

Special Land Althyng

Land Althyng Minutes 8/24/2003

Meeting was called to order 1:10 PM

Special Announcements:

Hastings Prep Workshop is moved to 9/6 sponsored by OGL. Will be held across from the TCNJ campus in Ewing, NJ.

Harvest War is official and will be hosting a Markland Garage Sale - bring a table - sell your stuff - bring cash - buy other people's stuff.

Fall council will be held at Harvest War in the Pavilion at 4pm.

BYOS War is to be held on October 10th-12th.

Discussion of the Purchase of Land - facilitated by Kelly

A great deal of discussion of the features on the land much of which had been discussed at the summer Althyng.

Approximate distance from area.

Land does not perk

Access to the island

Steps necessary to gain access - i.e. through train yard.

Height above water and relative history of flooding - effects of dams above and below the island.

Financing:

Bank would offer us a "Lot Loan" at 4.375% Variable rate - tied to the T-Bill once a structure was built on the property it would be converted to a mortgage.

Insurance:

Our current insurance would become null and void because it is a blanket insurance policy and does not cover land. We would have to find new insurance with the help of our insurance agent. Cashman - our agent at Franey & Parr feels that the insurance on vacant land will be expensive and the insurance on an island would be prohibit ably expensive. Actual quotes cannot be generated without an address or lot number.

Concerns expressed by the Fyrd:

Great distance from our area

Concerns about access to the island

Concerns about the possible costs of creating access to the island i.e. bridge building

Concerns about any unknown land designations - i.e.. Is it wet land protected, what is it's zoning restrictions are etc.

Rebuttal:

Any land in the general has, in the past been out of Markland's price range, this though at a distance, is in our price range.

There were many assertions that access was not an issue.

There were assertions that a bridge could be built very cheaply - adamant assertions that this was not in fact the case and that we would need to own the land on both sides of the bridge etc.
There were many assertions that the land was in a flood plane and that the actual zoning was unknown but that the seller was marketing it for a possible hunting lodge.

At approximately 2:57 Eric called the vote. 13 for, 29 against, 1 abstention.

Conversation regarding land continued with regards to funding.

Some discussion over the financing was considered as well as debating what the actual price range of Markland is at this point in time.

Other land opportunities were brought up and dismissed.

Methods for raising funds were discussed.

Proposed methods:

Running events that contribute to the land fund.

Seeking out donations of funds or land for organizations and private persons.

Penny tax and meetings and events.

Placing a collection gar at events where a publicity table is placed.

Bake sales and other fund raising events.

Adding a land tax to all memberships.

The Fyrd commissioned the Bocman to create and implement a survey of the membership to determine what the desires and needs of the fyrd are with respect to land.

Items added to the meeting so that they would be Old Business at the Fall Council Meeting:

Aluminum Shields will be re-voted at the Winter Althyng as stipulated this spring.

Proposed Change to the name of the Steel Fighting - to Markland Recreational Fighters Guild

Land Tax added to membership fee.

In order to be an event organizer you must be a Markland member in good standing.

Corrections:

Marche de la Warre - still exists just not as an official group.

House Adderton the same.

Kelly resigned his position on the land fund citing personal attacks he had received. On the record the desire for Markland to purchase land predates his entrance into Markland and his membership on the Land Council.

Meeting was adjourned.