

Elvin H.O.M.E., Inc.  
Governing Council Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Lothlorien Nature Sanctuary, October 13, 2024 @ 1pm

**Roll Call:** Voting members: Conney Freese-Posthuma, Jack Bengé, Aaron “Bone Daddy” Campbell, Jill Minor, Aaron Bromberg, Danielle West, Brandi Wampler  
Staff & Guests: Aaron Wolf, Lisa Daugherty, Alisha Hall, Janie Van Buskirk, Azisa Cordero Morgana LeFay, B. J., R. L.

**Opening:** Council welcome to share Golden Shining Moments (GSM) from Wild Magick Gathering 2024

**Ban Appeal:** A former member came before council to address her understanding of having been banned. This stems from an incident 8 years ago, while camping beyond children’s circle on her birthday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (2015?). Her side of the story was heard. There was some council questioning and concern, however there was no concrete documentation at the time to actively deliberate. Council decided to hold over the decision until the following meeting to further investigate.

**Meeting Minutes Approval: (ab=abstention)**

September 2024-Approved w/changes; Motion by Danielle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack: 7 yea/0 nay/0 ab  
WMG Grand Council 2024-Approved; Motion by Danielle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jill M: 6 yea/0 nay/1 ab  
December 2023-Approved; Motion by Jill M, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle: 5 yea/0 nay/2 ab  
February 2024-Approved; Motion by Brandi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle: 5 yea/0 nay/2 ab  
May 2024-Approved; Motion by Brandi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle: 5 yea/0 nay/2 ab  
Elf Fest Grand Council-Approved; Motion by Danielle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandi: 5 yea/0 nay/2 ab  
^All past meeting minutes have been approved, will be finalized, then posted to webpage

**Contract Renewal:**

Alisha Hall-renewing at staff level for land maintenance only-Approved by ballot vote;  
Motion by Danielle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandi: 5 yea/2 nay/0 ab \*Josh N & Mary D are due but absent.

**Financials:**

Monthly accounts (rounded \$, see attached doc): Checking \$34k, Savings \$20k, PayPal \$14k. EHI spent \$3k. Approx \$15k was made from WMG. EHI did receive a message from CashApp regarding money that can be rejected if not transferred within a reasonable time of purchase. Note going forward: We must regularly accept and take in monies from this app.

Reimbursements were made to Aaron B for purchase of: frost free pump and bug spray. Also, to Janie for Long Hall paint purchase.

Donation to: Marshall Township Volunteer Fire Department (MTVFD)-A one-time autumn payment of \$300 was Approved; Motion by Conney, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danielle: 5 yea/1 nay/1 ab

**VP Address:** Danielle has worked 3 separate events over 3 weekends representing EHI. “Thanks” to Azisa for her assistance. Goody bags were given away for those “liking” our FB page.

VP was approached by a coven based out of Columbus, IN inquiring about use of Lothlorien’s facility for their spring gathering of about 20 people. Council declined any exclusive event, but they are welcome to become members for use of land.

The next Tela-Loth-on is March 8-9, 20245. It will run from Noon to Midnight. There will be a raffle for each winning bidder of any item over \$60. Raffle items being collected now til then. Council Approved for the raffle, a “season pass”= 1 full fest pass to Elf Fest and WMG; Motion by Conney, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandi: 6 yea/0 nay/ 1 ab.

Also reported on the local Merchants Booth during WMG, which was good but some changes to timing and placement would be less exhausting to cover, and suggested homing it at Elf Base in the future. All left over stickers and buttons from previous art-specific events will be given out with donations at future events.

The next outreach will be the Intention Convention at Lost River Hostel, November 1-3. The meeting of 11 communities will be Sat, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Website Update:** Aaron Wolf presented some alternatives to upgrade our server, which has been running slow and had many errors. Suggested a new domain register and hosting provider. Dreamhost, Namecheap, or Hostgator were options to consider. \$15/yr to register domain name. About \$260 for the first 3 years then is about \$260 per year thereafter. Aaron W felt that Hostgator was very good with service, and 24/7 support despite some language barriers. (Change over window, still uses WordPress.-Is this right?) Council recommended conferring with Scott to figure which company will best suit us and how to move forward with upgrades. Then get back to us and we can vote to approve the recommendation, then the money needed initially and monthly going forward.

-----Break-----

**Health Department Update:** (Brief mention of buying port-o-lets vs. renting) Council discussed the letter returned by the lawyer with regards to contacting the health dept on a “campground” status update. The desire is to have the status of “campground” removed from the state’s website, along with the names of Chelsea Malwitz and Josh Netherton as figureheads. The lawyer stated the names would need to be addressed with Beth Bolen directly. Jill M will contact her and request those names be removed.

Discussion ensued as to whether council wants to proactively pursue the status of “campground” they have deemed on their website. The lawyer has a letter prepared, but

one of the ending paragraphs felt a bit too threatening for council comfort, so he did provide a revised version with changes to lighten the wording. Council then voted for sending the letter or not: Which was Approved; Motion by Jill M, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Aaron B: 5 yea/1 nay/1 ab. Council then voted on sending the revised version and was Approved; Motion by Jill M, 2<sup>nd</sup> Aaron B: 5 yea/1 nay/1 ab.

**Solar Update:** Janie stated the parts we have been waiting on are available. MPI Solar is busy now, but said they will get us scheduled within the next few weeks. When we get a date, we will still need Jacob F-P to remove the old equipment.

**Witches' Ball Planning:** Azisa reported, although not leading the event, there will be Fall Family mini portraits \$5/5 pics or \$10/10 pics, with proceeds going to our org. Sat, starting at 11am, will be pumpkin carving, Divination for Fundraising by Aurora, Aradia, and Evil Ed in front of Long Hall, then Witches' Tea Party, and Haunted trails. Friday night will be movies in Lightening Shrine: Final Destination. Member Nathan will host the family friendly movies inside of Long Hall, all day snax, and chili cook-off. Katie W will procure pumpkins. There is a \$50 allotment for candy (no vote). Black bag will collect fees behind Long Hall by Morgana LeFay. River W may have a friend who can drive the hay wagon. A leaf blower to clear off areas would be helpful pre-fest prep. May need more straw bales.

**Thanksgiving:** \$200 was Approved for Hedwig & David's Prep; Motion by Conney, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandi: 7 yea/0 nay/0 ab

**Kukar Tihar:** Dog Festival led by Jef Stelzner, November 8, 2024

**Winter Solstice/Long Night:** On or around Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, more details next month

**Wild Magick Gathering Review:** (Jill K was not in attendance, but had indicated via email that there were no major issues with children or medical.) Trash was a major problem, even though trash trolls were on patrol. The trash seemed worst than most times, with lack of recycling, and overall cleanup post fest. Michael filled 2 more dumpsters worth after the one already on the land was filled.

Parking Trolls need a bit more education on parking cars, as this seemed to be a bit of a problem as well with parking on the north road.

The alternative décor to fire building was wonderful, but should keep materials more earth friendly and reusable, and less likely to be trash. Suggestion to incorporate all participating groups in the art collaboration of future installs.

We had a long time attendee take advantage of the day pass and stayed the weekend. This person will be sent a letter by Janie regarding our awareness of and ask they properly register.

Use of composters was an issue, even though we had proper amount of portopotties. Council voted to cease operation of the composting facilities, which did not pass: Motion by Brandi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Conney: 3 yea/3 nay/1 ab. Jack called for a revote: Do we keep using the facilities? Not Approved; Motion by Brandi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Conney: 2 yea/4 nay/ 1 ab.

Another issue Remy had to deal with was a guy stalking another attendee. He was asked to leave. We do have the name and license plate, so Janie will send a letter regarding the behavior and should come to council to address, if we have his address. Remy also reported an 11 yo lost on Sat night, but was found and reunited with guardians.

Danielle was re-elected as VP. We should understand protocol in the chance we do not meet voting quorum-10% of membership. Council will no longer automatically send paper ballots via mail unless requested or are known to prefer, as we received zero returns that way this year, and maybe 5 or less previously.

Reiterate the need for orientation for new attendees, or re-educate regulars as needed.

**Seasonal Shutdown:** Scheduled for the weekend of November 1<sup>st</sup>, Jack working with Bone.

**2025 Schedule Prices, Timelines, Etc.:** Moved to next meeting in November.

**New Business:** Danielle requested a new info sign for display at the booths, follow-up Nov.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 5pm.**

**Minutes submitted by: Janie Van Buskirk**