
Helena Highlanders Association, Inc

Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2024

Call to Order

- The regular meeting of the Helena Highlanders Association, Inc was held at Missouri River Brewing on November 17, 2024.
- Motion to call to order by Keith Greaney /2nd by Chad MacDonald.
- Called to order at 10:32 AM.

1. Attendance

Executive Board Attendees:	Keith Greaney (Interim President), Tami Greaney (Treasurer), Christy Leeper (Interim Secretary)
Coordinator Attendees:	Chad MacDonald, Matthew McKenzie (Phone)
Coordinators Excused:	Amber Guge, Jason Pettit
Member Attendees:	Rob Rankin, Heather Rankin, Jim Greaney, Vicky Greaney, Tim Gregor, Dave Leeper

Voting Attendees = Executive Board (less President) + Coordinators. Count=5

2. Review & Approval of Minutes

- Discussion: • Not reviewed
- Correction: • None
- Action: • None

3. Treasurer's Report

Financial status for November reported by Tami Greaney.

- Expenses: • No expenditures
- Income: • No income
- Bank Account Total: • \$15,901.57
- Action: • No actions. Financial status noted.

4. Coordinators' Reports

Event Logistics

- Reported by: None
- Details: Vacant position
- Action: No new information.

Food & Beverage

- Reported by: None, Amber Guge Excused
- Details: No new information.
- Action: No new information.

Clan Coordinator

- Reported by: Matthew McKenzie
- Details: • Matthew proposed Clan Henderson be the 2025 Honored Clan.

- A quaich will be presented to Clan Bell and another quaich presented to Clan Henderson during the 2025 Gathering.
- Action:
- Matthew will talk to Joyce about quaich

Volunteers

- Reported by: Chad MacDonald
 Details: No new information.
 Action: No new information.

Fundraising

- Reported by: None, Jason Pettit, Excused
 Details: No new information
 Action: No new information

Vendors/Demonstrators

- Reported by: Vacant
 Details: No new information
 Action: Assign vendor responsibilities as planning progresses.

5. Old Business

2025 Gathering Location

Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Helena Rodeo Grounds remains the tentative location.
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract negotiations in progress. • Plan to send last year's contract, edited to remove Steed's name. • Chris with the E. Helena Rodeo is meeting with their Board this week and a guarantee is expected. • Utilities are in progress at the Rodeo Grounds. • Keith is exploring a long-term relationship for use of the rodeo grounds. • Cost is TBD but is expected to be zero cost to the Helena Highlanders.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keith will follow up with Chris with the E. Helena Rodeo and will inquire about the inclusion of camping facilities. • Sponsor letter will be updated with new location address and info once we get confirmation of E. Helena location.

Infrastructure

Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress. No update this meeting.
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason is waiting for feedback on price of used tents.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason to report on any updates next meeting.

Feather Flags for Honored Clan

Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tami Greaney reported that Fast Signs quoted \$258 for a double-sided flag with stand and setup. • Past collaboration with Fast Signs resulted in about a 20% discount.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tami will question the set-up fee and ask for non-profit discount.

Missing Tarp from Gathering Pop Up Tent

Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress. No update this meeting.
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad is missing a tarp for the 12x12 tent from the June event.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to look for the missing 12x12 gray tarp.

Elections

Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda for elections was not sent out as required by bylaws.
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Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary and Vice President elections have been moved to a special meeting on November 21st at 6:00pm at Missouri River Brewing. Tami circulated an email with voting instructions via email, Zoom or in person. Ensure compliance with bylaws for future agendas. Rob nominated Dave Leeper for Vice President/Heather 2nd. Vote: 5 AYE, 0 NAE – Motion Passes. <i>11/18 Update:</i> Rob Rankin has also been nominated for the position of Vice President.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President to ensure future agendas are prepared and distributed on time. Secretary to ensure future agendas are published on the website on time. Elections will occur November 21 at 6:00pm at Missouri River Brewing in the back room behind the bar
Open Coordinator Positions	
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistics and Vendor positions are still open.
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tami nominated Matthew for Clan Coordinator/Heather 2nd. Vote: 5 AYE, 0 NAE – Motion Passes.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew to assume duties of Clan Coordinator
Entertainment for 2025 Gathering	
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received feedback from two potential musicians with their sound system requirements and travel/lodging requirements.
Discussion:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Sandpiper from California. Willing to perform 3-4 sets, each lasting approximately 50 minutes. He did not provide his fees but asked about compensation. https://www.marinesandpiper.com/ https://www.facebook.com/MarineSandpiper/ https://www.youtube.com/user/marinesandpiper Max Armstrong (performed at the Flathead Celtic Festival) Offers multiple one-hour slots with flexibility for additional performances. Requires basic sound equipment (AUX, XLR cables). https://www.instagram.com/maxbarmstrong/ https://www.facebook.com/maxarmstrongmusic/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rob and Tim suggested checking with Chris with the E. Helena Rodeo to understand their sound system and potential equipment that may need to be purchased. Heather suggested asking the Flathead Celtic Festival organizers about their sound system inventory and set up.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keith will follow up on sound system options. Highlanders to determine if one or both potential performers are suitable based on sound system availability and budget.

6. New Business

Sponsorship Letters	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsorship letters prepared, pending location details. Availability of digital copies on website for distribution.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use current letter version until the Gathering location is confirmed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage members to distribute sponsorship letters.
Business Cards Distribution	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members are encouraged to take and distribute business cards within the community.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to continue distributing business cards.
Open Floor Discussion	
Discussion:	<p><u>Burns Night Supper – January 25th</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christy Leeper provided an update on Burns Night on January 25th at the Celtic Cowboy in Great Falls that is being coordinated by Matthew’s sister. This is the first annual Burns Night Supper. Although traditionally formal, this event will be semi-casual. Event Time: Tentatively set for 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Tickets are currently available on TOAST for \$60 per person. Link to purchase tickets: Celtic Cowboy on Toast. Additional details will be posted on their website in the coming weeks. Feel free to share the event details with the community. <p><u>Belt Buckle Sponsorship</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather motioned to approve sponsorship for a buckle for the 2025 E. Helena Rodeo to maximum amount of \$500 for the bareback riding event. Chad 2nd. Motion passed.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tami will share the Burns Night Supper info on Facebook.
MT SAAA Update	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None

Next Meeting Scheduling

Proposed Date: • January 12th at Missouri River Brewing at 10:30 AM

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Keith/ 2nd by Rob / 5 AYE, 0 NAE – Motion Passes.
- The meeting of Helena Highlanders Association, Inc. was adjourned at 10:56AM.