



Mentor

The Newsletter of Arisia, Incorporated—Number 187—FEBRUARY 2011

Notices

The next meeting of Arisia, Inc will be held on Monday, February 28 at 7:30 pm at the NESFA Clubhouse at 504 Medford St in Somerville, MA. A Grant Committee recommendation (to **grant \$2,500.00 to FOGcon** to support their new convention) will be voted on at this meeting. The full text of the grant request is attached. The quorum for the February meeting is 12 based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings (25, 26, 16).

December 2010 Meeting Minutes

Date, Time, and Place: Meeting called to order by Rick Kovalcik at 4:23pm on December 11 at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel.

In attendance (26 members): Paul Aldred, David D'Antonio, Jack Dietz, Samantha Dings, Mary Dumas, Lisa Hertel, Lisa Holsberg, Crystal Huff, Steve Huff, Josh Jasper*, Allan Kent, Rick Kovalcik, Paul Kraus*, Alex Latzko, Ben Levy, Ken London, Craig McDonough*, Allen MacLeod*, Tom Murphy, Lia Olsborg, Kirstin Page*, James Pinkerton, Karen Purcell, Kim Riek, Noel Rosenberg, Sharon Sbarsky*, Nicholas Sheckman, Cris Shuldiner, Kris Snyder, Julia Suggs, Kara Thortensen*, Pat Vandenberg, and Jonathan Venezian.

* non-member

Proxies: Bridget Boyle to Alex Latzko, Carole London to Ken London. Presented during the meeting: Cris Shuldiner to Noel Rosenberg, Lisa Holsberg to Crystal Huff, Pat Vandenberg to Nicholas Sheckman, and James Pinkerton to Samantha Dings.

Corrections to the November minutes: none

Eboard report (Rick Kovalcik):

The eboard discussed Alex's motion from last time and came up with where to insert it in the policies.

The eboard voted to lend charge machines to Philcon, to purchase pipe uprights, bases, a base cart, a cyc, and a fast-fold with the previously approved tech equipment money, and to favorably recommend the grant proposal that is printed in Mentor.

President's report (Rick Kovalcik): Rick populates the committees as follows. Grant Committee: Noel Rosenberg (chair), Samantha Dings, Rachel Silber, Mike Sprague, David D'Antonio. Budget Committee: Ben Levy (chair), Kim Riek.

Honors Committee: Nicholas Sheckman (chair). CIC: Rick Kovalcik (chair), Lisa Hertel, hobbit, Skip Morris, Lia Olsborg. Comps Committee: Kris Snyder (chair), David D'Antonio, Samantha Dings, Lisa Hertel, Crystal Huff, Skip Morris, Mary Dumas, Mike Sprague. IT: Alex Latzko (chair), Noel Rosenberg. Long Range Planning: Jill Eastlake (chair). Relaxacon search: Samantha Dings (chair), Mary Dumas, Lisa Hertel. Rick appoints phi to be head of the Student Art Contest for 2011.

Clerk's report (Nicholas Sheckman): Please sign in; there is a sign in sheet going around.

A12 report (Cris Shuldiner):

I have a rising star artist GoH, Gareth Hynes, to add to my roster; he did Beowulf, King Lear, and most recently The Odyssey. I will probably be adding another GoH but not until after A11.

I would like to have the A11 debrief on Sunday, January 30.

I am not going to appoint any positions before A11 so people can focus on A11, but if there is something you want to do for A12 please let me know. I try not to tell anyone they can do something until I have a div head in that area, so as to avoid potential staffing conflicts.

A11 report (Crystal Huff):

We have formulated a contingency plan for if we have over 2700 attendees, which it now appears we are likely to have. (*MOVED to amend the budget as printed in Mentor*). *MPU to amend the budget amendment as printed in Mentor by not doing the dealers network drop (which was left out of the bottom line impact), and also to apply the \$300 sponsorship from Readercon to the Green Room / Staff Den food.* Net profit remains \$136.75. Main motion *passes* unanimously.

Readercon will be sponsoring our Friday morning staff den breakfast for \$300.

We will have an overflow hotel, but we do not yet have a contract for it. We hope to be able to announce that this week.

We have examples of the sales and volunteers T-shirts, which look very pretty.

Budget Committee: no report.

Vice President: no report.

Treasurer's report (Ben Levy): We have money; we've actually spent \$2700 of the money we've authorized so far.

Grant committee (Noel Rosenberg):

We now have three proposals on our plate, from the Carl Brandon Society, from the Rhode Island Science Fiction Club, and from FOGcon in San Francisco.

M to grant \$4000 to the Carl Brandon Society. This is the total amount that will be presented at Arisia to the winners of the 2008 and 2009 Parallax and Kindred awards. The grant committee and eboard have reported positively on this proposal. Tabled until we can allocate some more money into the grant fund.

MSPU (Sheckman, Levy) to add \$1000 to the grant fund.

MS (Dumas, Murphy) to grant money only for the Kindred and not the Parallax award. Much impassioned debate ensues. *MSP (Sheckman, Dietz) to call the question.* Motion to amend **FAILS.**

MS (C. Huff, Latzko) to reduce the amount to \$3000. Motion *withdrawn* after the amount of our unallocated funds is revealed to be \$20,000.

Main motion (to grant \$4000 to the Carl Brandon Society) *passes*, many-1 with one abstention.

I am hoping to work out any issues with our remaining grants online so as to avoid any possible controversy at the at-con corporate meeting.

Honors Committee: no report.

CIC report: more stuff is starting to show up in storage. If there's stuff in storage that you know is junk, please mark it as such and we will try to get rid of it during the con, when we have a truck.

Comps committee (Kris Snyder): no report.

IT committee (Alex Latzko): Noel and I will be getting together after this meeting

Old business: none.

New business:

MSPU (Murphy, Sheckman) to amend Corporate Policies, "Officers and Committees," Section II, by replacing the word "shall" with the word "may".

MSPU (Murphy, Sheckman) to amend Corporate Policies, "Officers and Committees," Section III, by replacing the word "shall" with the word "may".

A motion to authorize the eboard to set the time and date of the March meeting is overrun by events before it can receive a second.

MSP (Hertel, Dumas) to combine the February and March meetings and hold the resulting meeting at the NESFA clubhouse (assuming it's acceptable to them) at 7:30pm on Monday, February 28.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm.

January 2011 Meeting Minutes

Date, Time, and Place: Meeting called to order by Rick Kovalcik at 5:03 pm on January 16 at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel.

In attendance (16 members): Paul Aldred, David D'Antonio, Janice Dumas, Daniel Earickson*, Donald Eastlake, Lisa Hertel, Crystal Huff, Steve Huff, Vylar Kaftan*, Ben Levy, Carol London, Ken London, Tom Murphy, Tony Orlandella*, Victor J. Raymond*, Noel Rosenberg, Sharon Sbarsky*, Richard L. Schmeidler, Nicholas Sheckman, Cris Shuldiner, and Pete Thomas

* non-member

Proxies: none.

No **minutes** available to correct.

President's report (Rick Kovalcik): Thank you all for coming to Arisia. It is both the biggest and the best Arisia ever. I hope everyone's having a great time, I know I am, thank you all. Unfortunately I am not feeling well at the moment so Noel is going to be running the meeting. Crystal, thank you for running a great Arisia, a round of applause please.

Vice President's report (Noel Rosenberg): Please sign in and note if you are a corporate member.

Eboard Report (Nicholas Sheckman): We voted unanimously to raise the membership cap by 100 memberships, after a lengthy discussion. We voted unanimously to allocate \$2000 additional to food functions. We discussed the order of business for this corporate meeting. We signed an overflow hotel contract. We voted to buy a new freezer off Craigslist, up to \$200 worth of crock pots, a number of air mattresses, and new clips and holsters for our radios.

Treasurer's report (Ben Levy). I have not finished my report but it will be ready for Mentor. The convention seems to be doing well financially.

Clerk: no report.

A11 report (Crystal Huff):

As of 3:30 we had 2997 registered, 2849 badged, and 2644 on site. We will be OK with badge stock thanks to our printer running over by 300. Most of the divisions are at or under budget. We did extend the food functions budget by \$2000 last night, though they don't know if they'll actually need it since some areas were under budget.

We had 159 signups and 121 pints of blood in the blood drive.

I just came from the Carl Brandon Awards, which were wonderful; thank you to everyone for supporting that endeavor, it was really important to me and I really enjoyed it.

We have lots more of the convention to go, so if you're in this room and not already working on the convention in some capacity please feel free to volunteer; we'll need volunteers to

day and tomorrow and going into Tuesday. You can earn your Arisia T-shirt or next year's membership.

A11 Treasury: Not present.

A12 report (Cris Shuldiner): Arisia 2012 will be here. Memberships are currently on sale at registration. Guests of Honor will include Phil and Kaja Foglio and Gareth Hinds.

Budget Committee: no report.

Grant Committee (Noel Rosenberg):

At the last meeting we approved a grant of \$4000 to fund the Carl Brandon Society awards which were just presented. Victor Raymond is here to accept the check (we printed out a giant version for the photo op).

Victor Raymond: On behalf of the CBS board of directors I'd like to thank Arisia. We often get asked why is this important - one of the many answers is that we'd like to explore some futures where everyone is included. Issues such as race and ethnicity as well as gender and other issues get forgotten.

When organizations such as Arisia make a substantial material contribution to our efforts it means a lot. This will help ensure that we have the kind of future that we can all live in.

Noel Rosenberg: The grant committee also has on its plate two additional grants which are not yet before the memberships, including one for FOGcon. The chair of FOGcon would like to give a quick presentation.

Vylar Kaftan: I'm really grateful to be invited up here to speak, and thrilled to be here at the convention for the first time. I've seen a number of things I'm going to take back to my con.

For a first year con, money is really tight. We don't have previous years' revenues to help with our cashflow.

We'll be holding our convention March 11-13 in San Francisco. We want to be a West Coast Readercon with the community of Wiscon. Eventually we'd like to build to a solid regional with values of equality and inclusion. The GoHs will be Pat Murphy, Jeff VanderMeer, posthumous GoH Fritz Leiber, and Ann VanderMeer.

We're hoping for 300 attendees in our first year, and eventually 1000.

This year's theme is The City in SF/F. We will have a Dealers room, con suite, and so on.

We need a place where writers can connect and fans can meet the authors they love. We see high levels of community interest. The rate of people with memberships who are signing up for programming is well over 60%.

We have a high commitment to access issues. We are young new energetic fans. Concom is mostly 30somethings, with some experienced advisers. There is great camaraderie on the concom.

We want to reach out to the local community.

The parent organization is the Speculative Literature Foundation for now, and will be our own nonprofit eventually.

We have requested \$2500 or whatever Arisia decides to do to help us out. This would help pay back unreimbursed expenses and provide a cushion against unknown at-doors, publicity, and plane tickets for a more distant guest.

We'll pay it forward as soon as we can. This is an investment in the worldwide community of people who love science fiction and fantasy.

Please consider coming out to the Bay area to join us for the very first FogCon. Crystal and Rachel Silber are both coming out.

I'm so glad I came out here. This is a wonderful convention and I sure hope to be back here next year.

Honors Committee: no report.

Bylaws Committee: not present.

CIC (Steve Huff): thank goodness we do this convention; otherwise we would never get a chance to clear the cobwebs out. We will probably change the locks sometime over the summer.

Comps Committee: no report.

IT Committee (Noel Rosenberg) has not met, but is making plans to meet after the convention.

Old business: none.

New business:

Lisa Hertel would like to put Art Show equipment on the agenda for next meeting. Noel asks her please to put together a proposal and send it to the eboard.

MSP by acclamation to congratulate thank Crystal Huff for her work on a wonderful convention.

MSPU to hold the April corporate meeting on Sunday April 3 at 2pm at MIT.

Announcements:

The debrief meeting will be January 30, 2p-6p, at MIT building 66 but not the usual room. If anyone would like to participate remotely in that please email conchair@arisia.org which also reaches Crystal's admin and we may be able to make something happen.

We will *not* be canceling the February meeting as we often do, as the Grant Committee will have business for that meeting.

If anyone is interested in coming back to this hotel next month and hasn't been to Boskone in the last three years, I have a membership available, come talk to me (Sharon). Also there is a Boskone party tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34pm

February 12 Eboard Meeting Minutes

Date, Time, and Place: Meeting called to order by Rick Kovalcik at 1:29pm at his home in Newton, MA.

In attendance: Buzz Harris, Crystal Huff, Rick Kovalcik, Ben Levy, Kim Riek, Noel Rosenberg, Nicholas Shectman, and Cris Shuldiner.

We had a long, thoughtful conversation with Buzz about his candidacy for Treasury, and an even longer conversation without Buzz. The eboard chose not to appoint Buzz as Treasurer.

Cris intends to disallow someone's attendance to 2012, and brings this to the eboard for their consideration. Crystal and Cris agree that comps earned in 2011 but not able to be redeemed in 2012 due to circumstances like this may still be used in 2013. After some discussion, the executive board voted to affirm Cris' decision. Cris will handle communicating this decision to everyone that needs to know. We will compose a suitable public statement online.

We had an interesting phone call with the hotel yesterday, and there will likely be a contract addendum. We have some discussion of terms we would like to see in such an addendum. The future of Dealers Row is a particular topic of debate. We should start assembling a first pass at the addendum on our end rather than waiting for the hotel to do it, pending the answer to some outstanding questions to the hotel. Cris proposes that we put together a subcommittee of no more than three people to handle the actual negotiation of the addendum. Rick will talk to people and announce a committee.

Rick requests that the eboard members look at the FOGcon proposal and send email about it.

There is some discussion of our security policies, leading to the conclusion that Rick should go through the Security totes and find a paper copy. Not just for security, but we should have a policy saying that all logs must be kept on paper, and that they should be more specific about what happened.

Rick agrees to print flyers for distribution at Boskone.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Grant Proposal

Applicant Information

- Applicant name: FOGcon
- Applicant name also known as: Friends of the Genre
- Address: PO Box 3764
- Mailing Address (if different): same
- City/State/Zip: Hayward, CA 94540

- Chairperson (name, title): Vylar Kaftan, Chair; and Eva Folsom, Vice-Chair
- Executive Director (name, title): Vylar Kaftan, Chair
- Project contact (name, title): Vylar Kaftan, Chair; or Sonja Haas, Treasurer
- Daytime telephone: 510-409-6732
- Fax: n/a
- Summarize the mission of your organization: The Friends of Genre Convention (FOGcon) is a literary-themed San Francisco SF/F con in the tradition of Wiscon and Readercon. Each year we'll focus on a new theme in speculative fiction and invite Honored Guests ranging from writers to scientists to artists. We'll build community, exchange ideas, and share our love for the literature of imagination.
- Last fiscal year total income: n/a
- Last fiscal year total expenses: n/a

Project Information

- Title of project: FOGcon
- Summary of proposed project: Establishing the very first FOGcon, with the intent to make an ongoing annual science fiction and fantasy convention.
- Project start date: The first FOGcon is scheduled for March 11-13, 2011.
- Project end date: We intend this to be an ongoing event.
- Number of individuals directly participating in/benefitting from this project: The hotel will be happy with 300 room-nights, but long-term we want to grow this into a solid regional con with principles of equality and inclusion. For the first one, we would like 300 attendees. The size of the con in the future will depend on many factors, but currently we see something like WisCon's size of 1,000.

Amount Requested: \$2500.00 or any amount you see fit to give us. Once we are financially stable, we will try to "pay it forward" to future cons that may need support. What we need help with right now: extra funding for publicity (always a problem for a first-year con), better-funded publications (an improved program book), improved AV equipment, a small stipend for one Honored Guest who requested help for dining out, general seed money to help us build our own nonprofit organization, and sponsoring "A Taste of FOGcon" before the con to help people see what we're like. We're also going to talk to SFSFC for possible assistance, and Potlatch kindly helped us out as well with \$500 (which is how we got FOGcon started.)

Treasurer's Report

December 31 st			Change vs prev month
Even Year-A12		\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Odd Year-A11		\$44,542.09	\$15,689.66
Reserved/Unspent			
Two years expenses/CDs	\$35,367.80		\$8.20
Grant Fund	\$0.00		-\$3,000.00
Relaxacon Memberships	\$0.00		\$0.00
Capital Equipment Fund	\$1,316.47		-\$1,410.82
Voted Expenses (excludes budget)	\$0.00		\$0.00
Unspent Budget	\$9,346.95		-\$928.23
PiCon & Readercon	\$6,518.69		-\$1,084.61
Total Reserved		\$46,031.22	-\$6,056.11
Unallocated Funds		\$29,143.86	\$6,056.11
Total Corporate Funds		\$75,175.08	\$0.00
Total Assets		\$121,717.17	\$15,689.66

Executive Board

President Rick Kovalcik 19 Chesley Rd Newton Centre, MA 02459 president@arisia.org	Arisia 2011 ConChair Crystal Huff PO Box 400928 Cambridge, MA 02140 chair@arisia.org
Vice President Noel Rosenberg 21 Village Lane Berlin, MA 01503-1709 vp@arisia.org	Arisia 2011 Treasurer Kim Riek 275 Medford St #2 Somerville, MA 02143 treasury@arisia.org
Treasurer Ben Levy 47 Brown St Andover, MA 01810 treasurer@arisia.org	Arisia 2012 ConChair Cris Shuldiner 9 Jeremy Hill Rd Pelham, NH 03076
Clerk Nicholas "phi" Sheckman 75 Lexington Ave Somerville, MA 02144 clerk@arisia.org	

Mentor Subscription Information

Subscription to *Mentor of Arisia* is included with Corporate Membership to Arisia, Incorporated. Membership runs from September 1st to August 31st and costs \$24. Dues are prorated 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

Committees List

Budget Committee: Ben Levy (chair), Kim Riek	Honors Committee: Nicholas Sheckman (chair)
Grant Committee: Noel Rosenberg (chair), Samantha Dings, Rachel Silber, Mike Sprague, David D'Antonio	Comps Committee: Kris Snyder (chair), Samantha Dings, David D'Antonio, Lisa Hertel, Crystal Huff, Skip Morris, Mary Dumas, Mike Sprague
Relaxacon Search Committee: Samantha Dings (chair), Mary Dumas, Lisa Hertel.	Inventory Control Committee: Rick Kovalcik (chair), Lia Olsborg, Skip Morris, hobbit, Lisa Hertel
IT Committee: Alex Latzko (chair), Noel Rosenberg.	Long Range Planning Committee: Jill Eastlake (chair)

Key List

If you do not have a key to storage and need to get into storage, send mail to keys@arisia.org and all keyholders will get your request.

Key	Holder	Key	Holder
1	lost	14	Lisa Hertel
2	Alex Latzko	15	Ben Levy
3	Skip Morris	16	Lia Olsborg
4	lost	17	Lisa Holsberg
5	Skip Morris	18	Dave Belfer-Shevett
6	Phi	19	Skip Morris (spare)
7	Michael Bergman	20	Crystal Huff
8	Rick Kovalcik	21	Jill Eastlake
9	lost	22	Noel Rosenberg
10	Hobbit	23	Michael Trachtenberg
11	Landlord	24	Dan Noe
12	lost	25	Rick Kovalcik (spare)
13	Persis Thorndike	26	Rick Kovalcik (spare)

Arisia, Incorporated
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Cambridge, MA 02139

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«city» «state» «zip»

Upcoming Events and Meetings

February 18-20: Boskone

Monday, February 28: Arisia Corporate Meeting at 7:30 at the NESFA Clubhouse at 504 Medford St in Somerville, MA.

March 4-6: Intercon K in Waltham, MA

March 11-13: FOGcon in San Francisco, CA

March 11-13: PAX East at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

March 18-20: Vericon in Cambridge, MA

March 18-20: Lunacon in Rye, NY

March 25-27: ConBust in Northampton, MA

Sunday, April 3: Arisia Corporate Meeting at 2pm at MIT.

April 22-24: Anime Boston

May 13-15: Gaylaxicon in Atlanta, GA

June 3-5: Relaxacon in Dennisport, MA

July 14-17: Readercon in Burlington, MA

August 17-21: Worldcon in Reno, NV