



Mentor

The corporate newsletter of Arisia, Incorporated

Volume 10, Issue 77

November 1997

October Corporate Meeting

Time: October 14, 1997 at 7:38 PM

Location: 4th Floor, Wheatley Hall, UMass Boston.

In Attendance: Drea Brandford, Amy Chused, Joel Herda, Jeff Jordan, Ben Levy, Pat McCormack, Elka Tovah Menkes, Skip Morris, Brendan Quinn, Paul Selkirk, Rachel Silverman, Ailsa Murphy (red shirt), Kathy Cunningham (non-member), Donna Dube (non-member)

- Proxies

Dave Cantor to Skip Morris

- Corrections to the August Minutes

The August issue of Mentor should have been number 75, not number 74.

- President's Report

Getting things organized has been slower than anticipated because we had to beat records out of some people. Most committees are filled except the Awards committee. Thanks to everyone for all the work they've done, especially Cris Shuldiner. I would like to get to the point where meetings are shorter and more collegial, with less backbiting.

- Vice President's Report

Florida was hot. I have received several grant requests. The Grant committee has not met yet to consider them. I am putting together a letter to solicit grant requests, and expect to have a draft ready by the end of next week. The grant to SCUM has not gone out yet, but we will cut the check as soon as we finish the paperwork to get

signature power.

- Treasurer's Report

I have been unable to get the records from Marshall; I will visit him at work next week.

I have called all the banks we know about. We have 3 accounts with BankBoston: a con account, a corporate checking account, and a corporate savings account. We have 2 accounts with WestBank: the credit card merchant account, and a 1992 con account.

- Clerk's Report

I sent out the first email edition of Mentor, and people seemed to like it. (At least, no one seemed to hate it.) Since it is a long document, it was suggested that I add a table of contents at the top (although everyone should be familiar with the boilerplate style by now).

Everyone is reminded to sign in. Dues are \$22 at the beginning of the meeting, \$20 at the end.

- Arisia 1997

Tim turned over a not-quite-complete set of information at the September meeting. I can't quite close the books, as I'm waiting for the last set of bank statements, and I'm waiting for Joel to send me a breakout of the master bill so that I can charge catering to the proper departments. We have \$4600 in the con account, with no outstanding charges except the bank charges and maybe one GoH expense (a van rental by the AGoH).

One outstanding problem is the missing Pepsi trays. Jeremy Brown has half, but the other half are missing. Pepsi wants them

back, or \$100 to replace them.

We know of comped guest rooms that should be reimbursed to the con: one shared by Jeff Jordan and Pat McCormack, one used by Joel Herda, and one used by Marshall Ellis. [Jeff suggests to all future con chairs that they not put people in comped rooms without clearing it with them first.]

The bottom line seems to indicate that we made \$18,000, but that's bullshit. I expect the bottom line to settle to about \$11-12,000.

The biggest problem with the books is a file with \$2,200 in undeposited income. We are asking the businesses (PageNet and the Park Plaza parking garage) to re-cut checks. The rest is slightly thornier: a \$225 check for purchased art, \$115 in bounced checks, \$65 cash, and \$925 in Arisia '97 registrations.

MOVED to attempt to recover moneys from the Park Plaza and PageNet. Motion PASSED. (The treasurer suggests just depositing the checks, and seeing what happens.)

MOVED out of a committee of the whole to attempt to recover the \$225 art show check. Motion PASSED. It was left to the Pat and Skip's discretion whether to offer a discount.

MOVED out of a committee of the whole to eat the registrations. It appears that most of them were pre-registrations, so they would be almost a year old by now. FRIENDLY AMENDMENT to make no attempt to recover the money; to return the checks to their owners, with a letter of apology and explanation; to have the treasurer investigate how many of the individuals may have issued replacement checks at the convention, and to send them a separate letter of apology. Motion PASSED.

- Arisia 1998 (Drea Brandford reporting for Programming)

There is a concom meeting on Sunday October 19 at 2 PM, at the Westin (not at MIT as previously announced).

We have invited 250 previous guests, plus a number of SFWA members who have not been guests before. So far, we've gotten 35

responses from the previous guests, 25 of them yes. We've had 7-10 responses from the SFWA list, all of them no. (But the fact that they responded allows us to continue to use their addresses; we bought a one-time use of the SFWA list.)

- Arisia 1998 Treasury

I was authorized to budget \$10,000 in the red. The preliminary budget, based on input from all departments, is actually \$20,000 over. Any further cuts will require policy decisions, and should be put to the membership. [Clerk's note: a preliminary budget was presented at the meeting. However, it was substantially revised at a subsequent Division Heads meeting, and that version is attached to this issue of Mentor.]

The Art Show has 56 panels and 10 tables that they can sell.

MOVED to set Art Show fees at \$26 for a full panel, \$13 for a half panel, \$7 for a quarter panel, \$13 for a half table, and a \$15 fee for accepting mail-in art. Motion PASSED.

- Arisia 1999

Not present.

- Audit Fund

This function has been subsumed into the Records Task Force, which has nothing to report.

- Long Range Planning Committee

The president intends to leave this committee unstaffed. He feels it is not generally useful, and ideally should be a research committee. He intends to appoint ad-hoc committees to deal with single issues as they come up.

- Corporate Inventory Control (Jeff Jordan reporting)

We appear to still have a CIC officer, despite the fact that he is not currently a corporate member; he may not have realized that he should have paid dues in September.

We have received a request from UNIT-USA to borrow some art show panels for United FanCon, October 31 - November 2.

MOVED to authorize Ken Elwell to coordinate this loan. Motion PASSED.

- Corporate Sales
Not present.

- Corporate System Administrator
Not present.

- Old Business

MOVED to send a survey to the Arisia 1997 attendees concerning Arisia's current direction. Motion comes from the TABLE. FRIENDLY AMENDMENT to establish a committee of 3 or 4 people to study and design a survey to be given to the Arisia '98 attendees. Motion PASSED. Committee appointments are listed at the end of this issue.

MOVED to amend the bylaws by adding the following text: "A shrug shall be counted as a ½ vote, for the purposes of any decision that involves a vote." Motion comes from the TABLE. The Eboard gives this 3 thumbs down and a shrug, but we don't have quorum to vote on a bylaw amendment.

- New Business

MOVED that Matthew Saroff be authorized to run a raffle at Arisia '98. The Eboard has already appointed him, and it is not necessary to get corporate approval, but this is a "make it so" motion. Motion PASSED.

MOVED to authorize the treasurer to spend up to \$600 to purchase used credit card swipe boxes and printers. FRIENDLY AMENDMENT that said money not be spent until we have a credit card account that can handle swipe boxes. (Pat says that WestBank can't handle swipe boxes, and we can't open a new credit card account with BankBoston without a credit check, for which we need 3 years of past IRS filings.) Motion TABLED to a committee of 2 (Skip Morris and Pat McCormack).

MOVED to add a standing policy that checks, withdrawals, and other disbursements in amounts over \$500 require signatures of at least 2 signatories.

Motion PASSED.

The Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association (HRSFA) has submitted a grant application for \$500 for publications. A 5 minute recess was called to allow the Grant committee to consider the request. The Grant committee recommended that the corporation make a grant of \$300, along with a letter explaining why we downgraded the request, and offering some advice on budgeting software expenses. Motion was automatically TABLED.

MOVED to transfer Ailsa Murphy to General Membership, because she has sat through 2 meetings so far, and has not only not run away screaming, but has volunteered to serve on the Records Task Force. Motion was automatically TABLED.

MOVED to set the December meeting for Wednesday, December 17 at 7 PM, somewhere at MIT. Motion PASSED.

MOVED to set the interim budget for Arisia '98 to \$55,000, with line items not to exceed the amounts published in the proposed budget submitted by Pat. Motion PASSED after consideration by a committee of the whole.

- Announcements

Drea is not being sent to Kuala Lumpur for 2 months.

See below for upcoming meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00 PM.

<!-- LRP report, interim budget, staff list -->

Calendar of Events

Monday, November 3, 1997 @ 7:00 PM - **Arisia 1998 Concom Meeting** - 4th Floor, Wheatley Hall, UMass Boston.

Sunday, November 23, 1997 @ 2:00 PM - **Arisia Corporate Meeting** - Building 66, MIT, Cambridge.

Thursday, December 11, 1997 @ 7:00 PM - **Arisia 1998 Concom Meeting** - 4th Floor, Wheatley Hall, UMass Boston.

Wednesday, December 17, 1997 @ 7:00 PM - **Arisia Corporate Meeting** - MIT, Cambridge.

Sunday, January 4, 1998 @ 2:00 PM - **Arisia 1998 Concom Meeting** - Building 66, MIT, Cambridge.

Friday, January 16 - Sunday, January 18, 1998 - **ARISIA 1998** - Westin Hotel, Waltham MA.

Sunday, January 25, 1998 @ 2:00 PM - **Arisia 1998 Concom Debriefing** - Building 66, MIT, Cambridge.

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Arisia '98 Treasurer: Pat McCormack
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Committee Members & Corporate Appointed Officers

Budget Committee: Skip Morris, Chair
Pat McCormack

Long Range Planning: *vacant*

Awards Committee: *vacant*

Grant Committee: Brendan Quinn, Chair
Drea Brandford
Elka Tovah Menkes

Corporate Sales Officer
Marshal Ellis

Corporate Inventory Control Officer
Ken Elwell

Corporate Systems Administrator
Cris Shuldiner

Arisia Audit Fund: Ben Levy

Records Task Force: Ben Levy
Ailsa Murphy
Kyle Hollingsworth

Survey Committee: Ben Levy
Matthew Saroff
Skip Morris
Diane Rosenberg

Membership Roster

Agassi, Aaron (Red Shirt)	Bazemore, Rob
Brandford, Drea	Campanella, Scott
Cantor, Dave A.	Chused, Amy
Cobb, Scott	Cooper, Brian
Ellis, Marshall	Fallon, Kevin
Fish, Tom	Flynn, George
Goodwin, Glen	Herda, Joel
Hollingsworth, Kyle	Jordan, Jeff
Kahn, Walter	Kent, Allan
Labonville, Zanne	Levy, Benjamin
McCormack, Patrick	Menkes, Elka Tovah
Morris, Skip	Murphy, Ailsa (Red Shirt)
Quinn, Brendan	Robison, Mary

Rosenburg, Diane
Selkirk, Paul
Shuldiner, Cris
Van Auken, Kimberley

Saroff, Matthew
Sectman, Nicholas (Red Shirt)
Silverman, Rachel
Vandenberg, Pat

Membership/Subscription Info

Subscriptions to Mentor of Arisia are included in Corporate membership to Arisia, Incorporated. Membership runs from September 1st to August 31st and costs \$24.00. Dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for members joining during the year.

September	\$24	March	\$12
October	\$22	April	\$10
November	\$20	May	\$08
December	\$18	June	\$06
January	\$16	July	\$04
February	\$14	August	\$02