

## **MKP-USA Elder Court Call**

### **Minutes**

**March 11, 2014 - 4:00 PM CDT**

Attending: Jim Howard, Bill Gleason, Jim Fannon, David Davis, Roger Dobitz, Simon McCain and Joe Stortz

A check-in at 4:05 CDT

Approval of February, 2014 Minutes: Motion by Bill Gleason and seconded by Jim Fannon. Approved unanimously.

#### **REPORTS:**

**Fund Raising:** Jim Fannon reported on Fund Raising. \$ 1435.00 has been raised so far. Jim H added that an additional \$ 250 was donated by Alan P. Jim F sent out an e-mail reminder to Elders and received 5 replies. Another reminder will go out this Sunday. Jim F has phoned Scott about some corrections on the webpage. The link was fixed with a new domain address. Jim F will send out a link to this new address in his Sunday reminder. Jim Howard reported that it was somewhat controversial with MKPUSA that we are having our own fund raising campaign. MKPUSA expects that they will be able to fund the Elder Court functions once reunification is complete. Jim Howard will forward to the Court a copy of the budget that was submitted to MKPUSA (attached to e-mail).

**Ritual Elder:** Roger reported on Ritual Elders. Rod has been doing most of the work. He has been attempting to perfect the certified - non-certified list of Ritual Elders and has been reaching out to Ritual Elders who have not yet recertified.

Jim Howard stated that the Ritual Elder Emeritus policy has been approved by the Ritual Elder committee and is ready for approval by the Elder Court. He has provided copies via e-mail (See attachment). Joe S. made a motion that the policy be adopted. This was seconded by Bill G. and was unanimously approved by vote.

**Mentoring;** Jim Fannon reported on mentoring. He and Frank Joie have had a difficult time getting together to work on mentoring. Their intention is to get together and report by April's Court meeting.

**Lead Elder Calls:** Jim Fannon reported that he will initiate Lead Elder calls, by region, beginning April 1, 2014.

**USAGE 2014:** David D. reported that planning is proceeding well. A planning call occurred at the end of February; they have narrowed their search for a woman chairperson and look to have a highly qualified chairwoman from Houston.

Scott, David and Simon have had discussions about the Ritual Elder workshop at the USAGE. Tentative plans have the workshop spanning 3 hours Wednesday PM and 3 hours Thursday AM. It is anticipated that this will be offered as part of the USAGE without additional fees and that the workshop presenters will not be receiving stipends. We have the site reserved for that period but those participating in the RE workshop will need 3 additional meals. Jim Howard stated that he and David will need to have a discussion with the leaders of the RE workshop about budget.

David stated that the local logistics in Houston are coming together and he plans to go to Houston for an onsite meeting within the next 6 weeks.

The question was posed as to how many hotel rooms were needed for the woman, couples and presenters for last year's USAGE in New Hope. No one knew for sure. Jim Howard stated that he would look into it.

David stated that the next USAGE planning meeting is scheduled for 3/27. They are meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**Website:** Bill L. has contacted Rod C. about getting an updated photo and bio for the Elder's website. Jim F asked if the newly approved protocol for Ritual Elder Emeritus could be put on the website. Bill stated that he could put a link to the policy under the resources section. It was noted that Keith Jarvis has a broken arm and will be limited in what he can do on the website for now.

**More on USAGE** (Simon added to call): Medallions and pens and other materials for the USAGE have now arrived. The question of how many rooms came up again. **The convention center is Madisonville. It will cost \$200 for both days and we will put a deposit of \$50, for a total of \$250. They will send an invoice in late summer for the entire amount, and we will be refunded the deposit after the event.** Audio files from USAGE 2013 will be put on the website and an archive of resources will be established.

**USAGE 2005 - WEG:** Jim Howard reported that a WEG has been tentatively scheduled for 2015 for Hawaii. If there is a WEG in Hawaii in 2015, should we have a USAGE that year? The Elders voted at our 2013 USAGE meeting to have a USAGE every year but if we have one in 2015 with a WEG in Hawaii, might this not interfere with the WEG? Maybe we should skip 2015 for a USAGE? Maybe we can combine a USAGE and WEG in Hawaii? These possibilities were discussed briefly. This should be discussed more broadly and a decision made by this year's USAGE.

Check-out at 5:00 CDT