

Rising Waters Baronial Moot Minutes - February 16, 2020

Rebecca/Arlette – opens the moot with the purpose of the moot – to brainstorm ideas. This is not the place to make decisions, but can provide the means/opportunity for baronial officers to determine law changes

TOPIC 1 – Baronial Selection Procedure

Arlette reads the procedure. This is how the next baron and baroness are selected for Rising Waters. This is not a vote, since The King and Queen of Ealdormere have the ultimate decision on who will be Baron & Baroness. The procedure informs how the collection of baronial populace opinion.

In Kingdom law – reads out the section on territorial b&b selection - the policy is found online, here:

http://www.ealdormere.ca/uploads/2/4/1/5/24151324/rising_waters_baronial_succession_policy.pdf

Timeline reviewed

GEMA – it's recommended to happen entirely within the reign of TRM

- In the case where there is only one candidate, there is still a need to conduct a vote of confidence

The policy requires only one meet with candidate events for baronial members to meet with candidates.

- KATE – I felt some frustration about the timeline through the process.
- JOEY – trying to do everything in one reign made the timeline very difficult
- LESLIE – other groups have a difficulty time where they don't have events
- ROZ – has the barony considered doing an online poll?
- GEMA – This wasn't an option that was available to us, as well.
- TRUDI – it is possible to anonymize survey data.
- RHYS - Online survey generators also enable surveys to route question options.
- ARLETTE – Rising Waters could look at options for online voting
- JOEY – could we arrange for step down to happen at one of our frequent events?
- VALDR – there isn't much we can do, since the role of the baron & baroness is time significant and can be a burden, and requires dedicating resources. So, you have people who are members of the barony, but not financial in that position.
- KATE – there's a personality thing, too. This is daunting, and taking on the role is a financial burden.
- VALDR – sugar-coating the role is not fair.
- JOEY – do we have a listing of the duties of a perspective b&b?

- SCIATH – would it be useful to have Q&A for potential candidates
- VALDR – it's difficult to have a training period/overlap at baronial level.

EVENT BID PROCESS

- GEMA - At a meeting, an interested event steward discusses putting an event together, there are forms on the website, and when presented at a meeting to be voted on.
- LESLIE – I like having the minutes on the baronial website. I don't think bid due dates are on the calendar.
- SCIATH – that's a great idea
- ARLETTE – ben dunfirth announces due dates for two meetings, and votes on the third meeting; Ramshaven – bids selected by executive committee (BBSE); Skrael – bylaws for bid. Council has a vote for bids
- ARLETTE – any concerns regarding bid process
- SCIATH – mentoring process to learn to be a feast or event steward
- VALDR – don't be afraid to approach members for information

RECOGNITION SUBMISSION PROCESS

- SCIATH – we have an online form, but you can reach me in any way to recommend someone for recognition
- ARLETTE – there is a kingdom form – sometimes it's shared with Baron & Baroness, at King and Queen's discretion
- LESLIE – you can recommend for all awards, even polling orders, peerages
- VALDR – make a button on the form to elect to send recommendation to Barones & Baroness
- JESSICA - what separates whether to recommend on baronial or kingdom level?
- LACHLAN – baronial awards can be more personal
- VALDR – Sometimes accumulated service may be recognized at the kingdom level
- ARLETTE – if Baron & Baroness is forwarding recommendations to Their Majesties, it can support other recommendations.
- SCIATH - sharing list of planned upcoming baronial awards with King and Queen so they can know what to expect and provide feedback

BARONIAL OFFICER RECRUITMENT

- ARLETTE - Gema can you let us know what the current process is for recruiting new officers?
- GEMA – In ideal circumstances, officers take on a deputy, when they can, to teach them about the office – with the hopes that they can assume the role. Vacancies are posted to cataract and website, discussed over two meetings, and voted on by baronial council members (consisting of officers, baron & baroness).
- ARLETTE – from a kingdom perspective – Baronies are only required to have seneschal, exchequer, herald/a&s/marshal, chronicler

- LESLIE – I've been to meetings when someone is stepping down, and the procedure Gema described doesn't always happen.
- VALDR – there is a degree of burnout among baronial officers, maybe it wouldn't be a bad idea to shift to having a deputy for each role, so that they can have a break from an official title. This could alleviate a lot of the pressure on individuals.
- GEMA – We try to follow the procedure, except where we've had to quickly fill an office, when the need is urgent.
- SCIATH - Yes, officers can experience fatigue. However, let's not forget that being an officer can offer a new member the opportunity to take a leadership role in the barony, and see how it operates from the inside.
- CAM – I have heard both sides of it – sounds like it might be a good idea to add more positions or double up on role to alleviate burnout.
- VALDR – Reducing the number of officers, this could open up the number of members who could be deputy to the officers we do have. Reducing the number of offices could increase the number of potential people who could support those roles.
- GILLIAN – being an officer gives me, as community liaison, the profile to push this portfolio further. As a new member, this is the impression that I have. Part of the goal in recruitment is to ensure that we are self-sustaining. As a community liaison, there is nothing stopping anyone for doing the kind of work that I do in my role – anyone can talk to merchants and community groups to educate the community and recruit new members.
- RHYS – backing up Gillian's comment that recruitment is vital – selective recruitment. In order to get valuable members, people who are capable of taking on responsibilities, we have to be careful of where we recruit.
- KATE – At camping events, populace space can become an issue. I can't camp alone, and I would love to see Rising Waters populace presence at camping events.

Arlette made final remarks, and thanks participants for attending

Sciath thanked Arlette for facilitating the moot, and thanked all.