



INTERNATIONAL COURT SYSTEM
International Court Council
General Session Meeting
October 22, 2011
Honolulu, Hawaii

CALL TO ORDER at 10:09 AM

Audio recording available.

INVOCATION

There was no formal invocation, just a moment of silence for those who have gone before us.

ATTENDANCE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Queen Mother 1 Nicole Murray – Ramirez

Chief Executive Officer

Tony Monteleone

Chancellor and Chief Minister to the Crown; Treasurer

Rusty Mueller / Crystal Rae Lee Love

President

Robert Lack / Rob Surreal

1st Vice President

Neal Debreceni / DeWitt

2nd Vice President

Sharon Lancaster / Lantree

Executive Recording Secretary

Martin Rooney / Storm

Minister of Canada and Executive Corresponding Secretary

San Diego, California

New York, New York

Houston, Texas

Tacoma, Washington

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Chico / Paradise, California

Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Char
Robert Flores
Michael Gaffney
Keith Hafner / Madison Lane Weston
Dr. Michael Lyons / Holly Day
John Meehan / Brittany Morgan
Russell Roybal
Donna Sachet – ICC Parliamentarian
Karina Samala
Scott Seibert
Wayne Swope / Nicole Diamond

Honolulu, Hawaii
Denver, Colorado
Phoenix, Arizona
Seattle, Washington
Omaha, Nebraska
Palm Springs, CA / San Diego, CA
Washington, D.C.
San Francisco, California
Los Angeles, CA / Hollywood, CA
Portland, Oregon
Lexington, Kentucky

COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Mark Campbell
Bryan Cromwell
Micheal Ferry
Darin Hatch
Don Jenkins / Donna Dumae
Fernando Robles
Ed Savage / Boom Boom LubaLicious
Jaylene Tyme – Leave of Absence

Buffalo, New York / Connecticut
Las Vegas, Nevada / Austin, Texas
Des Moines, Iowa
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Dallas, Texas
San Francisco, California
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

GUESTS

Emperor Eileen Lantree
Executive Recording Secretary, Parliament
Robert Loewen
Emperor Jerel McNeil
Empress Rose Royce
Emperor Allan Spyere

Chico / Paradise, California
Surrey, British Columbia, Canada
Houston, Texas
Surrey, British Columbia, Canada
San Diego

ROLL CALL

Crystal Rae Lee Love, President of the International Court Council, asked the Executive Recording Secretary to call the roll.

WELCOME from the HOST COURT

Empress Harley Davidson, President of the Board, welcomed everyone and thanked the ICC for coming to Hawaii. Reigning Empress Jerrine Jefferies thanked the council for coming and hoped that everyone was having a good time in Hawaii.

QUEEN MOTHER'S OPENING REMARKS

Queen Mother Nicole gave a sincere thank you to Michael Gaffney, President Emeritus, for his service to the Council. She also made the announcement that Donna Sachet had been appointed as the ICC Parliamentarian. The Queen Mother looks forward to the 6th year of this Council and her reign. She welcomed and thanked the newly elected / appointed officers of the ICC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT / COMMENTS

President Crystal Rae Lee Love welcomed the members of the Council and thanked everyone for being there. She especially thanked the court of Hawaii for their hospitality and thanked the Council for the vote of confidence for her election. She acknowledged the guests and thanked them for taking the time and interest to be there. Crystal stated that she will NOT be the go between the Queen Mother and another Council member or between two or more Council members. If there is a problem, they must go directly to the Queen Mother or that Council member. She also stated that communication, participation on committees and monthly reports are critical.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Empress Sharon Lantree, Executive Recording, Secretary

Empress Sharon Lantree stated the minutes were sent to the Council members via e-mail and are posted on the ICC website.

San Diego, CA, Friday Session Notes, January 21, 2011

Prepared by Sharon Lancaster / Lantree

Information only - No action necessary

San Diego, CA, General Session Minutes, January 22, 2012

Prepared by Sharon Lancaster / Lantree

Motion to accept made by: Robert Flores,

Seconded by: Tony Monteleone

AYES - ALL

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, General Session Minutes, August 6, 2011

Prepared by Russell Roybal

No quorum / information only – No action necessary

Spokane, WA, October 01, 2011

Informal Meeting Notes

Prepared by Rob Lack / Surreal

Information only - No action necessary

TREASURER'S REPORT / DISCUSSION - Emperor Tony Monteleone, Treasurer

Copies of the ICC balance sheets dated October 18, 2011 were given to the Council. There are 3 accounts: **Savings Account** / Seed account for emergencies; **Business Service Account** for operations and donations; and the new **ICC Charity Fund Account**. Treasurer reports for September 30, 2011 and August 4, 2011 were handed out. He noted that there is an outstanding check written to the Harvey Milk Foundation that has not cleared the bank. Queen Mother Nicole stated she had talked to Stuart Milk and he said they had not received the check. Tony was asked to look into it and stated that if it had not been cashed he would issue them a replacement. Tony asked the Council if there was specific information that was needed that was

not in the report to let him know. He said that if someone needed information prior to a meeting, to please let him know and he would try and accommodate any and all requests. Queen Mother Nicole asked if he had received all the records from Alan. Tony stated that he had someone who is familiar with Quick Books look it over and it appeared to be all there.

Tony stated that upon his appointment as Treasurer, he had to hire an accountant to reconstruct the records. He also stated that the ICC could hire this person for about \$500 a year to be the organizations Accountant. She does the books for The Imperial Court of New York for about a \$1,000 and they are much more involved. He also stated that she would make sure that all required paperwork for the corporation has been filed and filed properly.

A question was asked regarding the Charity Fund Account. "Can individual donors donate money directly to that fund and be designated for a named charity." The answer was, yes. It was further stated that people are reluctant to give money to the ICC because they don't know where the money goes and they don't want to give money for expenses that the organization may incur. They want it to go to charity, thus the need for the Charity Fund Account. The Queen Mother stated that Council members should put on a fundraiser designated for a certain non-profit charity and those donating can be assured of where the money is going.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by: Robert Flores

Seconded by: Michael Gaffney

AYES – ALL

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW HEIRS

President Crystal Rae Lee Love called for a vote of confidence to accept the recent appointments of Empress Donna Sachet and Empress Boom Boom of Halifax as Heirs Apparent to the Council.

Motion made to accept the new Council members by: Robert Flores.

Seconded by: Madison

AYES – ALL

New Council members confirmed

Queen Mother Nicole doesn't like this procedure because it's never been done before and asked if it should have been done all along, then why hadn't it? She asked for clarification regarding if the Council could vote NO on someone she wanted as one of her Heirs Apparent and for that person to serve on the Council. Discussion ensued that it's in the By-Laws. Queen Mother Nicole asked that if the Council didn't approve that person, then they wouldn't be seated. **Answer – Correct.** The wording in the by-laws states, "confirmed" therefore if the Queen Mother asked the Council to, "confirm" that person, then the answer is, "Yes, the Council could confirm that person." Queen Mother Nicole asked if this was being addressed in the new By-Laws. **Answer – It has been discussed.** She stated that her successor could have the Council, "vote" on them, but there would be no changes made during her reign. Russell Roybal brought up the fact that the Council could be sued if we're not following the rules of the organization and our insurance may not cover any of us if that happens. Queen Mother Nicole asked Russell to further explain his statement. Russell equated it to the Senate and how they confirm or approve by a vote. Queen Mother Nicole asked if the whole slate of new members including returning members needed to be voted on in San Diego. **Answer – Correct.**

The By-laws state that a new person cannot use the title until confirmed by the Council. Queen Mother Nicole stated that it's a unique situation where we have a non-profit, professional organization and a fantasy Monarchy and she's concerned about the Monarch's rights. She also stated that it needs to be looked into more. Russell further stated that our By-laws have a provision for 31 members, which includes the Titular Head and that person has a vote as well. Queen Mother Nicole stated she doesn't vote. It was again brought up that she does indeed have a vote. Scott clarified that the state of California only recognizes yes votes. Sharon brought up that the state of California technically counts an abstention or non-vote as a NO vote and would be counted as such.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS

There were no guest presentations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **5 Year Anniversary of QM Ascension – Chair, Brittany Morgan; Co-Chairs LaLa Too and Tony Monteleone**

Brittany stated that the planning is going along very well and that the Queen Mother has a lot planned for the event. Brittany would like another silent auction with quality items to raise money for the ICC and the ICC Charity Fund. Dr. Lyons stated that a nice vacation package would be great. Queen Mother Nicole stated she would give Brittany names of some of the new Heirs Apparent so they could get involved in the planning as well.

- **68,000 Noble Hours – Chair, Donna Dumae; Co-Chair, Martin Storm**

As of the time of the meeting there were 74,203 hours reported. Martin encouraged everyone to keep reporting their hours through December 31st. He also noted that there were some cities that the Heirs Apparent had not reported receiving hours from. He told of challenges going on between some courts to beat each other's totals. Queen Mother Nicole stated that this campaign will not continue on next year. Tony asked the question if at the end of the campaign when we know the totals if the ICC was going to put out a press release to show another aspect of what the organization is involved in. The answer was: Yes.

- **By-Law Changes Committee – Chair, Scott; Co-Chair, Crystal**

Scott gave a brief over view of the changes that are currently being proposed that will be outlined under, "New Business."

The Committee is proposing to:

- a. Move significant portions of the by-laws over into a Policies and Procedures Manual.
- b. Procedure to choose the next Queen Mother and King Father.
- c. Change our purpose to reflect what we actually do today.
- d. Propose removing the two-tier membership the council currently has.
- e. Codifying Parliament as a permanent committee of the council.

He acknowledged and thanked Michael G., Crystal, Donna Dumaë, Neal, Russell and Sharon for the over 400 hours that the committee spent working on it and hopes that the committee can get further direction on how to proceed.

▪ **Canadian Affairs – Chair, Martin Storm; Co-Chair, Neal DeWitt**

Queen Mother Nicole asked the Canadian members why they felt the Canadians don't support the fundraising efforts of the ICC. Neal stated they want to focus on the youth. The Queen Mother asked the Canadian Heirs why 6 courts did not embrace participation in the 68,000 Noble Hours. She felt it was a simple request for each court to volunteer a 1,000 hours in one year's time. The Canadian Heirs had no answer for her. She asked the Canadian Heirs to talk to the courts and present a Position paper in San Diego on how to get the Canadians involved in the ICS projects and be team members. She suggested sending out a survey asking how to get people involved. Neal feels that Canadian patriotism is so very different than the US that he feels there may be a problem with the Canadians supporting next year's focus on the Veterans. Nicole asked for a Position paper on this to be presented in San Diego as well.

▪ **Communiqué – Chair, Nicole Diamond, Co-Chair, Mark Campbell**

Nicole Diamond stated that the latest edition was issued on October 11th, the Anniversary of Matthew Shepard's death, therefore the issue was dedicated to the Matthew Shepard Foundation. He thanked the Heirs that wrote articles and mentioned that he's never received articles from some Heirs and felt that each Heir should contribute an article to each edition. Michael brought up that the council had previously voted that each Heir would submit an article whether or not it was used for that issue or a later one. Nicole Diamond brought up that Heirs could submit an article from someone in their court or community.

▪ **Foundations / Grants/ Corporate Sponsors – Chair, Tony Monteleone; Co-Chair, Russell Roybal**

Tony stated that he recently had dinner with an executive from Absolut Vodka to discuss the target cities they want to focus on. These need to be large areas where the money is. Lexington, Kentucky is going to be added to the list. Toronto is the Canadian city being considered for the future. Tony needs an ambassador / Heir from each hosting court to make sure Absolut Vodka gets the acknowledgements they have been promised.

Madison stated that they got a \$500 donation from them for their Coronation and that they had posters and table decorations displayed that were from Absolut. Tony asked for any pictures Madison may have that he could send to Absolut to show them that their products were used.

The next step is to get the contract from them and get started. After securing a major sponsor such as Absolut Vodka will open the door to get other major corporate sponsors such as, Wells Fargo Bank to sponsor the ICC in the future.

▪ **Fundraising – Chair, Crystal Rae Lee Love**

Crystal stated that we are having a raffle during Hawaii's Coronation to raise money for the Corporation. She also stressed the need to sell the raffle tickets, pins, etc. This is the main source of revenue for the organization to pay its bills. There have been concerns from Council members on how hard it is to sell certain items. Brittany stated that people have questions on where the money is going....for the Queen Mother's travel or where else? Crystal stated that is a true feeling of many. The Queen Mother stated the money goes for awards which are very important to give out to recognize what people do for their courts and communities. Queen Mother Nicole was upset over hearing this and wanted to know what is being said and how it can be fixed. She expects the Heirs to be proactive in squelching rumors and making sure that true information is being disseminated.

A guest from Surrey brought up that there is a perception that since Council members may be able to write a check; that may be one of the reasons why they're on the Council and whether or not that is true needs to be addressed. He also brought up that there is a, "perception" behind the scenes in the court system that the Queen Mother follows the money trail and awards those with money.

Russell brought up that because he wasn't a Monarch, there was a perception that he was appointed because of his friendship with the Queen Mother, but he feels that since this is his second year on the council; people are seeing what he contributes to the Council. Sharon stated that she was glad he was on the Council and that she had the opportunity to work with him on committees.

Tony brought up that it was not uncommon in the business world to reward those that contribute large amounts of money. He also brought up that, "the rest of us don't know what awards are being given out and who is getting them and maybe something needs to be put out to the Council as well as in the Communiqué on who has received these awards and why."

Nicole Diamond stated that we need to be careful what we say, i.e....when we mention that we just write a check out for the raffles, pins, etc. This adds to what people, "perceive" of Council members and what we do.

Russell feels that more information needs to be put out to the organization on what the Council does. The Queen Mother wants the Chancellor to put this information out to the public.

Crystal reminded us that we are the PR Team for the organization. Queen Mother Nicole stated that she expects the Council to tell her the truth about what is being said and what the perceptions are of the Council, and she specifically, as it reflects on her reputation.

Crystal stated that as was done in Las Vegas, a portion of the raffle will be donated back to the Imperial Court of Hawaii.

Donna brought up that we need to acknowledge the positive things we do such as the fact that two years ago the ICS was the largest contributor to the Matthew Shepard Foundation. She also stated that Harvey Milk may one day have a stamp as a result of the efforts of the ICS.

Crystal stated that we all made a commitment at the beginning of the year when we signed the agreement that we would raise \$1,000 for the ICC. The idea is also not to write every expense off that we have, in order to make that \$1,000. The idea is to bring money into the organization. The question has been raised if the funds that we raise for the Charity Fund would count towards that \$1,000. Crystal's initial response is NO. The money in that fund is for charity; the \$1,000 is for operating expenses. The Queen Mother made the suggestion that some of the Heirs could do a production number at a Coronation to raise money and she would perform as well. She asked the Council to think outside of the box when coming up with ideas for raising funds, which could include her participation such as a pie in the face of the Queen Mother, etc.

▪ **Harvey Milk US Stamp Campaign – Chair, Michael Gaffney**

Michael has 5,000 new post cards and 25 full size posters for the stamp campaign to give out. Michael also noted the changes that were made to the cards, as the post office changed the mailing address for the letters without telling anyone. The new phone number has been updated on the card. He informed the Council that the US Post Office will now start honoring living persons with a stamp. The new cards can be downloaded off the ICS website. Michael is trying to get a hold of someone to find out where in the process the Harvey Milk stamp currently stands.

▪ **Jose Honors – Chair, Crystal Rae Lee Love**

Crystal has 6 nominations either in hand or being sent for consideration. She stated that they are due by October 31.st

Crystal brought up that there had been a suggestion to do a posthumous award. Queen Mother Nicole asked for a straw poll from the Council regarding this issue.

4 – YES

12 – NO

0 - ABSTENTIONS

Motion Defeated

▪ **King Father / Queen Mother Ascension Procedure Committee – Chair, Scott Seibert**

Scott stated that the procedure will be outlined under New Business.

▪ **Parliament – Chair, Prime Minister, Emperor David “Chippy” Allen**

The Queen Mother asked if everyone had seen the report from Parliament and the answer was NO. She stated that it was her Majesty's Parliament and there was no need to go over it as she has rejected all their suggestions and requests. She stated that there is a separation between the Council and Parliament and the report came across as if they were asking to be considered as an equal to the Council. She felt in her opinion, the requests had nothing to do with what she set up Parliament to do.

- **PR / Media - Chair, Michael Gaffney**

He stated that he has only heard back from 7 Heirs regarding what GLBT media is available in their area. Donna brought up that there seems to be several requests for the same information and she wanted to know what happens to the information that was already received previously. It was brought up that information does not seem to get passed on from one Chair of a Committee or Executive Officer to the next one. The President asked that the Recording Secretary receive a copy of these reports and maintain a file of them. She stated that she would. The Queen Mother stated that this has been a problem in the past and that the records of the organization belong to the ICC, not individuals. Sharon, as the Recording Secretary, brought up that each Secretary has bits and pieces of information that occurred during their term, but that there isn't one central archive where it's kept. It was suggested that it be posted on the website. Sharon's concern was that if the website failed there wasn't a hard copy back-up.

- **Protocol – Chair, Scott Seibert**

Scott reminded the Council members to fill out the sheet regarding protocol and suggestions for future ICC meetings and pointed out the check list that was included on the back of the page.

He also stated that the Committee had worked out what is to happen regarding state visits and the requirements of the Queen Mother, Jose and the Council and asked if it could be posted to the website. The President stated that it would replace the current one posted on the website.

- **Women's Conference – Chair, Sharon Lantree**

Sharon is currently working with Mark and Mario on re-vamping the women's logo and link so information can be accessed and shared directly off the ICS website. She has reached out to the women of the ICS through an article that she recently wrote for the Communiqué to get women interested in participating on the Committee since the committee currently exists of just her and Karina. She would also like to create a data base of the women in the ICS by court, so information can be shared and women will know who is a member of each court so they can be contacted for a conference if anyone happens to be attending a coronation or event in their area. It is also her understanding that there is an upcoming conference in Texas. She has been contacted by 4 women in Texas as a result of the article and they are interested in working on that conference. She feels there are things in progress and moving along.

The Queen Mother disagrees. She feels despite all the efforts that have been made by Sharon and others, things are not moving smoothly. She was disappointed in the turn out in Orange County and stunned that more women were going to Hospitality than the conference. She hates to think that the same thing will happen in Texas. Sharon agreed that things are not going, "smoothly" and that is why she is trying to reach out to the women through the article in the Communiqué and by re-vamping the website to make it more user friendly. She stated that feed-back received from the conference cited dis-interest in the content of the presentations as the main reason for the lack of participation in the Orange County Conference. She further stated that Orange County did not send out a survey prior to the conference in Orange County asking for topics of interest. She further stated that she has been in contact with Crystal regarding the upcoming Texas conference regarding the importance of getting feed-back from the women as to what they want to see happen at that

conference. Queen Mother Nicole asked Crystal if there was interest in the Texas conference and she responded that there was. Queen Mother Nicole stated that she recognized it was a difficult situation and thanked Sharon and the other women for their hard work, dedication and commitment for thinking outside the box to try and get the women involved. Nicole Diamond wanted to see a session at the conference on how to get women involved as they have a very difficult time doing so in his court. Sharon stated the reason she put out the, “want ad” was to find out what the ICS can do to get women involved in the court system. The Queen Mother asked her to come up with a questionnaire that can be hand carried when people travel to Coronations and given to the women to fill out and mail to the ICC. She further stated that the ICC will pay for the postage. Sharon asked Nicole Diamond to help her come up with questions for the survey from both a male and female point of view. Nicole Diamond said she would. Crystal pointed out that Sharon had positive feed-back from the article in the Communiqué.

Russell Roybal asked if it was really about, “attracting more lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender women or is it really about all folks who identify as female and if there was a distinction between women and transgender women at the conference?” Sharon deferred to Karina to answer that question. Karina stated that there were several transgender women at the conference. Russell feels the transgender women are invisible in the court. Crystal stated that the ICS would never purposefully exclude a transgender person from the conference and further stated there had been a separate Transgender Conference in the past. Crystal also stated there is a large group of women in the ICS and they deserve to have their own conference. Crystal acknowledged there are specific issues that the women of the ICS have. Crystal further stated the GLBT population has divided itself into so many classes and sub-classes that, “We aren’t going to be able to be politically correct for every possible segment of our society and we have to look at each portion of our courts when we have conferences.” Crystal noted that complaints from the Orange County Conference focused on transgender and that, “wasn’t a bad thing, but it wasn’t what the women were interested in.” Sharon further stated that the ICS doesn’t have a problem getting Transgender persons involved in the organization, but it does have problems getting the women to join the organization, therefore, the ICS has to identify what those problems are and how to resolve them. She stated the Committee was not excluding anyone and they certainly haven’t done that, but in order to get that minority population to participate in the ICS, the Committee and the conferences has to concentrate on that group. Queen Mother Nicole asked if a Canadian women’s conference in the future would be successful. Empress Rose Royce felt that there is a large population in the Canadian courts and that it could be successful. The Queen Mother felt that discussion should take place to have a future conference in Canada. It was brought up that women want to come to men’s things, but they don’t want men to come to their events. Queen Mother Nicole stated that it works both ways, as there are men who don’t want women at men’s events.

▪ **Youth Committee – Chair, Jeremy Dias; Co-Chair, Martin Storm; Co-Chair, Scott Seibert**

Scott stated that they are really having a hard time finding American youth that want to stay active and involved. Jeremy, Chair of the Canadian Youth Committee is also working on the committee. The Committee needs some recommendations for a person that is active and involved to serve on the committee.

LIASON REPORTS

❖ Chapter Insurance – Chair, Michael Ferry

It was noted that the council has liability insurance and if anyone wants to or knows of someone who wants to work on insurance issues for the ICC or the organization as a whole to let Crystal know.

OLD BUSINESS

✓ Chair Reports – Crystal Rae Lee Love, President

Crystal will be letting the Council know which reports will be required on a monthly basis and when they will be due as well as what information each report will be expected to contain.

✓ Harvey Milk pins – Michael Gaffney

Michael asked the Council if anyone had any unsold pins left. He reminded us that since the pins have been paid for, the money goes to the ICC. Sharon replied that she had paid for her pins and continues to sell them, but would share some pins if anyone needed them.

✓ ICS Humanitarian Award Presentation in Vancouver – Martin Storm

This past July, at the North American Human Rights Convention, The International Court System was given the Human Rights Award for over 45 years of service to the rights of GLBT persons. Martin will present the award to the Queen Mother during tonight's Coronation. The next conference will be held in Denver, Colorado.

✓ Report from San Diego Survey – Russell Roybal

Russell gave a report on the results of the four questions he asked on his International Court Council Survey that was handed out in San Diego. The Queen Mother stated that we have a rich history of what the ICS has done for over 45 years. The future of the organization is to continue what we've been doing and provide more structure.

NEW BUSINESS

➤ Proposed By-Law Changes – Chair, Scott Seibert

The Committee proposes:

- a. Move significant portions of the By-laws over into a Policies and Procedures Manual.
- b. Procedure to choose the next Queen Mother and King Father.
- c. Change our purpose to reflect what we actually do today.
- d. Remove the two-tier membership the Council currently has.
- e. Codifying Parliament as a permanent Committee of the Council.

Proposed changes to existing sections:

Page 2 - Purpose of the organization

(4) - Add, "Recognize and honor organizations and individuals who provide exceptional leadership and/or service."

Page 3 – Membership

Propose deleting large amounts of text from the membership section. Currently the Council can only add charters or suspend charters. The Committee proposes adding, "set probationary periods and set guidelines for recovering said charter."

Add a provision to provide a means by which to preserve the history of a court that is no longer in existence.

Page 4 – Membership

Propose language changes on the appointment and retention of Council members. The current language uses the term, "Heir Apparent" when referring to those who are seated on the ICC. Currently by Proclamation, we have two classes of Council members, Monarch / Heir Apparent; and non-Monarchs / not an Heir Apparent. That distinction will not change, nor who is and isn't eligible to assume the throne. The change is in the terminology used in the document when referring to those who sit on the Council. Heir Apparent will be changed to, "Council Member."

Page 5 – Council Member Appointment / Retention

The By-laws currently state that you and your court must be a, "member in good standing," when appointed to the Council. It also states that if your court loses, "in good standing" by suspension, etc., then you can no longer sit on the Council. The change prevents a Council member from being removed during their term as a result of something their court is in violation of. However, at the end of said term, if that court has not been reinstated, then that person can no longer serve on the Council as a member of that court.

Page 6 – Meetings

Deleted large amounts of text and deleted a requirement that hasn't been followed. The ICC is a California based, non-profit Corporation, therefore clarifications were made as to what actions can take place without a meeting under said law. Voting by e-mail is permitted, but EVERY member MUST vote in order for that vote to be valid. It also allows for telephone conferences for, "Special" meetings not, "Regular" meetings. "Special meetings," must be called by the Council and acknowledged as such. Under California law, if you post an agenda that states you are only considering....., then those are the only items you can consider and take action on.

The Committee further recommends that prior to the meeting in January, 2012 in San Diego, that large portions of the By-laws be taken out and incorporated into Standard Operating Procedures or Policies and Procedures. SOP's and / or P & P's are much easier to change or modify when it becomes necessary to do so than By-laws, which entails a much more complicated procedure.

Motion to accept the changes as proposed to the By-Laws by: Rob Surreal

Seconded by: Robert Flores

16 – YES

1 – NO

0 - Abstentions

Motion Carried

➤ **Queen Mother / King Father Ascension Procedure – Chair, Scott Seibert**

The Queen Mother has envisioned an elaborate celebration when the new Monarchy takes over after she steps down. She would like that ceremony to always take place in San Francisco during their Coronation.

She feels that if something happens to her, a Regent should be put in as Queen Mother / King Father until the formal nomination process and voting takes place. She feels that ideally it would be the President of the International Court Council.

Scott prefaced his presentation by saying the By-law Committee believes that tradition, ceremony and ritual are incredibly important, but also acknowledges that the organization will be changing from an anointed Queen Mother to an elected and confirmed Queen Mother / King Father. So regardless of where the ascension takes place or how the ceremony itself is conducted, is not part of the By-laws. The focus of the Committee has been to have some structure in place in case something happens to the Queen Mother.

Scott acknowledged that the By-law Committee worked on this procedure as well since the two committees overlapped. He further stated that there were hours of discussion on this as it was, “difficult at times to take personalities out of the conversation.” He felt the Committee was successful in taking that aspect out and focusing on the process that would be set in place for the overall organization and not for individual persons in mind. He felt that the Committee had come up with guidelines that would help put the process in place and that the Committee needed to know which ones were acceptable and which ones needed more work in order to have a procedure that could be voted on in January, 2012.

The trigger that starts the process is when either Queen Mother Nicole the Great announces her intent to resign or the Executive Council, through the President, proclaims that she is unable to continue through disability or death. At that point, the Council has 45 to 90 days to meet at a face-to-face session. At that meeting, there may be a need to make some changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual since this has never been done before and issues may come up that have not been addressed. Originally the Committee thought the candidates should declare their intent, however, Queen Mother Nicole thought that, “took away some of the suspense” and, “took away the Council having a clean expression of their desire for the leadership of the people who sat there.” Scott further stated that there would be no nominations by the Council for either of these two (2) positions.

Proposed Procedure as outlined by the Committee:

*(a). Queen Mother Nicole will present her choices and each Council member will get two pieces of paper; one for Queen Mother and one for King Father on which to cast their vote. Each Council member will then vote either yea or nay and place said vote into the ceremonial chalice. The top three (3) for each position, **with no vote count disclosed**, will then move on to the next round.*

*(b). Before round two (2) takes place, the three (3) candidates for each position **are required** to address the council for up to two (2) minutes. After each has had two (2) minutes to state their intent; voting will again take place using the aforementioned procedure. If there is no clear winner, voting will continue for five (5) rounds.*

A winner is considered as the person who gets 60% of the votes.

*(c). If voting goes to 5 rounds, and at the end of said round, the top two (2) vote getters for each position, **as well as the vote count** for those persons, will be announced.*

Scott felt that if someone isn't really serious in ascending to the throne, they should withdraw before it gets to that round. Scott stated, "Here's some of the dangers to it, (making an announcement), you could announce a winner for King Father on the second ballot and go all the way to the fifth ballot for Queen Mother." It was brought up that whoever is elected first, that person's name not be disclosed as that may influence the voting for the remaining position. Queen Mother Nicole suggested that the candidates be sequestered and no announcement made as to the winners until all voting is completed. Scott stated that could be written into the procedure.

(d). Scott further stated, "At the point we have two (2) winners, they are announced as nominees, rather than presumptive candidates, for the position of Queen Mother / King Father."

Queen Mother Nicole stated, "They are presumptive candidates, not nominees, and Parliament needs to understand that." She further stated that at the time of their announcement, the Heirs Apparent needed to remove Queen Mother Nicole's medallion to, "show allegiance to the new Queen Mother / King Father." Queen Mother Nicole suggested at the next session of Parliament it be made known that a change in Monarchy could happen at any time and that they needed to get a procedure in place to ratify the Council nominees for the positions of Queen Mother and King Father.

(e). Scott further stated that at the point the winners are announced, the Council has 24 hours to notify Parliament and their Prime Minister. When Parliament votes, their votes will be counted and a list of which courts voted will be published. If 51% of the courts voting; vote NO on either candidate, (as long as that 51% encompasses 51% of the total number of courts affiliated with the ICS), then that person is no longer the presumptive Queen Mother / King Father.

Before voting takes place, Queen Mother Nicole wants each Member of Parliament to receive the bios of all the ICC members so they are familiar with the qualifications of the persons being

considered. Crystal, President of the ICC, stated that, “strategy was built in to the procedure so that Parliament could not circumvent what the Council was trying to do.” Queen Mother Nicole stated that Parliament’s responsibility is to, “ratify” the Council’s decision, not, “choose” who those persons will be.

(f). Roles and Responsibilities of the Queen Mother / King Father:

The Queen Mother and King Father serve jointly and at the pleasure of the International Court Council Board of Directors. They are the public face of the organization and serve as Members of the Board in addition to their additional listed duties. They are expected to serve with decorum and grace of their predecessors and are held to the highest standards of behavior as our Titular Heads.

(g). Rights:

(1). *to develop their own award or honor, medallion, pin, etc. individually or jointly. They may, by joint agreement, award the International Jose Julio Sarria Civil Rights Award, The Order of the Maple Leaf or other joint awards.*

(2). *Each Queen Mother / King Father shall nominate persons for membership on the International Court Council Board of Directors.*

(3). ****** NEW CHANGE – Queen Mother / King Father are expected to pay travel expenses at all regular Council meetings. All other travel expenses will be covered by existing State Visit protocol.*

(h). Resignation and Removal:

A Queen Mother / King Father may resign their position at any time by notifying any member of the Council Executive Committee in writing that they resign the position. Upon resignation as Queen Mother / King Father, that person shall revert to the status of Council Member and Heir Apparent until their replacement is nominated unless they have specifically resigned that position as well. Any Queen Mother / King Father who resigns have the right to allow continued recognition of honors they gave during their service.

A Queen Mother / King Father may be removed by the International Court Council by a 2/3 vote of the Council at a Regular Meeting where the discipline of the Queen Mother / King Father has been a published agenda item for a minimum of 30 days. The vote shall be during the public session and shall be by a show of hands. Honors given by a Queen Mother / King Father removed by a vote of the Council shall also lapse when that Queen Mother / King Father is removed.

Any Queen Mother / King Father who successfully completes their term shall be given the honorary title of Queen Mother / King Father Emeritus and all of the Honors given by them during their terms shall be permanently retained by the honorees.

Queen Mother Nicole feels Roman Numerals should be awarded to each one, whether or not they are in-sync. She also stated that whoever has been in the position the longest is the, “senior” ranking Monarch.

(i). *Term Limits of a minimum of 3 years with a maximum of 5 years.*

➤ **ICS Mission Statement**

Crystal stated that the proposed changes to the By-laws reflecting what the organization currently does should satisfy the need for a separate Mission Statement.

➤ **Charity Fund – Chair, Crystal Rae Lee Love**

There was an informal meeting on this in Hamilton and a lot of the suggestions made were not acceptable. Monetary limits as to how much the Queen Mother could give without approval from the Council were discussed as well as a yearly dollar limit. It was decided that the ICC Charity Fund could be funded individually by Council members, other than just one check written directly by the ICC. However, it will have to be designated at the beginning of the year where this money will be going and a procedure set up to keep track of it.

Queen Mother Nicole stated that \$100 will be presented at tonight's Coronation to the Palace and suggested that we send money to help pay for the Martin Luther King Memorial statue. She also suggested that the fund could be used for an emergency if a court member needed help with medical expenses, etc. Scott raised the question that as a non-profit we can't give money directly to an individual. The Queen Mother stated that the check would be given to the individual court or other non-profit entity.

Motion made by Donna Sachet to set the following monetary limits the Queen Mother can donate without Council approval:

\$3,000 a calendar year, without a super majority vote of the Council, and those funds are available.

Individual limits that can be given without a super majority of the Council are: \$100; \$250; and \$500.

Seconded by: Tony Monteleone

AYES – ALL

➤ **ICS Crown Pins – Michael Gaffney**

He stated that he has received 2,000 more pins and that each member needs to take a bag to sell at \$5.00 each. The vendor included 200 pins without backs for the Queen Mother to add to her plaques. The money from the sale of the pins will go to help fund the organization.

➤ **Court Thefts Updates – Madison Lane Weston and Crystal Rae Lee Love**

Madison stated she receives information second hand and feels that she and the Committee are often out-of-the-loop on what is happening in the courts. She feels that all requests for help or information regarding issues that are going on in the individual court's, should come through this committee and the Committee chair. Rob stated since he gets paid for being a Therapist and is asked for council from courts regarding issues, he asks these courts or individuals to donate what his fee would have been to a charity of their choice. The Queen Mother suggested that Rob ask them to donate his fee to the ICC Charity Fund. A question was raised as to if that would be a conflict of interest. Dr. Lyons asked if the courts really do know if they are supposed to tell the

council what's going on or even to ask for help from the Council. The Queen Mother feels that they do know, but we need to keep educating them and letting them know that there is a zero tolerance on embezzlements and that their charters will be revoked when this occurs. Michael felt that with all the information on court thefts that have been out on Imp Chat during the past year, he feels they should know they have to report it. He further stated that he gets e-mails all the time, so he feels they have no problem telling what's going on in their court or in another court.

➤ **Pamphlets and Brochures – Chair, Scott; Co-Chair, Donna**

Crystal reminded the Committee the ICS will need cards, brochures and posters for the new Military Service Members and Veterans' campaign.

➤ **Discuss Number of Committees and Liaison**

Crystal stated that members of the Executive Council will be working on combining committees and liaisons so that the responsibilities of some of these committees don't overlap, thus preventing a duplication of work happening between two or more committees.

➤ **Responsibilities of the Court Council / Heir Apparent Contract
ICC President Crystal Rae Lee Love and Michael Gaffney**

Crystal and Michael have been working on a new document outlining the requirements of the Heirs Apparent. It will be incorporated in the ICC Policies and Procedures Manual. Scott asked if passports are being addressed. Crystal answered that it will be a requirement to have one. Neal stated that this document should be posted on the website as an educational tool as to what the Heirs actually do. Crystal didn't feel it should be on the ICS website. The Queen Mother suggested that a paragraph regarding duties and requirements of the Heirs Apparent should be included in the official ICS brochure.

➤ **Branding / Trade Marking the ICS Logo**

The ICC will be looking into trade marking the ICS and name to see what is required.

➤ **ICS Pin Collection**

Emperor Daniel from Reno and his partner are collecting stepping down pins from each court's reign that has been part of the International Court System. They will be on display during Las Vegas' Coronation. Crystal asked everyone to send pins to Daniel if they have any.

➤ **Additional ICS Chat Group**

Scott has been asked by a BOD in Washington State that the Council consider adding another ICS Chat Group targeted just for officers or board members that contain information to help them do their job. This chat group would exclude, "Happy Birthdays," etc.

➤ **Discrimination Panel/Members Rights Policy – Chair, Neal Debrececi; Co-Chair, Crystal Rae Lee Love**

Crystal pointed out the changes that were made to the copy that the Council received. The Queen Mother stated it was important to protect, “Whistleblowers” from having their membership and titles removed. Russell stated that the ICC needs to do the same things we are asking courts to do in this proclamation, since we don’t do what we’re asking others to do in this document. Tony said we need to lead by example.

Scott stated that Portland’s attorney said financial documents need to be posted monthly for the public to see. If someone files a complaint with the IRS, the documents are available on-line, therefore the court doesn’t need to make copies and send them out; just direct that person(s) to the website. Michael stated that their minutes and financials are now on-line as well and they send a copy, every six months, to the newspapers that will publish them. Suggestion was made to post, on a quarterly basis, the balance sheet and /or profit and loss statement on the ICS website. Scott stated the only requirement for a non-profit is to post the 990’s. Russell feels, “the more transparent, the better.” The Queen Mother isn’t in favor of posting the information on the website, unless we’re asked for them, therefore the Queen Mother feels that the Proclamation will not be issued until the wording and details are worked out. The Queen Mother asked for the audience’s opinion. Emperor Jerol from Texas stated that he felt they did not need to be posted to the website as anyone can retrieve the information from the IRS website for any non-profit agency. Eileen Lantree stated that the ICS should be transparent and post them to the website.

The Queen Mother asked for a straw poll vote from the Council. The question was divided into two parts.

Posting the following on the website:

990’s:

YES - 13

No – 2

ABSTENTION – 2 – (Canada)

Quarterly balance sheet:

YES – 2

NO – 13

ABSTENTIONS – 2 - (Canada)

Additional discussion ensued on changes to the wording of the Proclamation. One such change to the wording will say: “Courtiers and community members have a responsibility to report any wrong doing within the corporation.”

Motion to approve the Queen Mother’s Proclamation as changed and amended by: Robert Flores

Seconded by: Russell Roybal

YES -16

NO – 1

ABSTENTION- 0

MOTION CARRIED

➤ **Proposed Heir Apparent Region Responsibilities – Crystal Rae Lee Love, President**

Crystal is currently working on how the courts will be divided and who will be assigned to that region.

KINGDOMS

- **ALAMEDA**

Alameda's probation ends December 31, 2011.

- **ARIZONA**

They are still on probation and working on what they need to do.

- **BOSTON, MA**

There was a meeting that took place in Boston, but neither Crystal nor the Queen Mother has received any further information as to what took place or what is going on.

- **CINCINNATI, OHIO**

This incident was talked about in Spokane. The issue involves a biological female who reigned in a male title and questions were raised whether she could run as an Empress candidate. There were also alleged voting improprieties regarding her that the board has agreed happened. It's ongoing and should go before the Discrimination Committee when formed.

- **MODESTO**

Crystal has had to remind Modesto on several occasions that they are on probation due to the theft of money from the court, not because of their tax forms or 501c (3) issues which they are working on resolving. They have to complete a 23 page document for the IRS before they will do anything. They are currently doing business as a, "for profit corporation."

- **MONTANA**

Rob reported that the issue has been totally resolved.

- **OKLAHOMA**

There's really not an issue; it's more of a personal problem between two past Monarch's who are causing problems in the court resulting in the removal of one of their titles.

- **SALT LAKE CITY**

There was a report that there was money missing and some filing issues. There was some mismanagement of funds; as the money was actually used and spent, but not in a proper manner and a state audit verified that.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO BE A NEW COURT

▪ CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Michael talked to the Queen Mother regarding this request and it was decided to tell them they could go ahead and start their paperwork.

▪ DENMARK

Michael received a letter, that's included in our packet, requesting information. He e-mailed them the paperwork, but hasn't heard anything back. Martin stated that the letter has incorrect information in it. The Queen Mother asked Crystal to try and get in touch with them.

▪ FLORIDA

Michael has received 3 requests from Florida to be a court. Michael has sent e-mails asking questions and inquiring as to where in Florida they are located, as he has previously received requests from other parts of Florida for information.

▪ NEW ORLEANS

Michael hasn't heard anything more from them. They are building support to be a court.

▪ SANTA FE

Michael told them they could go ahead and get things started, but would need to talk with Albuquerque regarding formation as to what their by-laws say about other New Mexico courts. The Queen Mother stated they had to talk to Albuquerque and get Jose's opinion especially now that he lives there.

▪ SOUTH CAROLINA

Michael hasn't had any further contact with them other than the initial request.

▪ RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Tony stated that there is a Face book comment from this group that they are looking forward to their first coronation in 2012. He wrote them back and told them they needed to file the paperwork first and to contact the ICC when they are ready to start the process.

FUTURE ICC MEETINGS – (as voted on during the Friday closed session)

SAN DIEGO – FEBRUARY 2012

KENTUCKY – JUNE 2012

WASHINGTON, D.C – SEPTEMBER 2012

OTHER PROPOSED MEETING SITES:

SAN DIEGO – FEBRUARY 2012

SURREY, B.C. – MAY 2012

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY – JUNE 2012

EDMONTON, AB – AUGUST 2012
WASHINGTON, D.C. – SEPTEMBER 2012
LAS VEGAS – DECEMBER 2012

COMMENTS / INFORMATION

The Queen Mother said Madison had brought it up to her that the Heirs are constantly asked questions about what is going on in the ICS and we don't have the answers because we don't know about it ourselves. She stated that from this point on, all information that the Executive Officers /Committee have and decisions they make, are to be made known to the rest of the Council so that no one gets blindsided receiving information that they didn't have.

Tony Monteleone; Chair of the Budget Committee asked the Committee to stay for a short meeting at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn by: Russell Roybal
Seconded by: Robert Flores
UNANIMOUS
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:00 PM

ADDENDUM

FRIDAY SESSION MOTIONS AND VOTE TABULATION

At this time the QM presented her slate of officers for the remainder of the term. She also advised that she's adding 2 new positions, Chancellor and Chief Minister to the Crown as well as Minister of Canada. She reiterated that a Canadian will continue to be 2nd Vice President. These positions will be up for re-election in San Diego when the new council convenes. The President, Vice President and Chancellor will have the power to make suggestions as to who is removed and the power to call and ask council members for their resignation. The Chancellor is the Chief Minister to her Majesty and will be helping the QM.

Charity Trust Fund – The committee will be presenting a procedure for the QM to give money to other charities. She wants money to go to the Palace in Hawaii. QM stated how important it was to know the history of the Hawaiians and what was done to them. She also stated that when she was in Montana, she toured the camps of where they put the Italians and Japanese during WW II. QM asked for a vote in support of a corporate membership in the Palace and to encourage individual courts to become \$50.00 members.

\$ 100 MEMBER for the Palace

AYES – 16

OPPOSED – 1

Donna Sachet – will give a check to the ICC directly for this who will in turn give the money to the palace.

Focus for 2012: QM is proclaiming it as the Year of our Military Service Members and Veterans – She is appointing military veteran, Emperor 18, George Gerhart, of San Antonio, Texas as an Heir Apparent. She talked about a GLBTQ organization that sent care packages to gay and lesbian soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Service Members United is the name of the group. QM would like to see care packages sent to everyone serving in the military. She said the Canadians will be looking into sending items to their military. QM also suggested that our courts go to the Vet centers and hospitals and read to them or help them out. QM asked for support from the council on her proclamation for 2012. There was discussion on what to call it. Sharon suggested that it be called, “The year of our Military Service Members and Veterans.” **AYES - ALL**

Get the Vote Out for 2012 - We will be getting with the National Gay and Lesbian Task force to get the vote out for the upcoming election. QM asked for support for the, “Get The Vote Out for 2012.” **AYES - ALL**

EDMONTON - QM received an e-mail from Mardi Gras and she was upset that the ICC had pulled Edmonton from the schedule. Discussion ensued as to whether or not we approved it. Some state that we did not and others say we did. It’s in the San Diego minutes that it was voted on and approved as well as the vote count. Scott feels that with Parliament being held in Halifax that the ICC meeting shouldn’t be in Edmonton. There is concern as to the cost of travel to Edmonton. QM was concerned as to the Canadian reaction if the meeting is not held there. Martin and Neal discussed what they felt the Canadian reaction might be. Scott feels that Canada should focus on getting the folks to the Parliament meeting and make it a success.

A straw vote was taken – **AYES - ALL** that the meeting not be held in Edmonton.

Crystal proposes ICC Meetings for 2012 – San Diego in February, Kentucky, June, 1-3 and Washington, D.C., September 14-16. **AYES – ALL.**

Executive officer will give a courtesy call to Edmonton that the ICC will not be taking place there and make an announcement on Imp chat and Imp court of the new officers and where the next ICC meetings will take place. Scott suggested that the executive council put out a notice on Imp chat and Imp court that the ICC will be taking bids for meeting locations for 2013 and that the vote to approve these locations will occur in Kentucky, June, 2012. Tony also added that the ICC meetings be held on Friday and Saturday in Kentucky.

QM stated that an informal meeting could take place in Las Vegas between the Heirs that are in attendance and that **serious consideration should be made to hold a meeting in Surrey in 2013.**

ELECTIONS:

President: Rusty Mueller / Crystal Rae Lee Love

1st Vice President: Robert Lack / Rob Surreal

2nd Vice President: Neal Debreceni / Neal DeWitt

Corresponding Secretary: Martin Rooney / Martin Storm

Russell Roybal motioned that we accept the slate as presented.

Robert Flores – 2nd

AYES – 16

NO – 1

ABSTENTIONS -0

NEW APPOINTED POSITIONS BY THE QUEEN MOTHER:

Chancellor and Chief Minister to the Crown: Tony Monteleone

Minister of Canada to Her Majesty: Martin Rooney / Martin Storm

No vote needed to approve these positions

**Respectfully,
Sharon L. Lancaster / Lantree
Executive Recording Secretary**