



# MENTOR

The Newsletter of Arisia, Incorporated Number 230 January 2016

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**THE FEBRUARY 2016 CORPORATE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 2016 AT 7:30 PM AT THE NESFA CLUBHOUSE IN SOMERVILLE.**

## NOTICE OF BUDGET MOTION FOR DECEMBER CORPORATE MEETING

Proposed Budget Changes:

Advertising Ad Sales has already brought in way more than the \$1000 planned on. At this point we are over \$2000, so we are changing that line item to \$2000 income.

We are moving \$1500 from the Events Budget to the Staff Services Budget in order to give out better Volunteer Appreciation Gifts than last year, especially at the 25 hour level. Events was not going to need to spend all the money they had allocated.

We did not budget for the Debrief. Last year we spent about \$1400 on the Debrief and plan to have a similar Debrief this year. Therefore we are adding \$1400 to Staff Services Budget for the Debrief.

We plan to add \$500 to the Gaming Budget. Maintaining a Board Game Library is an ongoing cost, as it must be updated with new releases, replacing old or worn copies, and buying additional copies of popular titles. Arisia has used several libraries in the past, including ones belonging to retailers and NESFA. This year, Arisia will purchase around 10 board games for use at the convention, and donate them to the NESFA library. This is much cheaper than trying to build and maintain our own library, and is the right thing to do in return for using the NESFA library.

Thus the overall budget goes from a loss of \$2827 to a loss of \$3727.

Income	Current	Proposed	Reason/Notes
Advertising	\$1000	\$2000	
Income Totals	\$1000	\$2000	Net increase in Income Budgeted \$1000
Expense	Current	Proposed	Reason/Notes
Events			
Event #3	\$1000	\$500	
Event #4	\$1000	\$500	
Event #5	\$1000	\$500	
Gaming			
Board Game Purchase		\$500	To be donated to NESFA Library as Thank You
Staff Services			
Volunteer Rewards	\$800	\$2300	Better gift at 25 hour level
Debrief	\$1400		We should budget for this
Expense Totals	\$3800	\$5700	Net increase in Expense Budgeted \$1900

*Note: following are the meeting minutes only, resurrected from the clerk's files.*

*THE QUORUM FOR THE JANUARY MEETING IS 24 BASED ON 51% OF THE LAST THREE MEETINGS (31,23,17).*

## **Corporate Meeting Notes** December 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Date, Time, and Place:** The meeting was called to order by Conor Walsh at 7:30ish p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at the NESFA Clubhouse in Somerville, MA.

In attendance: (17 of 72 voting members): Anna Bradley, Jaime Garmendia, Lisa Hertel, Diana Hsu, Rick Katze, Rick Kovalcik, Ben Levy, Ken London, Abby Noyce, Kris Pelletier, Jaelen Rachlin, Andy Rosequist, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas Shectman, Kris Snyder, Mike Sprague, and Conor Walsh. Rachel Kadel-Garcia.

**Proxies (12 valid proxies):** Erik Meyer-Curley to Kris Pelletier, Jeff Keller to Rick Kovalcik, Persis Thorndyke to Rick Kovalcik, Selkie Selkiechick to Mike Sprague, Tom Traina to Anna Bradley, Mink Rose to Andy Rosequist, Carol London to Ken London, Kevin Schendell to Andy Rosequist, David D'Antonio proxy failed (no one listed present), Alan McAvinney to Andy Rosequist, Crystal Huff to Mike Sprague, Dale Meyer-Curley to Kris Pelletier, and Terry Holt to Mike Sprague.

**Corrections to the minutes:** None.

**E-Board (Conor Walsh):** Reviewed the motion that Rick will be making today. Looking into insurance for certain things including the cameras we are getting without cost because if we break it, replacement will be very expensive. it could cost us a lot of money. Certain amendments to the Photography policy were approved in November with the remaining issues to be discussed today. In October, we voted to change the code of conduct, referred back to the e-board to clean up the language. We are working on bringing the code of conduct on the website in line with things actually passed. Thanks to Jaelen for doing work on that. SMOFcon happened. We gave Lisa a scholarship, because she applied and met the criteria. Lisa plans on having a written report next month.

**President's Report (Conor Walsh):** Conor finished writing this awesome letter with Kris that is going in the souvenir book.

**Vice President's Report (Jaime Garmendia):** No report.

**Treasurer's Report (Ben Levy):** In November we filed a 990-EZ (instead of a 990). It turns out that we were just below the amount which would have required a longer IRS form filing. As usual, we have money. If you have questions, please ask or see Mentor. Treasury Report will be found below.

**Clerk's Report (Rick Katze):** Folks are reminded to submit reports in writing or be subject to the vagaries of the clerk. The attendance list is at the back of the room, with credit card machines to accept membership renewals. Membership is \$18 if you join at this meeting, and \$16 after the meeting.

**Members-At-Large Reports (Abby Noyce, Jaelen Rachlin, Daniel Eareckson):** Daniel is not present but no other report.

**A16 Report (Kris Snyder):** The hotel hasn't burned down. We haven't had to use the contingency). Kris noted several meetings which will occur before this issue is sent out. There are 37 days until the con, as of this meeting, five of which Nchanter doesn't think counts—Dec. 24, 25, 26, and 31— since she doesn't expect anyone to do any work on those 5 days. If anyone tells you to do work on those days, send them to Nchanter, she is scarier. "Still with 32% more whimsy." Shortly thereafter, things got silly and the Clerk chooses not to report on them. You should have attended the meeting.

**A16 Treasurer's Report (Rick Kovalcik):** Please let him know if we have expenses. Please use the Arisia expense form and send me a copy of it. Please don't use Expensify. The Budget Amendment. noticed in the December issue of Mentor will be handled in New Business.

**A17 Report (Anna Bradley):** We're all working on A'16! Anna can now sign cheques or something.

**A17 Treasurer's Report (Tom Traina):** Anna can now sign cheques or something. Tom, were you at the bank? do you have a report? [Redacted, but whimsical counting games ensued.]

**Budget Committee (Ben Levy):** No report.

**CIC Committee (Rick Kovalcik):** . No report.

**Grants Committee (Jaime Garmendia):** There is a grant legacy from the prior iteration of the e-board concerning

a grant request from Locus. While the e-board voted in favor, the information was never published in *Mentor* until the December issue. The brief purpose of the grant request was to help fund the Locus Award Ceremony in June 2015. Jaime indicated that he would contact Locus to see if they still want the money but they probably still do. Their expenses are listed as larger than their listed income. **MSPU** to allocate \$2500 from grants fund to Locus. There are two pending grant requests and the grants committee has not met yet. Hopefully we will meet in the next week or so.

**Honors Committee (Fred Isaacs):** It was proposed that we give thank you notes to people who gone above and beyond and been singled out. People nominated Hobbit for going through all of the new video gear and doing good things to it. Fred has a thank you card for Hobbit for people to sign. At the next meeting, when Fred sees Hobbit, he'll give it to him.

**Hotel Search (Phi):** Conor noted that there was nothing new to report, which is consistent with last month's report.

**IT Committee (Abby Noyce):** A few lists got test-moved and the last notice is that maybe that broke some stuff? Moderation broke. RKOV is in the process of fixing it, rsn.

**Logo Committee (Anna Bradley):** Haven't met yet.

**Long Range Planning (Conor Walsh):** Anna & Mink met, we updated the question language. We need to put them into the survey tool. Once that is done, we will export a copy of the questions for a limited review.

**Relaxacon Report (Currently Empty):** Conor noted, again, that a chair is needed. Someone should throw themselves into that hat. Conor has big hats.

**Student Art Contest: (Jacob Lefton):** Conor noted that omeone should interface with Jacob, like Kris P.

**Student Writing Contest (Terry Holt):** Fifty-two entries were received. The Committee is meeting on Sunday for drinking & reading. If anyone wants to join her, feel free. Note that here there be cats and children. There are three confirmed Judges. Gabriel Squailia, Kiini Ibura Salaam, and Keith R. A. DeCandido

**Ad-hoc Photography:** The language to revise D and E is still being worked on.

**Old Business:** None.

### **New Business**

RKOV read his amendment which was published in the December issue of *Mentor*. Briefly it it added \$1400 for the Debrief and \$500 for gaming, with the games to be donated to NESFA after Arisia, which changes the budget from a loss of \$2827 to loss of \$3727. It was further noted that advertising income for Arisia 16 was a lot more money than expected, Jaime thanked Rick Katze for that. **MSPU** regarding the budget amendment.

**MSPU** to change the photo policy to add: Flash photography is permitted at Arisia except for areas or events where it is specifically banned (e.g. in performances). It is likely to be added at the end of the current language about flash photography but there could be technical changes as to location. Jaime did question whether we would be able to carve out other safe spaces where we don't allow flash photography.

RKOV is moving to change Convention Policies that the Convention Budget, starting with Arisia 2017, should **include an expense line of 2% of the total income budget for ConChair expense reimbursement** to cover some of the reasonable and customary extra possible expenses of being a Conchair, such as Div Head gifts, suite rental at con, travel to other cons, meals when meeting with staff members pre-con, and so on. These expenses would be subject to normal Arisia expense policies and should be run by the Eboard beforehand whenever possible. Chorus of seconds! We've been discussing this for a couple months, it came up at a div head meeting (and before then). There have been discussions of whether it should be 2% of total income, which is hard to figure out. Rick has run this by the eboard because it's quite possible the convention treasurer might be a friend of the Conchair, and some separation of powers is good.

Nchanter says we should do this thing. Terry says there should not be a financial gate to becoming conchair; Abby agrees. Alan -- also in favor -- says there are people who have significant amounts of time and money and it is doing Arisia a favor if we can accept people who have time and make it easier for people who may not have money. If Arisia would grow a lot or shrink a lot, like relocating to Springfield, using previous year's actual could be complicated. Sometimes we don't have that number when producing the following year's budget. Conor asks

how do we not know a gross by Monday?? Well, Art show is part of this; Congo reports -- range is from 120 thousand to 140 thousand depending on how you look at it. Jaime says this is a practice that other conventions follow, and we're behind the times on this. We're doing ourselves a disservice by not offering reimbursement of costs guaranteed to be incurred by conchair. Nchanter -- we're closing the gap. Div Heads are eligible for space pilot now, so this narrows the gap of people who can afford this down a bit. Mike agrees. Per Ben, the last half of that sentence says, "should be run by the eboard whenever possible." Run by is nebulous. Perhaps submitted for approval? RKOv disagrees. He says it's similar to the conchair saying "I want a room on Wednesday night." If it's a valid expense, it's valid -- it's subject to the Arisia expense policy. Nchanter does not want it to be thought of as practice that she has to run by the eboard every time that her \$2000 is going to be used to defray the costs of dinners out, or things like that. She shouldn't have to run her dinner bill by the eboard AHEAD OF TIME. Rick's wording allows "notify the eboard" versus approval from the eboard. If a Conchair abuses this, Arisia can decide NOT to reimburse. Can we be reasonable people about this and not pedantic? Jaime thinks Ben's point is that we should clarify what the procedure is. Should it be formal, an in advising what is going to happen? We are leaving it nebulous. Nchanter asks who has final authorizing authority for this? Abby suggests two replacements: Notify? or Discussed with? Both clarify a behavior without making it more formal? RKOv is uncomfortable putting time frames on this, because the eboard is not always timely and sometimes you need an answer back in a day and sometimes it's 4 months. This is like porn -- you know it when you see it -- RKOv knows porn when he sees it, and he knows what "run by" means. The Eboard can suspend decisions of the conchair. So if Andy spends \$1000 on hookers & blow, and tells the eboard, they have a problem, but it's a different one. So, if Andy DOES spend \$1k on hookers, all the eboard can do is decide not to reimburse him. (Note Andy is not running for chair.)

Reiterate final motion: moving to change Convention Policies that the Convention Budget, starting with Arisia 2017, should include an expense line of 2% of the total income budget for ConChair expense reimbursement to cover some of the reasonable and customary extra possible expenses of being a Conchair, such as Div Head gifts, suite rental at con, travel to other cons, meals when meeting with staff members pre-con, and so on. These expenses would be subject to normal Arisia expense poli-

cies. The Eboard should be notified in advance of incurring such expenses whenever possible. Abby -- somebody asked whether once something is notified and the eboard doesn't go oh shit, do those expenses get approved again or what happens? Conor is comfortable with the thing of, if the eboard does not explicitly torpedo it, it's considered approved. Fred says a better wording would be adding incurring to the last sentence. Are we under the assumption that anything a conchair wants reimbursement for and is Arisia related and isn't the proverbial hookers and blow, would be covered? Because we're under the assumption that being conchair will lose you more time & money than this will ever reimburse? Abby thinks it's important to give Conchairs discretion about what they need reimbursement for -- some people will already have arrangements for cons. Daniel -- is this retroactive? No, it starts in A'17. Anna should recuse herself. RKOv asks where do you draw the line if we went back in time, and that's too tricky. Nchanter is not expecting to be reimbursed; she's lucky that she can cover the extra expenses. But future conchairs should not have to be lucky. Andy asks if we care where in convention policies it goes? Conor suggests Finance Section 11, as the next letter, Sub item 15. in the Convention budget. Is there any objection to it being added as new item? All in favor -- aye; abstaining is Anna Bradley, as is Tom Traina. Next Spring, Conor will delete the words Arisia 2017 cuz it won't matter anymore.

#### Announcements

Moved to have the meeting on the 15th of March, Tuesday, 7:30pm, at NESFA.

Daniel asks does NESFA have any policies about foam swords in the clubhouse? No, NESFA only has weapons policies for the convention. General Arisia would like us to know that he's already been stabbed in the role of Julius Caesar at a convention. Motion passes many to Caesar.

RKOv sent mail to Corp: MCFI has authorized RKOv to form a committee about bringing WorldCon to Boston. Not much will happen until after Arisia or Boskone. There is hope that local cons will be involved.

Monday Dec 14th there is an Open Staff Meeting starting at 7pm in Alcott (so far); an agenda will go out in the next day or two as soon as Nchanter comes up with one.

MCFI is also looking into a SMOFcon in 2018; talk to them if interested.

Our fan GoH is bidding San Juan for NASFIC for 2017 cuz Worldcon is not in North America. People should ask Pablo about that.

RKOV -- Sharon left off that MCFI is also trying to bring in the Nebula awards in 2018, and a Costumecon.

MEETING STANDS ADJOURNED 9:51pm

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<b>October 31, 2015</b>			<b>Change vs last month</b>
<b>Odd Year - A15</b>		<b>\$50,436.12</b>	<b>-\$6,061.71</b>
<b>Even Year - A16</b>		<b>\$60,278.46</b>	\$25,635.53
<b>Helsinki in 2017 - USA</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	\$0.00
<b>Corporate</b>			
<b>Reserved/Unspent</b>			
Two years expenses (CDs)	\$41,655.37		\$1.17
Grant Fund	\$6,700.00		\$0.00
Capital Eq Unallocated	\$8,359.21		\$1,422.12
Capital Equipment Allocated	\$0.00		<b>-\$1,809.14</b>
Training Fund	\$1,229.00		\$0.00
Scholarship(?) Fund	\$0.00		\$0.00
Voted Expenses (excludes budget)	\$7,833.56		\$5,580.00
Unspent Budget	\$16,265.40		<b>-\$1,460.03</b>
<b>Total Reserved</b>		<b>\$82,042.54</b>	\$3,734.12
<b>Unallocated Funds</b>		<b>\$12,120.58</b>	<b>-\$3,450.75</b>
<b>Total Corporate Funds</b>		<b>\$94,163.12</b>	\$283.37
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$204,877.70</b>	\$19,857.19

<b>Total Corporate Income</b>		\$163.02	<b>-\$712.98</b>
<b>Total Corporate Expenses</b>		<b>-\$2,971.27</b>	<b>-\$1,002.22</b>

<b>November 30, 2015</b>			<b>Change vs last month</b>
<b>Odd Year - A17</b>		<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>-\$47,436.12</b>
<b>Even Year - A16</b>		<b>\$66,972.29</b>	\$6,693.83
<b>Corporate</b>			
<b>Reserved/Unspent</b>			
Two years expenses (CDs)	\$41,656.46		\$1.09
Grant Fund	\$6,700.00		\$0.00
Capital Eq Unallocated	\$7,359.21		<b>-\$1,000.00</b>
Capital Equipment Allocated	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Training Fund	\$1,029.00		<b>-\$200.00</b>
Scholarship(?) Fund	\$0.00		\$0.00
Voted Expenses (excludes budget)	\$7,833.56		\$0.00
Unspent Budget	\$12,869.50		<b>-\$3,395.90</b>
<b>Total Reserved</b>		<b>\$78,447.73</b>	<b>-\$3,594.81</b>
<b>Unallocated Funds</b>		<b>\$59,339.37</b>	\$47,218.79
<b>Total Corporate Funds</b>		<b>\$137,787.10</b>	\$43,623.98
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$207,759.39</b>	\$2,881.69

<b>Total Corporate Income</b>		<b>\$1.94</b>	<b>-\$161.08</b>
<b>Total Corporate Expenses</b>	\$1.94	<b>-\$3,723.72</b>	<b>-\$752.45</b>