or privileges of a Ritual Elder Emeritus on an NWTA. It was suggested that a Ritual Elder Emeritus NOT be in the RE role on an NWTA nor be the chief mentor of a Ritual Elder in Training. It was decided that the Ritual Elder Court would study this issue, and make a recommendation to the Elder Court for final approval. They might look to the role of Leader Emeritus for some ideas in their discernment.

**Ritual Elder Development:** The planning committee intends to develop a Ritual Elder workshop by Spring and conduct this training for California and maybe Arizona. This would be a Friday - Sunday training. If this works well, a 2-3 hour version could be presented at the next USAGE. Jim Howard suggested that a daylong RE training might be conducted the day prior to the beginning of the regular USAGE.

**Fund Raising:** Scheduled to begin in December. Jim Fannon and Jim Howard to get together on this.

**USAGE 2014:** We are looking for someone to step up as the Usage chair and a local elder community to host. Scott Lederman will be the 2014 Program chair. Jim Howard will prepare the new budget with Alan Podbelsek.

There will be no Court call in December. The next scheduled phone meeting is scheduled for 2 pm Central time on Tuesday, January 14, 2014.

3:10 PM CDT Check out