



Mentor

The Newsletter of
Arisia, Incorporated

Volume 32, Issue 314, December 2023
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About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 1:00 pm ET at Arisia**. The corresponding agenda will be distributed over the corp-announce email list in advance of the meeting.

The quorum for the December corporate meeting is **13**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings $((29+21+26)/3 \times 0.51) = 13$.

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

December 21, 2023 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at 7:32 **PM**. There were 21 members attending:

Vivian Abraham
Wendy Abramo
Joseph Andelman
Priscilla Ballou
E.J. Barnes
Nick Brown
Regis Donovan
Kelly Fabijanic
Melissa Kaplan
Rick Kovalcik
Leet
Henry Leong
Ken London
Claudia Mastroianni
Jason Schneiderman

Kylie Selkirk
Mike Sprague
Rachel Tanenhaus
Ilene Tatroe
Mike Tatroe
Dan Toland

Proxies:

Sharon Sbarsky to Rick Kovalcik
Melissa Kaplan to Nick Brown (briefly)
Cate Schneiderman to Jason Schneiderman

Corrections to and approval of the November 2023 Minutes:

Change of time announcement for the December meeting from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm and change of month of the meeting summary from October to November.

The November minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

EBoard Report:

Several members of the EBoard attended SMOFcon in Providence, where they learned many fascinating things. The Arisia EBoard sponsored Corsi-Rosenthal boxes at SMOFcon, and named them Air-isia and It Heckin Wimdy.

The EBoard voted to release some of the unsold rooms in the hotel block for Arisia 2024. Releasing rooms that the convention is not going to sell is good for our hotel relationship and also reduces the chances that we will miss our room revenue commitment.

The EBoard voted on several IRMC recommendations.

Sometimes incident reports come in after the deadline to resolve or sometimes even investigate them before con. Sometimes measures related to these reports need to be taken just in case, to ensure the safety of the con, despite the IRMC not having had time to investigate them fully. This decision is usually made by the EBoard. The Con Chair(s) can also do it, but that's usually done at-con. Disciplinary Policy Clause 7A permits these actions.

Vivian suggests amending the text of Disciplinary Policy Clause 7A to state that the EBoard can carry out these measures between the last corporate meeting and the convention. If Policy Clause 7A is a standing rule, changes to it can be voted on without notice. If it's a by-law, it requires a member vote with notice. It is a standing rule, but the corporation has several options: vote now, at con, or after con. Now is too soon for anyone to be able to think about the proposed change carefully, and it was suggested that the rule change was a little esoteric for the general group that might be coming to the at-con meeting. So it will be brought up again at the February meeting.

President's Report:

Vivian thanked Mike Sprague for running the November meeting.

Vivian nominated Kylie Selkirk to the Corporation Inventory Control Committee. She was unanimously accepted via voice vote.

VPs Report:

None

Treasurer's Report:

None.

Clerk's Report:

Over the past month, Rachel and Etana had discussed the role and history of the Corporate Communications Committee. Etana was not present, so Rachel deferred further discussion until the January meeting.

A24 Con Comm Report:

Con is happening in under a month! Schedules are being finalized. Turtle Track is happening with professional babysitters. Tagging has begun.

The budget

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/141780wAEszNMNb3kJ41cLG3oJ2UKx6Yhps0Jrbg4TJk/edit#gid=1273917983> has changed for a number of reasons:

- Folks understand Sheets better now
- \$6K was allocated for Featured Guests; we're actually spending \$3k
- Guest of Honor flights were cheaper than expected
- Etana got a great deal on CART
- ASL interpretation has been partially funded from another item
- This year we bought a Braille; next year we won't so there will be more money in the Access budget
- Some items have actuals, some still have estimates
- Mike reported that we have a credit from ASCAP this year, so that saves us \$250 - this was considered a friendly amendment

We are currently at about 70% of where 2020's membership was at this point. If that continues, we'll have a small profit.

The amended budget was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Hotel Search Committee:

(Members: Vivian, phi, Ben) Melissa can help with the Request For Proposals from possible hotels after the con. We are looking at other hotels besides the Westin. The Committee is open to ideas and thoughts; please let someone on the committee know if you have any. Arisia '24 is the last year of our contract with the Westin. The search is for a hotel for Arisia '25 and beyond. We don't want a super-long-term contract because we're in some flux - we could get bigger or smaller, and we don't know which. Contact the Committee at hotelsearch@arisia.org.

Incident Response Management Committee:

Current status of incident reports:

- 12 reports that are currently being investigated (9 from Arisia 2023 and 3 from Arisia 2021)
- 2 reports that the IRMC has to assess and send a recommendation to the Eboard (from Arisia 2020).

The IRMC received a report of a staff member acting in a condescending way on the Arisia Slack and then responding to a measured response by claiming that response was abusive. The IRMC found no violation of the Code of Conduct and recommended no action, and the EBoard voted to accept this recommendation.

The IRMC received a report concerning an email sent to the Arisia staff list calling for the end of Arisia. The IRMC found no violation of the Code of Conduct and recommended no action, and the EBoard voted to accept this recommendation.

The IRMC received a report that a person should not be allowed on Arisia staff because of past problems with alcohol. There was no allegation of specific behavior. The IRMC found no violation of the Code of Conduct and recommended no action, and the EBoard voted to accept this recommendation.

The IRMC received several reports that Arisia staff members at Arisia 2023 had acted in overly aggressive ways when attempting to enforce the masking policy, including following an attendee into the restroom. No staff members were able to be identified. The IRMC found no violation of the Code of Conduct and recommended no action, and the EBoard voted to accept this recommendation.

The IRMC received a report of a racist tweet in response to Arisia's PoC Safer Space policy. Because this did not take place in an Arisia space, and because there was no harassment directed at an individual, the IRMC found no violation of the Code of Conduct and

recommended no action, and the EBoard voted to accept this recommendation. (Internet rando, not actual Arisia attendee).

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

The Corporation voted unanimously by voice vote to set the March corporate meeting date for **Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 2 pm.**

Announcements:

The House of Toast IndieGoGo campaign has one more week left. Feel free to donate at <https://igg.me/at/hot2024/x/4960321#/>.

From NESFA: As we finish the "H"s and start in on the "I"s we are getting closer to knowing how many books are in our "General" Collection (as opposed to Nonfiction, Multi-Author Anthologies, Ace Doubles, Graphic Novels, or Visual Media) at the NESFA Library in Somerville, which makes it a great time to tell y'all that we're having a contest to guess how many we actually have! Numbers have been thrown around from 15 thousand to 25 and even 30 thousand books. So far, there are 8177 books cataloged, although not all of them are A-H authors. All books acquired in the last 5 years have been cataloged regardless of where in the alphabet they fell.

What are your guesses? Whoever's guess gets closest gets a year of free NESFA membership PLUS a Boskone membership and, of course, bragging rights. The greatest prize of all. Second closest gets a Boskone OR NESFA membership. Third place gets a NESFA Press book of their choice. And, you know, lesser bragging rights.

Send your guesses to Outreach@NESFA.org before the year ends for a chance to win!

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Calendar

Corporate Meetings

Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 1:00 pm

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Current Meetings and Events (as of January 3, 2024)

- ConCom meeting - Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Upcoming Conventions

None listed at this time

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

Corporate Financials

Date:	12/1/2023		
Next Convention:	A24		
Assets:			
Bank accounts:	\$119,825.64		including Paypal
Vendor deposits:	\$308.15		ASCAP
Total assets:		\$120,133.79	
Liabilities:			
Excess MCC funding:	\$2,522.00		This is money, mostly for an in-person anti-racism training that got cancelled because of COVID, that we owe back to MCC because we didn't spend it in time.
Refundable Arisia 2024 income:			One of several different ways to say how much money belongs to the convention.
Registration:	\$27,425.00		
Art Show:	\$3,696.00		
Dealers:	\$10,680.00		

Total refundable convention income:		\$41,80 1.00	
Reserved funds:			
Equipment fund:	\$0.00		we moved \$1,542.27 out of this fund in February 2020.
Grant fund:	\$0.00		
Snow fund:	\$50,67 4.64		Two years' expenses, not including Student Art and Student Writing contests.
Training fund:	\$1,022 .00		
Total reserved funds:		\$51,69 6.64	
Total liabilities:			\$96,01 9.64
Net unrestricted funds:			\$24,11 4.15 Things like Student Contests and the SMOFcon scholarships come out of this

Membership List

This membership list is as of 7:00 PM on 10/20/2023. Please report any corrections to clerk@arisia.org. Names in italics are non-voting members.

Daniel R. Abraham	Noel Rosenberg	
Vivian Abraham	<i>A. Joseph Ross</i>	
Wendee Abramo	Sharon Sbarsky	
Joseph Andelman	Richard Schmeidler	
Inanna Arthen	Cate Schneiderman	
Julia Austein	Jason Schneiderman	
Priscilla Ballou	JB Segal	
E.J. Barnes	Kylie Selkirk	
Fred Bauer	Nicholas "phi" Sheckman	
<i>Rob Bazemore</i>	<i>Cris Shuldiner</i>	
Anna Bradley	Mike Sprague	
Nicholas Brown	Mary Stock	
Rebecca Brumberger	Rachel Tanenhaus	

Adam Burdick	Ilene Tatroe	
Brendon Chetwynd	Mike Tatroe	
<i>Brian Cooper</i>	Gail Terman	
Regis Donovan	DJ Toland	
Jan Dumas	Melia Vaden	
etana	Wendy Verschoor	
Kelly Fabijanic	Alan Wexelblat	
Sabina Fecteau	Michelle Wexelblat	
Allison Feldhusen	Nightwing Whitehead	
Adrian Gunn	Glen Williams	
Lenore Jones		
Melissa Kaplan		
Rick Kovalcik		
Sue Kramer		
Henry Leong		
Megan Lewis		
Ken London		
Claudia Mastroianni		
Dale Meyer-Curley		
Erik Meyer-Curley		
Elliott Mitchell		
Hope Moore		
Skip Morris		
Lia Olsborg		
Danielle Reese		
Phoebe Roberts		

Executive Board - eboard@

President	Vivian Abraham	president@
Vice President	Mike Sprague	vice-president@
Treasurer	Nicholas "phi" Scheckman	treasurer@
Clerk	Rachel Tanenhaus	clerk@
Members-At-Large	Julia Austein	at-large@
	etana	
	Claudia Mastroianni	
Arisia '24 Con Chairs	Melissa Kaplan and Ilene Tatroe	conchair@
Arisia '24 Treasurer	Bill Sherman	con-treasurer@

Committee Membership

<p>Anti-Racism Committee (arc@) (No chair), Vivian Abraham, etana, Dan Franklin, Ken London, Nightwing Whitehead</p>
<p>Budget (budget@) Nicholas "phi" Scheckman (chair), Kelly Fabijanic, Rachel Kadel, Alex Latzko, Benjamin Levy, Tom Traina, Ellie Younger</p>
<p>Corporate Communications (corpcomms@) Claudia Mastroianni (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones, Ilene Tatroe, Julia Austein</p>
<p>Corporate Inventory Control (cic@): Rick Kovalcik (chair), Benjamin Levy, Skip Morris</p>
<p>Fundraising - donations@: Nicholas "phi" Scheckman (chair), Addie Abrams, Kris Pelletier, Julia Austein, Matt Ringel, Rachel Silber</p>
<p>Grants (grantsrequest): Mike Sprague (chair), Joseph Andelman, David D'Antonio</p>
<p>Hotel Search (hotelsearch): Vivian (chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Scheckman</p>
<p>Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@): Vivian Abraham (chair), Claudia Mastroianni, etana, Delenn Brumberger Nightwing Whitehead, (advisory members: Jaime Garmendia, Melissa Kaplan, Kris Pelletier)</p>
<p>IT (it@): Gail Terman (chair), Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Nick Brown, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas "phi" Scheckman, Mike Tatroe</p>
<p>Location Search (no email address): Gail Terman (chair), etana, Sol Houser</p>
<p>Long Range Planning (lrp@): (No chair), Anna Bradley, Heather Cougar</p>
<p>Mailing List Monitoring (monitor@): Claudia Mastroianni and Rachel Tanenhaus</p>
<p>Postmaster (postmaster@): Sharon Sbarsky (chair), Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Scheckman, Mike Tatroe (advisory member)</p>

Social (social@): (chair), Jan Dumas, Melissa Kaplan, Kim Riek, Mike Sprague, Alan Wexelblat
Student Contests (student-contests@): Megan Lewis (chair) Anna Bradley, Johnny Healey, Allison Holt, Terry Holt, Skip Morris, Abby Noyce, Kris Pelletier, Mike Sprague, Carolyn VanEseltine, Conor Walsh

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 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 on the form at <https://corp.arisia.org/membership>. (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