

## 2015 0419 Barony of Cynnabar Special Meeting

3:30- 5:00PM approx.

Location: Michigan Union, Anderson Rooms

*Thank you to all who came out or stayed after practice on Sunday to discuss this topic. We had a good discussion for about an hour. About 15 people in attendance. Attendance was not taken. All remarks recorded are anonymous Most are composites of the sense of the discussion.*

*N.B.-One UM student member made it. Reportedly others would have liked to be there, but could not at that time; they are busy with the end of the semester.*

**Meeting Purpose: Discuss this Business Meeting planning idea: Shall the Barony meet once a month on Sunday afternoon after Fighting Practice, at the Michigan Union?** This meeting would replace the middle of the 3 business meetings each month, and would be an official meeting for all purposes of business presentation, proposal, discussion, consensus building and decision making.

\*This is not a proposal to reduce meetings to monthly, just to have one meeting in a different place.

Kay was asked privately to see about moving the meetings after the first meeting where she was nominated for seneschal.

Other members have expressed dissatisfaction with the current meeting times and place. Clearly the Barony needs to take about this idea.

Meeting formally opened with Kay listing some **Goals for this idea** to move a business meeting to a different place, time, day:

- Increase participation in the business of Cynnabar
- Create a greater sense of Community among the membership
- Increase exchange of ideas among as many members as possible

**Problems at the Classic Cup Café.** The concerns about a series of poor sanitation inspections at the Monday Meeting restaurant were reviewed. About a month ago Sir Gregoire had passed on the public records of the February 2015 inspection, which had a number of critical performance citations for not keeping food stored correctly in coolers, not marking dates of production and last allowed use, and some cleaning issues.

Why do we meet at the Classic Cup Café? Some history of past meeting places was recounted, Corner Brewery, Borders Books, TGI Fridays. Noise levels were an issue in the other restaurants attempted. Some members objected to bars, or to alcohol being consumed during meetings.

**Good things** about a Sunday Business Meeting:

- “I came to attend the meeting today, not practice.” This suggests a meeting would bring more and different people to the Union on a Sunday.

**Problems** with a Sunday Business Meeting:

- Sunday gets longer
- Often people have attended an event out of town on Saturday and Sunday and are just getting back. One member emailed to regret not being able to come for that reason, too.
- The meeting cannot overlap practice or cut into that time. Practice can run till 4:00 pm if the turnout is good. Getting agreement from the fighters for this meeting is important.
- Some would rather have two events on different days rather than a long day
- But coming to an activity on 2 different days can be hard sometimes.
- “Before Practice would be better.” That would mean a Deputy Seneschal would run that meeting, as Kay works Sundays all the time except in May.
- The practice site goes outdoors for the warm months.
- Some people could be confused about where and when meetings are held, and how to get their business done.

What reasons do people give for not attending Monday Meetings?

- Don't like meetings
- It's too far from campus for students who do not have cars.
- Not interested in doing Baronial Business

Reasons for not coming on Monday will apply to some people for Sunday as well.

What other regular gatherings exist? (This list may not be complete. It is what was mentioned.)

- Quarterly revels: Wassail, Spring Revel. Midsummer Revel has not been consistent, and more often comes late in August after everyone has recovered (and unpacked) from Pennsic War. Fall Revel has become known as Closing of the Range in October.
- Craft Night: always in the same place, but relatively unstructured.
- Fencing and Armored Combat Practice
- Dance Practice
- Heraldry Night (may be looking for a new place and time)

## **APPENDIX 1 April 14 announcement of the 4/19 meeting, with some discussion**

The meeting minutes will be complete in the morning, but I wanted to get this notice out tonight. The following new business was introduced by the Seneschal at the meeting Monday 4/13/

**Future Meeting Planning:** Shall the Barony meet once a month on Sunday afternoon after Fighting Practice, at the Michigan Union/ or Island Park? A test of this plan will take place on April 19. This will be an Extra Special Meeting, because it will include discussion of why the group may wish to leave the Classic Cup Café.

The usual Monday Meeting will be held on April 20.

**WHY** hold a meeting on one Sunday a month? I think we will see different people participating. Some people cannot make the Monday night meetings. It may be more difficult for student members to get out to the west side of town; both the Union and Island Lake Park are close to campus. Our turnout on Mondays is small unless some notable piece of business is on the agenda. More and different people would be in the meeting mix if we have this second time and place. Making it easy for people to get to meetings will build community and might produce a more diverse and representative body of opinion on the business of the Barony. It might increase the sense that there are options to make one's voice heard in Cynnabar.

**HOW** will this sort of meeting work? **I do not know.** That is an important thing to discuss. Would we intersperse Business and Feats of Arms? Hold the fun business like Event Reports before the combatants are done, and do Serious Business after practices end? What about those at Practices who do not want to attend the meeting? These are some of the ideas we need to discuss.

**WHAT time would this be?** It will be after 3 pm, as that is when Kay can get from work to a meeting.

**WHERE** will this happen? **Location will be tied to the site of fighting practice,** which is about to make its seasonal shift to Outdoors at Island Park off Maiden Lane.

**WHEN** will this change happen? **If the Barony likes the idea** of holding one meeting a month at Practice the first "regular" Sunday Meeting will be the Sunday BEFORE the Third Monday in June. That way the meeting schedule will still be 3 per month, and in the second, third and fourth weeks.

Please come to discuss this idea.

If you have **ideas on where you would like to see Monday meetings held, other than the Classic Cup Cafe,** please bring information about any such location. We need to know that the place is ADA accessible, does not charge a rental fee, and is open to all.

If you have questions, or thoughts on this process that need to be addressed before Sunday April 19, please get in touch with me at [boc.seneschal@gmail.com](mailto:boc.seneschal@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
Kay of Tre Asterium

Seneschal for Cynnabar