

The International Ringing Cedars Association

Committee meeting # 7 (via Skype)

Date: 12-21-08

Time/duration:17:00 to 19:50

Committee: Chairman – Liz Ashley
 Vice Chairman – Nara Petrovic
 Secretary – Steven Amey (minutes)
 Public Relations – Peteris Spels

Apologies :

No.	Subject	Action // Who / when?	Comments	Action
1.	Minutes of last meeting/date	The minutes of 08-12-14 were reviewed and approved.		
2.	Constitution	<p>Liz stated it maybe too high an ideal for our constitution suggesting 1 hectare for everyone, when not everyone will be able to obtain such.</p> <p>It was agreed to exclude the sentences stating the specifics of 1 hectare of land. This can be included in another document.</p> <p>The consensus was that the inclusion of the sentences regarding 1 hectare, might discourage those who are unable to obtain “exactly” 1 hectare of land from creating their own kin domain. It was for this reason the committee decided to exclude these sentences from the constitution.</p> <p>Nara suggested it was not necessary to define 1 ha. Of land for each family in the goals.</p> <p>The information regarding the importance of specifically 1 hectare of land per family can be reformulated. And it can be included in another document.</p> <p>Peteris suggested that the Slovenian Kin Domain International document may be the</p>	<p>It was agreed to exclude the sentences stating the specifics of 1 hectare of land. This can be included in another document.</p> <p>Nara explained that if a Man is only able for example, to obtain half a hectare of land, then he should NOT be discouraged from creating his kin domain on his ½ ha. The main thing is the attitude toward nature on the land and re-establishing that connection.</p> <p>Liz stated it maybe too high an ideal for our constitution suggesting 1 hectare for everyone, when not everyone will be able to obtain such.</p> <p>Peteris noted that we must concentrate on the central idea of a kin domain, and the central idea is not just 1 hectare of land.</p> <p>Nara noted that in his research on farming history through-out the world, that farming was done on 1 hectare land allotments per</p>	<p>Liz will revise the Manifesto with changes discussed this week.</p> <p>Peteris offered to share some notes regarding Kin domain land issues from some of Vladimir Megre’s articles and lecture transcripts.</p> <p>Liz will collate and send out a list of things the committee still needs to do.</p>

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		<p>best place for including the information regarding the values of 1 hectare of land for each family.</p> <p>The English grammar for the S’s in the term “kin domain” was discussed briefly. There may be differences in the grammar used in this term from Russian to English.</p>	<p>family. And these people never read Megre’s books.</p>	
3.	Membership	<p>Liz stated that we would do well to begin formulating membership criteria. The membership agreement is important – as it constitutes who joins IRCA and why.</p> <p>It was discussed that IRCA can have a membership stand at future conferences. A good possibility for membership was inviting people to become members at the next international conference.</p> <p>Liz stated that we would do well to begin formulating membership criteria.</p> <p>The membership agreement is important.</p> <p>Nara suggested it may be helpful to read some documents that other eco-villages have written regarding membership. Nara has read a few of these.</p> <p>Liz noted that it is valuable to get as many people as possible to become registered members of the Association before the conference.</p> <p>One of the membership details is the right to vote. This will be important when deciding board elections at the conference. For it would be fairer to paid-up</p>	<p>Nara recounted the interest people showed at his meeting in Slovenia in regard to the possibility of joining the IRCA. His feeling was that some people in his village will be joining through the internet and later at conference many will join the IRCA when they see the value of what we are doing.</p> <p>Nara mentioned the possibility of a 6 month probationary period, and in this time they see how they fit in. And anyone who doesn’t fit in will most likely naturally fall away and not want to join.</p> <p>Criteria and membership fees still had to be decided.</p>	<p>Nara and Liz will send a few examples of membership criteria they have viewed from various eco-villages to the committee when they are able.</p>

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		<p>members that only Association members will be able to vote.</p> <p>Different kinds of membership were discussed; individual membership, group membership, organization membership etc...</p>		
4.	Country of registration	<p>Liz suggested that all four committee members register as directors to register the company. This can always be altered later.</p> <p>This can be done with-out all the committee members meeting in person in the UK.</p> <p>The costs of registration were discussed.</p> <p>It costs 42 pounds annually to incorporate the company. To have a registered office/address costs 50 pounds per year. And it costs 55 pounds to have a London address. The expense of mail forwarding is 250 pounds per year world-wide.</p> <p>Liz suggested we get mail forwarding to a trading address. For this the registered office does not have to be our trading address.</p>	<p>Liz recommended we have a London address.</p> <p>Peteris commended Liz’s work on getting all the registration details together herself.</p>	<p>Liz will send an email listing all of the expenses involved in registering.</p>
5.	Goals	No New Business		
6.	Funding	<p>Liz noted that it costs a lot of money to organize a conference and the sooner we get funding the better.</p> <p>Nara suggested that funding will be better addressed when the webpage is up and the IRCA is registered. This was agreed by all.</p> <p>Nara mentioned his studies on the use of open money systems, of alternative currency systems that are already being used to some degree by eco-villages in Eastern</p>	<p>Liz noted that various small towns and villages have begun using alternative currency systems in the UK. They call it the green pound.</p> <p>Nara suggested that the economy of the Association be as “green pound” oriented as possible.</p> <p>Peteris pointed out that first we need some entrepreneurs who will do work to raise the start up money for the</p>	

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		Europe and Germany as well. It was agreed that these ideas may be useful in the IRCA as well.	association.	
7.	Organisational structure of Association	<p>It was agreed that it's best for the structure of the organization to be as simple as possible.</p> <p>Liz informed the committee that the simplest structure in the UK is having a director and a secretary/treasurer and that's all to begin with. Then other people will fill in as other departments are created.</p> <p>The first draft on Peteris's chart covers the departments etc...</p> <p>A list of job descriptions needs to be collated somewhere in the near future.</p> <p>Liz suggested the committee begin familiarizing with the organization structure chart for discussion at next weeks meeting.</p>		Liz will collate a list of job descriptions as soon as her schedule allows.
8.	Website	<p>Nara recounted that Marko suggested that we have our email addresses through the Google partnership page.</p> <p>The committee members each send their information to Marko and we will then have a kin-dom.org email address and he will register us.</p> <p>Liz noted that once the site is up and running people who leave feedback on the site are going to want a response. And public relations will handle this.</p> <p>Peteris has received information on how to get the rights for using the official Ringing Cedars logos. It is</p>		<p>Peteris said he (public relations) will handle the responses from the site.</p> <p>Nara will create a list of terms from the books to be used by translators of the series etc... No deadline has been set for this task.</p> <p>Everyone now has a kin-dom.org address.</p> <p>Peteris will send the logo rights information to Nara.</p> <p>Committee members are to begin putting their bio information together for</p>

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	<p>written in Russian.</p> <p>Nara suggested making an operational forum for all the publishers, translators, and so on especially with keywords relating to the meaning of terms in the books so that their original meaning of the terms do not become lost or degraded in translation. Nara said this is not a lot of work and he can compile a list of terms from the books.</p> <p>This way the best term in relation to the original meaning can be found. This way the translators can decide the best word in particular in their language that properly defines the words or concept.</p> <p>Nara mentioned, and it was unanimously agreed, that the pages in the books are all different as the editors bring in their own energies. That it is essential that the translations are absolutely true to the original. That clumsiness, competitiveness can happen yet the work should be clear without being sentimental. Both the translator and the editor should be invisible as this is the accepted norm. People have translated without permission – What criteria was this based on?</p> <p>Liz pointed out that an interpretation or translation is only as good as – limited to -that person’s level of experience, wisdom and understanding. The minimum standards should be very high standards.</p> <p>Nara spoke to the committee his thoughts on the importance of properly handling archiving on the</p>		<p>the website.</p>
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		<p>website and of having a simple electronic standardized filing system used by all throughout the organization.</p> <p>Mailing list of those to be informed of the website:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. all the Forums 2. the publishers 3. those around Megre that we can contact 4. all the villages we know of 5. Magazines and newspapers <p>Liz suggested that the committee members need public bios including a photo and perhaps contact info that can be posted on the website etc...</p>		
9.	Volunteers / Help	No New Business		
10.	Conference	<p>There was a discussion of Nara’s idea of holding a working meeting around mid March, or possibly at a later date. This meeting would gather everyone in person, including the committee members, the publishers those involved in cedar products and perhaps, kin domain settlement representatives. The aim of the meeting is to clarify our thoughts, a time for foundations to be inbuilt, a clean start for clear communication with the reps. It is to be a time for discussing common problems and aims.</p>	<p>Steven suggested calling it the 2nd International Ringing Cedars of Russia Readers Conference.</p> <p>Peteris expressed his concern that only the best leaders can choose a leader. He suggested that this should be the main topic at the board elections meeting. And the right to elect a board member or chairman should be given only to the leaders of the settlements. So, they can come together and make a decision on who</p>	<p>The Committee agreed to list how we envisage the main conference to be: elections or nominations plus interviews, potential speakers, workshops, a membership stand, skills, volunteers, latest of kin domain videos etc...</p>

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		<p>Whatever arises out of this first meeting can then be sorted out months before the big summer conference where elections will be held. This will make a stronger team and unite ties for the this summers' conference.</p> <p>Things that can be included in the conference this summer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshops for boards 2. Memberships 3. skills and volunteers 4. Collect media; videos of villages etc... for possible screenings at the conference. <p>Liz explained the grid method she always uses for ensuring fair recruitment decisions that can be useful in choosing board election candidates.</p> <p>Peteris suggested using this grid method for selecting the candidates.</p>	<p>to nominate. And it is best if one of the experienced leaders of the groups or settlements become the leader of the IRCA. A manifesto and biography would be needed for each nominee.</p> <p>Liz added that the people in the villages have already chosen their leaders. They have already found a responsible Man who meets their leadership qualifications. This is the Man they trust already.</p> <p>Nara agreed this is an important point in deciding board elections.</p> <p>Nara noted the history regarding systems of advancement and that systems that that allow for advancement from the lowest to the highest rank do not have the best success rate because often people reach their own level of incapability and then remain stuck there for the remainder of their career doing a job of which they are incapable. This happens quite often in big corporations.</p>	
11.	<p>Any other business A. Tasks to complete</p>	<p>Steven suggested we look at tasks that have not yet been completed, and look at why they have not been completed. And in this way perhaps we can iron out the delaying factors, thus better completing those tasks and any</p>	<p>Nara stated the importance of things coming together organically in the Association.</p> <p>Liz added that this is in some ways pioneering work and we must not become</p>	

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		future tasks. Perhaps there will be some use in looking at this matter.	overly critical of each other and ourselves.	
	B. Transparent communications:	<p>Liz brought up the question of whether or not editors and publishers emails should be publicly transparent to prevent the possibility of impurities entering into the IRCA.</p> <p>Liz asked why those chasing contracts-financial, editors, publishers are more important than other prospective members of IRCA</p> <p>Liz mentioned that it is important that the committee continue to remain very impartial – that we are careful what we sign and seriously evaluate the intentions behind all documents we are asked to sign.</p> <p>Nara restated the idea of the IRCA being the umbrella under which all those who represent the idea of the books are represented. And the publishers are actually the central figures that represent the idea of the books. For this reason the IRCA should be closely connected to all the publishers.</p>	Liz noted that the feedback from the publishers has been useful. And that we need to keep the lines of communication open.	
	C. Solving conflicts between editors and product sellers	<p>The need for a legal team was rased by Liz and discussed, as they will become familiar, and thus more cost effective with common problems encountered with contracts, country specific legal differences, publishing criteria and product advertising etc.</p> <p>Peteris suggested we make an official announcement to the editors of the books for example; How can the IRCA best support</p>		

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		them?		
	D. Information on editors and publishers	<p>Liz noted that it may be of use to find the addresses of the old editors of the various translations of the books.</p> <p>Liz also asked for information on what problems the publishers had in the UK.</p> <p>To do this the committee must do some brainstorming on how we can help them. What is the role of the IRCA in such matters?</p>		
	E. Information sent by GEN	<p>Liz noted the email forwarded from GEN regarding a settler in Finland who was interested in making films on Kin Domains and eco villages.</p> <p>It was agreed that Peteris will contact him.</p>		Peteris will contact the man from Finland.
12.	Next Meeting	28 th December 2008,5pm GMT via Skype		