



# Mentor

The Newsletter of  
**Arisia, Incorporated**

Volume 32, Issue 310, August 2023  
519 Somerville Ave #371, Somerville, MA 02143  
+ 1-917-7ARISIA (+1-917-727-4742)

## Contents

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| About the Meeting                 | 1 |
| August Meeting Summary            | 1 |
| Calendar                          | 6 |
| Membership List                   | 6 |
| Executive Board                   | 8 |
| Subscription and Dues Information | 8 |

## About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 7:30 pm ET via Zoom**. The link to the meeting and corresponding agenda will be distributed over the corp-announce email list in advance of the meeting.

The quorum for the September corporate meeting is **16**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings  $((25+35+31)/3 \times 0.51) = X$ .

Please submit proxies in advance by email to [corp-proxies@arisia.org](mailto:corp-proxies@arisia.org) (a mailing list which will be seen by all subscribed corporate members) and CC the proxy holder.

## August 24, 2023 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at **7:05 PM**.

There were 31 members attending:

Nicholas "phi" Shectman  
Etana  
Ken London  
Allison Feldhusen  
Ilene Tatroe  
Rachel Tanenhaus  
Joseph Andelman  
Sharon Sbarsky  
Jason Schneiderman  
Mike Tatroe  
Sabina Fecteau  
Gail Terman  
Claudia Mastroianni

Vivan Abraham  
Nightwing Whitehead  
Henry Leong  
Elliott M  
Rick Kovalcik  
Dan Toland  
Dale Meyer-Curley  
Wendy Abramo  
Rebecca Brumberger  
Daniel Abraham  
Mike Sprague  
Nick Brown  
Erik Meyer-Curley  
Richard Schmeidler  
Priscilla Ballou  
Kylie Selkirk  
Kelly  
Melissa Kaplan

**Proxies:**

1. Melissa Kaplan to Nick Brown (until Melissa's arrival)
2. Lisa Hertel to Sharon Sbarsky (until Sharon's departure)
3. EJ Barnes to Etana
4. JB Segal to Alison Feldhusen
5. Regis Donovan to Claudia Mastroianni
6. Cate Schneiderman to Rachel Tanenhaus
7. Fred Bauer to Rick Kovalcik
8. Delenn to Rebecca Brumberger
9. Sharon Sbarsky to Gail Terman (after Sharon's departure)

**Corrections to and approval of the March 2021 Minutes:**

The March 2021 minutes were approved unanimously via voice vote without corrections.

**Appeal of Disciplinary Process Decision:**

A motion to enter Committee of the Whole to discuss an appeal of a disciplinary process decision from last month passed unanimously via voice vote.

The meeting entered Committee of the Whole.

Upon exiting Committee of the Whole, a motion to overturn the one-year convention attendance restriction from the disciplinary process decision being appealed passed 27-9 with 2 abstentions via secret ballot. The appellant may attend the convention.

A motion to overturn the indefinite volunteering ban from the disciplinary process decision being appealed failed 9-28 with 1 abstention via secret ballot. The appellant may not volunteer for the convention.

### **Election for Interim Clerk:**

Rachel Tanenhaus self-nominated for Interim Clerk. She was elected unanimously via secret ballot 35-0 with no abstentions.

### **Budget:**

The budget as proposed is available for viewing at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14I780wAEszNMNb3kJ4IcLG3oJ2UKx6Yhps0Jrbg4TJk/edit?usp=sharing>.

Discussion of print pocket program:

Comms has insufficient people power to make a widely-available print pocket program. The ConChairs are against offering for-pay pocket programs - determining need for free vs. paid on a person-by-person basis is problematic. A PDF can be offered online and folks can print it out if they want, presuming Comms is staffed enough to make a pocket program in the first place. If you need a printed program for access or religious reasons, e-mail [access@arisia.org](mailto:access@arisia.org) and they'll get you one, no questions asked. But very little of what we print is picked up every year, and we throw a lot of paper away. Printing costs aren't high, but the people cost for making things that print out well can be. No motion was proposed.

Discussion of MPLC license and whether or not it applies to Shadowcast performances:

Vivian says if a video is shown during a Shadowcast performance, the MPLC license needs to apply.

The budget was approved unanimously via open vote. The Con-Chairs stated that amendments will be proposed in the future.

### **EBoard Report:**

The EBoard voted to appoint Rachel Tanenhaus as Interim Clerk pending today's election. We lent fans to Albacon and SMOFcon. We voted to approve seven dues waivers. After voting on two waivers for people also eligible for free memberships under the new membership policy for senior convention staff, we realized we should just have the Clerk record those memberships on our rolls without a vote or including them in the EBoard report, and we switched to doing that.

We individually looked into some conflict management and anti-racism trainings. It looks like there are a number of free and/or inexpensive options. phi found an excellent one that had been custom made for another geeky group. It is available online but is very audience-specific.

It might not be out of reach to have a similar one custom made for us, as BARCC has custom made anti-harassment trainings for us. Since finding that training phi has ceased to be a disinterested party and would have to recuse on a funding vote if the Corporation picked those creators. That doesn't stop us from doing so, but phi wouldn't be the one to drive it.

### **President's Report:**

phi will be running for Treasurer instead of President in the annual elections next month. New leadership on the convention side has given him confidence in our future. In the almost five years that he has been President we have addressed many of the issues that faced Arisia in 2018, but there is much work still to be done. He feels that either the remaining issues should be addressed by someone new, or perhaps to address them he needs to be standing somewhere else. Either way, Arisia has a number of other people who'd make a fantastic President and phi feels it's time for him to give someone else a turn.

The membership voted to schedule the November Corporate meeting for Sunday, November 12 at 6 pm EST.

### **Clerk's Report:**

Thank you to the 33 people who have settled up with Arisia for Corporate '23-'24. If you wish to join the Corporation in 2023-24, please sign up at <https://corp.arisia.org/membership> and either pay \$24 or e-mail [eboard@arisia.org](mailto:eboard@arisia.org) for a dues waiver, no questions asked. If you are a DH or higher, you don't have to pay but please let the Clerk ([clerk@arisia.org](mailto:clerk@arisia.org)) know that you want to be in Corp. The Corporation has a form due to the state around the beginning of September, so Rachel will send it in.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

None.

### **Officer and Committee Reports:**

#### **IT Committee Report:**

The IT team is switching over Arisia's email lists to another host. Each email list will send you an email on or around August 31 once it gets switched over, which will give you an opportunity to reset your filters. At this time, if you send email as someone other than your usual e-mail address, that process will not yet change. You'll be informed if it does. Also, if you need to add anyone to an alias and it's not an emergency, please wait until after the e-mail addresses are switched over.

#### **IRMC Report:**

Thanks to Melissa Kaplan who is stepping down from the IRMC. This leaves an additional vacancy on an already understaffed committee. Please get in touch with Vivian at [vivian@arisia.org](mailto:vivian@arisia.org) if you're interested in serving on the IRMC. If you have questions but don't want to commit, talk to Vivian.

### **Arisia 2024 Report:**

Arisia is thrilled to announce our 2024 Featured Guests Windborne Singers (<http://arisia.org/GoHBios#FMG>) and Eugenio Vargas (DMJazzyHands)!

"The most exciting vocal group in a generation," Windborne's captivating show draws on the singers' deep roots in traditions of vocal harmony, while the absolute uniqueness of their artistic approach brings old songs into the present.

Eugenio Vargas is a TTRPG designer, writer, and professional GM, as well as a streamer and podcaster. He's been featured as both a GM and player in various actual play shows, including Into the Mother Lands.

Arisia co-working hours will take place on Zoom on Sunday, August 27 at 2 pm.

The next ConCom meeting will be on Sunday, September 10 at 5 pm.

### **New Business:**

None.

### **Announcements:**

1) NESFA's Picnic:

Monday, September 4, 2023 • 3:00pm to 7:30pm

NESFA Picnic at The Shelter (a covered area with 6 grills and 8 tables) at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline.

Note that neither dogs nor hibachis are allowed in this area.

All fans are welcome. NESFA will provide the basics: hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, and fire; bring something to share.

2) Smofcon 40:

<https://smofcon40.org/>

December 1-3, 2023

Providence Downtown Marriott

Link to a survey to collect Program ideas is on

<https://smofcon40.org/program/>

Someone asked if Arisia is offering a SMOFcon sponsorship this year.

The EBoard was not prepared to answer that question at this meeting.

3) Albacon 2023:

<https://albacon.org/2023/>

September 8-10, 2023  
Fully Hybrid, join (in person or hybrid) to help and learn

Gail noted that PAX West is coming up.

If you're going to a con and you need Arisia postcards or bookmarks to distribute, let Ilene know and she can send you some. Please do this!

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

## Calendar

Corporate Meetings

Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM

### Current Meetings and Events (as of 8/27/23)

- Mon 9/4 - 3:00 PM - NESFA Picnic
- Fri 9/8-Sun 9/10 - Albacon
- Sun 9/10 - 5:00 PM - Arisia 2024 Convention Committee
- Fri 12/1-Sun 12/3 - Smofcon

Upcoming Conventions

September 8-10, 2023 - Albacon

December 1-3, 2023 - Smofcon

Please also see <https://corp.arisia.org/calendar>.

## Membership List

This membership list is as of 5:00 PM on 8/27/2023. Please report any corrections to [clerk@arisia.org](mailto:clerk@arisia.org). Names in italics are non-voting members.

|                   |                     |                       |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Daniel R. Abraham | Philip Hallam-Baker | <i>A. Joseph Ross</i> |
| Vivian Abraham    | Buzz Harris         | Joan Ruland           |

|                     |                     |                          |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Wendee Abramo       | Sol Houser          |                          |
| Joseph Andelman     | Crystal Huff        | Shanon Sbarsky           |
| Inanna Arthen       | Lenore Jean Jones   | Richard Schmeidler       |
| Julia Austein       | Melissa Kaplan      | Cate Schneiderman        |
| Priscilla Ballou    | Terry Karney        | Jason Schneiderman       |
| E.J. Barnes         | Rick Kovalcik       | JB Segal                 |
| Fred Bauer          | Sue Kramer          | Kylie Selkirk            |
| <i>Rob Bazemore</i> | Chris Lahey         | Seph                     |
| James Boggie        | Alex Latzko         | Nicholas "Phi" Schectman |
| Bridget Boyle       |                     | <i>Cris Shuldiner</i>    |
| Anna Bradley        | Henry Leong         | David Silber             |
| Nicholas Brown      | Ben Levy            | Rachel Silber            |
| Delenn Brumberger   | Megan Lewis         | Mike Sprague             |
| Rebecca Brumberger  | Ken London          |                          |
| Marc Brunco         | Glenn MacWilliams   |                          |
| Shen C.             | Claudio Mastroianni | Mary Stock               |
| Brendon Chetwynd    | Will McMain         |                          |
| <i>Brian Cooper</i> | Penelope Messier    | Rachel Tanenhaus         |
| Heather Cougar      | Dale Meyer-Curley   | Maria Taranov            |
| Tom Coveney         | Erik Meyer-Curley   | Ilene Tatroe             |
| David D'Antonio     |                     | Mike Tatroe              |
| Regis Donovan       |                     | Gail Terman              |
| Kaiden Drew         | Elliot Mitchell     | Emily Tersoff            |
| Jan Dumas           | Hope Moore          | Persis Thorndike         |
| Dennis Duquette     | Alex Morgan         | Dan Toland               |
| Daniel Eareckson    | Skip Morris         | Dorothy Trachtenberg     |
| etana               | Lla Olsborg         | Ed Trachtenberg          |

|                             |                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Kelly Fabijanic             | Kris Pelletier                    | Melia Vaden         |
| Sabina Fecteau              |                                   | Wendy Verschoor     |
| Allison Feldhusen           | Melissa “MPA”<br>Perreira-Andrews | Tanya Washburn      |
| Jennifer Fitzsimmons-Gauger | Dr. Karen Purcell                 | Alan Wexelblat      |
| Dan Franklin                | Danielle Reese                    | Michele Wexellblat  |
| Jaime Garmendia             | Shannon Reilley                   | Nightwing Whitehead |
| Lisa Goldstein              | Phoebe Roberts                    |                     |
| Erik H.                     | Noel Rosenberg                    |                     |

**Executive Board - eboard@**

|                       |                                    |                 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| President             | Nicholas “phi” Shectman            | president@      |
| Vice President        | Mike Sprague                       | vice-president@ |
| Treasurer             | etana                              | treasurer@      |
| Interim Clerk         | Rachel Tanenhaus                   | clerk@          |
| Members-At-Large      | Vivian Abraham                     | at-large@       |
|                       | Claudia Mastroianni                |                 |
| Arisia '24 Con Chairs | Melissa Kaplan and Ilene<br>Tatroe | conchair@       |
| Arisia '24 Treasurer  | Bill Sherman                       | con-treasurer@  |

**Subscription and Dues information** Membership runs from September 1st to August 31st (\*) and costs \$24 for the year. Dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for members joining throughout the year. Subscription to the Arisia, Inc. newsletter, *Mentor of Arisia*, is included with corporate membership.

New members must attend one meeting after joining to receive voting privileges at subsequent meetings.

Pay for the month in which the next corporate meeting will take place (per the [calendar](#)).

|           |      |       |      |
|-----------|------|-------|------|
| September | \$24 | March | \$12 |
| October   | \$22 | April | \$10 |
| November  | \$20 | May   | \$8  |
| December  | \$18 | June  | \$6  |

|          |      |        |     |
|----------|------|--------|-----|
| January  | \$16 | July   | \$4 |
| February | \$14 | August | \$2 |

If you cannot afford to purchase a membership, you may reach out to the Executive Board at [eboard@arisia.org](mailto:eboard@arisia.org) and request a dues waiver.

You can pay in cash at a corporate meeting, mail a check for the appropriate amount to Arisia, or use the PayPal button below. (You do not need a PayPal account to use your debit or credit card with PayPal.)

Arisia's mailing address is:

Arisia, Inc.

519 Somerville Avenue #371

Somerville, MA 02143