



# MENTOR

The Newsletter of Arisia, Incorporated

Number 236, July 2016

Arisia, Incorporated, 561 Windsor Street, Somerville, MA 02143  
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Next Corporate Meeting: **July 17th, 2pm**, 19 Chesley St., Newton Centre; **picnic** to follow, 4pm, open to all staff and potential staff, all corporate members, family and friends.

**Bylaws amendments** (3) regarding officer replacement to be voted on; see page 4.

**Incident Reports** (3) to be reported on:

1. An attendee was informed of the weapons policy; another attendee who tried to intervene was asked to use the Watch next time.
2. There was a report of smoking in a hotel room; the person to whom it was registered was informed of the hotel's smoking policy.
3. We emailed a warning to a volunteer regarding yelling at another volunteer.

**Convention Budget** to be voted on, see page 10

## Arisia June Business Meeting, Flag Day, 14 June, 2016

*In attendance* (30 members):

Anna Bradley	Fred Isaacs	James Meickle	Nicholas "Phi" Shectman
Mieke Citroen	Ray Isaacs	Elliott Mitchell	Kris "Nchanter" Snyder
Daniel Eareckson	Suli Isaacs	Abby Noyce	Mike Sprague
Jaime Garmendia	Rick Katze	Mary Olszowska	Tom Traina
Joel Herda	Allan Kent	Peter Olszowska	Pat Vandenberg
Lisa Hertel	Michael Kerpan*	Kris Pelletier	Conor Walsh
Terry Holt	Rick Kovalcik	Sharon Sbarsky	
Diana Hsu	Ben Levy	Kevin Schendell	

*\*joined \*\*non-member*

Called to order 7:31pm at the NESFA Clubhouse.

**Proxies** (14):

- Alex Latzko to Peter "PeterO" Olszowska
- B. Diane Martin to Lisa Hertel
- Dale Meyer-Curley to Kris "Nchanter" Snyder
- David D'Antonio to Peter Olszowska (semi-directed)
- Dr. Karen Purcell to Ben Levy
- Erik J. Meyer-Curley to Kris Pelletier
- Jaelen Rachlin to Anna Bradley
- Jaime Garmendia to Kris Pelletier
- Jeff Keller to Rick Kovalcik
- Jude Shabry to Anna Bradley
- Mark Richards to Rick Kovalcik
- Mink Rosequist to Kris "Nchanter" Snyder
- Noel Rosenberg to Ben Levy
- Persis Thorndike to Dr. Abby Noyce

**Corrections to the minutes:** We forgot to ask.

### **Officer's Reports**

**Eboard** (Conor Walsh): We had some questions about the weapons policy, which we discussed without outcome. We have discussed and determined a bunch of IR stuff. We discussed a long-term credit card swipe box loan to MCFI. The eboard is generally in favor, but wanted to discuss it with the membership first, as this is a multi-year project. MCFI (Massachusetts Convention Fandom Inc.) are the people who put on Noreascons 2, 3 and 4; they are running CostumeCon in 2019 and bidding a Smofcon in 2017. They would buy another credit card machine (cell-based), which Arisia could loan out or use as needed (as a back-up). MCFI will provide batch summaries and Ben will pay them periodically. They agree to put up signage, and resolve/reimburse for charge-backs. The online reports do specify which machine they came from; Ben and Rick Kovalcik looked. As there are no objections from the membership, this is a done deal. There were also discussions about coat check racks (sent to CIC), and some work on the pending bylaws amendment. We also approved a subscription for Go To Meeting, to allow more remote participation. It's currently a corporate expense, but it will likely be a convention expense after A18.

**President** (Conor Walsh): Conor called NESFA and apologized for the Game Day/Night conflicts.

**Vice President** (Jaime Garmendia): He is on his way. When he came in, there was still no report.

**Treasurer** (Ben Levy): As usual, we have money. If you have questions, see the report in *Mentor* (below, p. 7), or ask Ben. As you just heard, we will be processing credit card payments for MCFI. Rick Kovalcik asks about the capital equipment fund; Ben says it has about \$1700 currently. [After the meeting, Ben reported the \$1700 was the Grant Fund; there is \$3273.79 in Capital Equipment.]

**Clerk** (Lisa Hertel): Sign in; it's \$6 to join now or \$4 after the meeting. Some old *Mentors* are going online. [The one non-member in the room joined.]

**At Large** (Daniel Eareckson, Abby Noyce, Jaelen Rachlin): No report. Happy birthday, Jaelen.

### **Committee Reports**

**A'16** (Nchanter): It occurred.

**A'16 Treasurer** (Rick Kovalcik): Submit your expense reports now! Rick has done his, so you should do yours. He hopes to close the books this summer.

**A'17** (Anna Bradley): We are going to have a con in January. We were having divhead meetings, but are taking off for the summer. On **June 26th**, there will be a **program brainstorming meeting at 2pm at the Westin** (probably in Otis); there is also an online idea submission form, and the brainstorm will have a Go To Meeting to participate remotely. (The brainstorm forum is defunct.) The fall concomms are on the Arisia calendar, and there will be a party Thursday at Worldcon (MidAmeriCon 2 in Kansas City MO), with coloring pages and snackage.

**A'17 Treasurer** (Tom Traina): We have a budget, approved by the divheads. It will be presented to the corporation soon—hopefully July if he makes the *Mentor* deadline.

**A'18** (Jaime Garmendia): He's still looking for a treasurer. It is pointed out that the job of treasurer is highly documented; you can do it with minimal experience.

**Budget** (Ben Levy): We have a **corporate budget** (which was passed around) to be voted on. It is similar to previous years; we have increased insurance, the storage rent has gone up, and we added extra money

(\$360) for renting the new registration server. He also increased the Student Art and Student Writing Contests mailing expenses by \$100 each, and put the Grant Fund funds to \$10,000 (we're supposed to do it all up front, not add during the year). Since *Mentor* went out slightly late, if there is any controversy, we will hold off on voting; Conor gives people time to declare objections. The expenses are higher than the income (net -\$18,240), because the convention funds us. We keep a buffer (a "snow fund" for two years of corporate operating expenses) in Certificates of Deposit.

*Amendments:* Rick Kovalcik **moves to amend the Grant Fund to 5,000** (from \$10K), because it is hard to take money out of the Grant Fund. Rick Katze seconds. Jaime (as head of Grants) points out there aren't any grants currently pending that exceed the current budget, and none forthcoming, so he has no objections. **MSPU.** Terry Holt **moves to increase the Student Writing & Art contests from \$800 to \$1000 each.** Seconded by Rick Kovalcik. Jaime says the entries have been very good, and it's worthwhile. **MSPU.** (Bottom line is now -\$13,640.)

Pat V. asks about the Relaxacon budget; Relaxacon is supposed to be mostly self-supporting (and mostly has been).

**We move the budget as amended; passes unanimously.** [See page 6.]

**CIC** (Rick Kovalcik): A very small amount of stuff went to Balticon and came back. In the future, we need to set borrower's return dates and expectations of such. Things will be going to MidAmeriCon 2 (sound systems, screens).

**Grants** (Jaime Garmendia): We still have an outstanding grant that needs more information. No movement on that, and nothing from Balticon, which needs to send us receipts.

**Honors** (Fred Isaacs): If there are people whom you think should be honored for their Arisia work, please let Honors know.

**Hotel Search** (Phi): We plan on getting an overflow contract for aloft real soon now; it is owned by the same corporation which owns the Westin Waterfront (Starwood). Starwood will give us 120 rooms in aloft at \$165/night (all sizes, 90% doubles), with a 60% attrition rate (so we must fill 48; barring Acts of God clause things). This makes them more expensive for singles, but cheaper for doubles, over the Westin. They will also allow us a block of 20 studio suites at another property for people who require a kitchen for dietary reasons. We can't post it on the website, but can tell people there are kitchenette suites if they want to apply for it. These will be about \$20/night more than the Westin. We got an unsolicited bid from the Marriot Renaissance, but we decided not to go there. Space Pilot would be using the aloft. Hotel Search has not been looking at hotels beyond the Westin Waterfront.

*Jaime comes in and revokes his proxy.*

**IT** (Abby Noyce): We have a Convention Master instantiation installed and running on our server; we need a data dump, then to get Zambia talking to it, and then Programming can use it. PeterO reminds us we need to encrypt access. Anna asks about that cost; there is both low-cost and free encryption software.

**Logo** (Anna Bradley): Monkeys? [This is interpreted as "No report."]

**Long Range Planning** (Conor Walsh): No report; Conor hopes to do it in July.

**Relaxacon** (Rick Kovalcik): It happened. There were 61 adults and three child memberships (with a few no-shows). The adults includes a number of teens. Relaxacon netted \$25; the rates and location next year

