



# Mentor

The Newsletter of  
**Arisia, Incorporated**

Volume 32, Issue 315, January 2024  
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## About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm ET over Zoom**. The corresponding agenda will be distributed over the corp-announce email list in advance of the meeting.

The quorum for the January corporate meeting is **12**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings  $((21+26+21)/3 \times 0.51) = 12$ .

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 some corporate members) and CC: the proxy holder.

## January 14, 2024 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted in person at Arisia 2024 and called to order at 1:12 **PM**. There were 27 members attending:

Vivian Abraham  
Wendee Abramo  
Julia Austein  
Andrew Brockert  
Indira Cabrera  
Skyler Crossman  
Jan Dumas  
Daniel Eareckson  
Kelly Fabijanec  
Alan Fish  
Jaime Garmendia  
Lisa Hertel  
Alex Janowitz  
Rick Kovalcik  
Adria Kyne

Ken London  
Claudia Mastroianni  
Elliot Mitchell  
Alex Morgan  
Kris Pelletier  
Sharon Sbarsky  
Mike Sprague  
Cecilia Tan  
Rachel Tanenhaus  
Ilene Tatroe  
Mike Tatroe  
Tom Traina

Proxies:

Anna Bradley to Wendee Abramo (accepted)  
Dan Toland to Wendee Abramo (accepted)  
Nightwing Whitehead to Jan Dumas (accepted)  
Regis Donovan to Claudia Mastroianni (accepted)

Throughout the meeting Vivian explained the processes and terminology for Corporate meetings, so as to clarify things for first-time attendees.

**Corrections to and approval of the December 2023 Minutes:**

A motion was made to amend December minutes to include the number of attendees, which had inadvertently been left out.

The December minutes were approved unanimously as amended via a show of hands.

**EBoard Report:**

Vivian explained EBoard duties and activities such as approving storage contracts, approving hotel contracts, EBoard members going to SMOFCon, etc.

**President's Report:**

None.

**VPs Report:**

None.

**Treasurer's Report:**

None.

## **Clerk's Report:**

None.

## **A24 Con Comm Report:**

WE HAVE A CON! Well over 1200 people have been badged and 1600 registered.

## **Committee Reports:**

Vivian read off the list of Committees so new attendees could learn about them. The following committee then reported:

### Hotel Search Committee:

(Members: Vivian, phi, Ben) Arisia's contract with the Westin is up this year (2024). We are meeting with other hotels and also with the Westin.

Vivian asked for input on previous Arisia hotels as well as important things to have in a con hotel in general. Comments included:

- The Park Plaza layout was a little too complex for some attendees.
- The Westin Seaport doesn't have enough function spaces or else we should more/better utilize the spaces we have. Arisia tends to expand to fill whatever space it has. Next year's site may have less function space, not more. We need to use it more efficiently. It's easy not to do that in the Westin, but we'll have to work on it.
- The Westin is pet-friendly, which was raised as a plus.
- The affordable food options at the Westin are scarce.
- Someone asked about projected attendance numbers. We want to compare this year's numbers to last year's numbers and plan accordingly. The important question is: are we trending down or trending up? We have no A'22 data because that con was canceled; A'21 was virtual, and everything else was pre-pandemic.
- The con hotel should be transit-accessible. We're looking in the Boston/Cambridge area.
- Contracts tend to be 3-ish years long, or 2 with an option to extend to 3. The most recent contract with the Westin has been weird because we had to not have hotel cons in '21 and '22, so the Westin said those years wouldn't count towards our contract and added them on the end.
- Some attendees liked the Ziggurat/Hyatt Cambridge, and it is one of the hotels we're looking at.
- Even for people who like the Westin, navigation can be complicated.
- Someone asked if we can do the Scale Mount Arisia activity if we're back at the Ziggurat - ask Jude; that was her idea!
- If we're at the Ziggurat, it was suggested that we need to run a shuttle to/from the T.
- Accessibility is a priority.
- So is cost, including cost of guest rooms, food options, etc.

- Any hotel requiring a shuttle bus requires caution, because the contracts and logistics can be a mess. The Ziggurat now has a full 15-seat bus instead of a van.
- Someone said that the Omni across the street won't take us because we're "scruffy".
- Is MLK Weekend a fixed requirement? We like the four days and the holiday weekend, and MLK Weekend doesn't have a lot of tourists so hotel prices are lower. Attendees are available. But we would and might have to consider another weekend. The Westin has no weekends available in January next year. January is also not a great time for COVID avoidance. We have only once not been on MLK weekend. It was okay. People went to Mystery Hunt. Later weekends are better than earlier weekends for COVID caution. MLK Weekend works well for students.
- We're still in the information-gathering stage, so we don't have an official list of potential hotels yet.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

The Corporation voted unanimously via a show of hands to set the April corporate meeting date for Tuesday, **April 16, 2024 at 7:30 pm.**

**Motion to thank this year's Con Chairs passed unanimously via applause.**

### **Announcements:**

Boskone 61 will be at the Westin Seaport February 9-11. They are looking for volunteers. There are ways to earn memberships in advance. See Sharon or Rick at the Boskone table. John Scalzi, Ben Aaronovitch, Emily Hurst Pritchett, Bradford Lyau, Amy Kucharik, and Kevin Roche are the Guests of Honor.

Readercon 2024 will be on July 11-14 at the Boston Quincy Marriott. Rebecca Roanhorse and Amal El-Mohtar are the Guests of Honor.

Lisa is looking for people who are interested in going to NASFic. This convention only happens when WorldCon is taking place outside of the US. This year it will be from July 18-21, Phil and Kaja Foglio, Nilah Magruder, Alan Dean Foster, and Tony and Suford Lewis are Guests of Honor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

## **Calendar**

Corporate Meetings

- Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm
- Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 2:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:30 pm

**Other Meetings and Events (as of January 14, 2024 )**

None.

Upcoming Conventions

- Boskone - February 9-11, 2024, Westin Seaport Hotel, Boston, MA
- Readercon - July 11-14, 2024, Boston Quincy Marriott, Quincy, MA

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

**Membership List**

This membership list is as of 11:00 PM on 1/24/2024. Please report any corrections to [clerk@arisia.org](mailto: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	
Skylar Crossman		
Regis Donovan	DJ Toland	
Jan Dumas	Melia Vaden	
Daniel Eareckson		
etana	Wendy Verschoor	
Kelly Fabijanic	Alan Wexelblat	
Sabina Fecteau	Michelle Wexelblat	
Allison Feldhusen	Nightwing Whitehead	
Jaime Garmendia		
Adrian Gunn	Glen Williams	
Joel Herda		
Lenore Jones		
Melissa Kaplan		
Rick Kovalcik		
Sue Kramer		
Adria Kyne		
Henry Leong		
Megan Lewis		
Ken London		
Claudia Mastroianni		
Dale Meyer-Curley		
Erik Meyer-Curley		
Elliott Mitchell		
Hope Moore		

Skip Morris		
Lia Olsborg		
Kris Pelletier		
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><b>Anti-Racism Committee (arc@)</b>          (No chair), Vivian Abraham, etana, Dan Franklin, Ken London, Nightwing Whitehead</p>
<p><b>Budget (budget@)</b>          Nicholas "phi" Scheckman (chair), Kelly Fabijanic, Rachel Kadel, Alex Latzko, Benjamin Levy, Tom Traina, Ellie Younger</p>
<p><b>Corporate Communications (corpcomms@)</b>          Claudia Mastroianni (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones, Ilene Tatroe, Julia Austein</p>
<p><b>Corporate Inventory Control (cic@):</b>          Rick Kovalcik (chair), Benjamin Levy, Skip Morris</p>
<p><b>Fundraising - donations@:</b>          Nicholas "phi" Scheckman (chair), Addie Abrams, Kris Pelletier, Julia Austein, Matt Ringel, Rachel Silber</p>
<p><b>Grants (grantsrequest):</b>          Mike Sprague (chair), Joseph Andelman, David D'Antonio</p>
<p><b>Hotel Search (hotelsearch):</b>          Vivian (chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Scheckman</p>
<p><b>Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@):</b>          Vivian Abraham (chair), Claudia Mastroianni, etana, Delenn Brumberger Nightwing Whitehead, (advisory members: Jaime Garmendia, Melissa Kaplan, Kris Pelletier)</p>

<b>IT (it@):</b> Gail Terman (chair), Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Nick Brown, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Mike Tatroe
<b>Location Search (no email address):</b> Gail Terman (chair), etana, Sol Houser
<b>Long Range Planning (lrp@):</b> (No chair), Anna Bradley, Heather Cougar
<b>Mailing List Monitoring (monitor@):</b> Claudia Mastroianni and Rachel Tanenhaus
<b>Postmaster (postmaster@):</b> Sharon Sbarsky (chair), Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Mike Tatroe (advisory member)
<b>Social (social@):</b> (chair), Jan Dumas, Melissa Kaplan, Kim Riek, Mike Sprague, Alan Wexelblat
<b>Student Contests (student-contests@):</b> 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](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 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**

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