

## Kelso Highlander Festival Meeting Minutes 26 September 2022

In attendance were Cindy, Veryl, Mike, and Larry and Connie. Guest attendee was Shannon Wallace.

Veryl made the motion to approve the minutes of August 22, 2022. Larry seconded the motion. All voted yes and motion carried.

Mike reported for Fiina regarding the Kirkin Service. It went well and had a good attendance. They are waiting for the bill for the Daily News. All other bills have been turned in.

Connie reported that the games went great. She said that if they do not have enough team games next year, they will only have individual competition on Saturday. She said some of the games participants will be working hard next year to spread the word for more teams. She will put together an inventory of games items in the boxing club building for the parks department next year so they know what to bring over. She also reported that she will be stepping down from the commission this year but will still help with the games.

Larry reported that everything went well, and the park department was very good to work with. He has requested that the electrical panel by the dance stage be changed to 30 amp for next year. He said it was the best festival ever and believes we had more people than last year. He said that NW Scots Guard would like to do a Vietnam Vets Medal ceremony at the festival next year.

Veryl reported that the vendor area went well after some moving around of the food vendors due to lack of needed electricity at the park. She ended up having 9 food vendors and 36 merchandise vendors. We had 4 exhibitors also. She suggested that we have an electrical upgrade for food vendors in the park. She also said she knew of someone that would be willing to help with the buttons if we want to do them next year. Someone also suggested that the silent auction be two days instead of one. Shannon Wallace was a vendor at the festival this year and liked the clientele and being able to listen to the music. She said we should find a way to set up the vendor area with a better flow of traffic, maybe using numbered spots.

Cindy reported that we were asked to have our food vendor policy in writing for the city council review. Here it is for the minutes:

**"New festival food vendors must contact the vendor coordinator via email. The vendor coordinator will go over the menu with the new food vendor to make sure it complies with the non-compete policy for food vendors. If the new food vendor does not comply, they will be asked to change their menu or be denied an application. Once the new food vendor is approved, they will be sent a food vendor application which will need to be submitted by August 1<sup>st</sup>. All returning food vendors will take preference in the application process provided they send in and pay the application fee by July 15<sup>th</sup>. The food vendor applications are not on a first come, first served basis.**

The question is whether the city council will allow the festival commission to continue to run the festival as they see fit or if the city council will be changing the ordinance. A city council member will probably be present at our next meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Larry said if the city council changes the ordinance, we most likely will not have a festival in Kelso next year or have to move it elsewhere.

Cindy reported that at the end of next year she will be stepping down from the commission at the end of her term in December of 2023. She said she has worked on the festival for over 30 years and it is time for some new people to take over. She will still help with the festival, but not be on the commission.

The next Highlander Festival meeting will be October 17<sup>th</sup> at 5PM at City Hall. Meeting was adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Submitted by Cindy Keeney