



Mentor

The Newsletter of
Arisia, Incorporated

Volume 32, Issue 326, December 2024
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About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, January 19, 2025 at 1:45 pm ET in person (NOT hybrid) in the Harvard Square room at the Arisia convention.** The corresponding agenda will be distributed over the corp-announce email list in advance of the meeting.

The quorum for the December corporate meeting was **13**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings $((31+26+19)/3 \times 0.51) = 13$. The quorum for the January corporate meeting will be 12.

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 17, 2024 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at **7:02 PM**. There were 22 members attending:

Wendee Abramo
Joseph Andelman
Innana Arthen
Priscilla Ballou
Andrew Brockert
Delenn Brumberger
etana
Rick Kovalcik
Henry Leong
Megan Lewis
Ken London
Claudia Mastroianni
Dale Meyer-Curley

Elliott Mitchell
Sharon Sbarsky
Nicholas “phi” Shectman
Mike Sprague
Rachel Tanenhaus
Ilene Tatroe
Benjamin Thornton
D.J. Toland
Nightwing Whitehead

Proxies:

- Regis Donovan to Claudia Mastroianni (accepted)
- Mike Tatroe to Ilene Tatroe (accepted)

Corrections to and approval of the November 2024 Minutes:

The following amendment to the November minutes was proposed:

- Change the day listed for the December 2024 meeting from Sunday to Tuesday.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. **MOTION PASSES.**

EBoard Report:

The EBoard has been discussing Arisia 2026, the lack of a Con Chair or Con Chair team, and what to do about it.

The EBoard also received and discussed an appeal of an Incident Report (IR) decision, which will be addressed later in the meeting in the IRMC report.

Mike contacted the UMass Science Fiction Society (UMSFS) about their book storage request. They say that their book collection is not in immediate danger of being removed from UMass, but they may need off-site storage later in the year. Since Arisia may also need to find new storage space, we may not be a great fit for their storage needs.

President’s Report:

None.

VPs Report:

None.

Treasurer’s Report:

None.

Clerk's Report:

Rachel requested that multiple people attending Corporate meetings from the same computer let her know so that she can ensure that meeting attendance lists are complete.

A25 Con Comm Report:

- Over the past month, the A25 con chairs (Wendee, Dale, etana, and Julia) have worked diligently with Division and Area Heads to prepare for the Adventure that is a mere 31 days away! While they have had some technical difficulties getting e-mails sent from Planorama, Programming invitations went out using MailChimp and the team is hard at work confirming schedules. They have many exciting events scheduled, including a newly confirmed concert by The Nathaniel Johnstone Band! You heard it here first, in fact.
- The hotel is mostly sold out, and while the Con Chair team encourages people to fill out the Special Requests form to be added to the waitlist, there is an overflow block at the Boston Marriott Cambridge (50 Broadway, Cambridge - Kendall Square) that is good through 11:59pm on December 17.
- Logistics has held and will hold additional tagging sessions, and the Con Chair team thanks the many Divisions and volunteers who have tagged their items for transport to the convention already.
- It's crunch time and there are still lots of volunteer opportunities available. Some high priority roles were shared in the last Progress Report.
- If you're in the Corporation and you don't have a job, please consider helping at con. If you have folk in your circle - friends, countrymen, maybe a Roman? - the con would love to have their support. Please share the Volunteer Sign Up form at <https://www.arisia.org/VolunteerSignup> or email volunteers@arisia.org.
- Upcoming Calendar Items:
 - January 5 - Tagging
 - January 9 - Con Comm
 - January 11 - Final Tagging
- Shuttle hours will be published in the future.

Andrew voiced interest in any collaboration between Arisia and Anthro New England. The Arisia Con Chair Team will follow up regarding reciprocal membership discounts.

Arisia 2025 Division Head Meeting Schedule	Arisia 2025 Con Comm Meeting Schedule
August 22nd 7-9 PM Via Zoom	
September 8th 11-5 Onsite at Hyatt	September 15: 2-4p in person, TBD
October 6: 2-4p, Watertown Public Library	October 14: 7-9p Zoom

November 7: 7-9p Zoom	November 17: 2-4p in person, Hyatt
December 8: 2-4p Zoom	December 12: 7-9p Zoom
January 5: 2-4p Zoom	January 9: 7-9p Zoom

Committee Reports:

Budget:

phi (Chair), Kelly Fabijanac

None.

Corporate Communications:

Rachel T. (Chair)

None.

Corporate Inventory Control (CIC):

Rick (Chair), Ben, Skip

None.

Discord:

Justin (Chair), Jason, Andrew

None.

Fundraising:

phi (Chair), Julia

None.

Grants:

Ilene (Chair), Joseph

This Committee has been suspended until finances are stabilized.

Hotel Search Committee:

phi, Ben

None.

Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC):

etana (Chair), Jaime (advisory member), Kris P. (advisory member), Ilene, Rachel T., Megan

The IRMC reported out on the following Incident Reports:

1) While attending Arisia 2024, the Incident Response Team (IRT) received a report that an individual believed they were permanently banned from volunteering and/or participating in the convention. The reporter indicated that this was due to a conversation they had with Arisia staff at Registration in 2018. After investigation, the IRMC determined that the individual was not banned from volunteering or attending Arisia conventions or events. The IRMC informed the reporter of this and recommended that no further action be taken. The EBoard has voted to accept the IRMC's recommendation.

2) While attending Arisia 2024, the IRT received a report that an individual in the Dealer's Room approached an attendee and after voicing safety concerns about the attendee's costume, adjusted the costume without the consent of the attendee. After investigation, the IRMC recommended that the subject of the report be given a warning not to touch people without permission and when making costuming suggestions allow people to carry them out or not in their own way. The EBoard has voted to accept the IRMC's recommendation.

Content Warning: transphobia

3) The IRT received multiple reports that while serving on a panel at Arisia 2023, an individual had made disparaging statements regarding the validity of transgender people. Upon investigation, the IRMC recommended that the panelist be banned from volunteering or being on panels. The EBoard has voted to accept the IRMC's recommendation.

Content Warning; intimate partner violence, violence against a child.

4) The IRMC received a report that at Arisia 2020, an attendee was assaulted by their then-partner. Furthermore, they reported that they witnessed the subject of the report physically assaulting a minor child at Boskone 2023. Upon investigation, the IRMC recommended a 5-year ban for the subject of the report from all Arisia-sponsored events. The EBoard has voted to uphold this recommendation. According to Corporation rules, the subject of this report has the right to appeal this decision at either the December 2024 or January 2025 Corporate meetings. Since the January Corporate meeting will take place in person at the convention and the subject is banned from attending the convention, the EBoard and IRMC have agreed to extend the appeal period by one month, until the end of the February Corporate meeting.

Mike read the appeal from the attorney for the subject of IR #3. A discussion of which names must be stated in the meeting followed. Mike, as President, did not interpret the policy to indicate that the subject's name for IR #3 must be stated in the meeting. Some members disagreed, and Rick moved that we table IR #3 until February and speak to a lawyer about which names must be named, and the motion was seconded. The appeal period for this IR would expire by February 2025. etana asked if it was worth rejecting the appeal over being caught up whether or not to name the subject. If the IR is postponed and the subject walks in and wants to volunteer at Arisia 2025, the Con Chair team would decide whether or not they

could do so. Rick noted that the disciplinary process is a policy, not a bylaw, so the membership could vote to change it under Bylaw 4.4, which reads as follows:

“4.4 Any decision voted by the Membership is binding on the Executive Board and on each officer. The Membership may overrule any decision already taken by the Board or by any officer, to the extent that actions taken are revocable.”

A motion was made to call the question: **MOTION PASSES.**

Motion to table the IRMC Report until the February meeting: **MOTION FAILS.**

Rachel assumed temporary leadership of the meeting so Mike could make a motion on behalf of the subject of IR #3 to appeal, which would overturn the decision, remove the judgment, and take away any ban or restriction: **MOTION DIES FOR LACK OF A SECOND.**

Several people thanked the IRMC for their efforts.

IT:

phi (Chair), Rick, Sharon, Ben, Mike T.

None.

Postmaster:

Sharon (Chair), Rick, Ben, phi, Mike T. (Advisory)

None.

Social:

Mike S.

None.

Student Contests:

(members needed)

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Elections:

The EBoard currently has two vacancies for Members at Large. If you are interested in being a Member at Large or have questions about the position, contact eboard@arisia.org. Having questions does not mean you have to run for the position!

No nominations were received, so no election was held at this meeting.

The Corporation voted via a voice vote to set the March corporate meeting date for **Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 2:00 pm on Zoom.**

Announcements:

Susan "Suli" Isaacs has put up a GoFundMe due to financial difficulties. She has served in fandom for Arisia, Boskone, Readercon, Worldcon, and other conventions. Mike S. described her as the definition of a "true fan" or "good fan". Mike will post the link to the GoFundMe.

etana is getting married on March 9!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Calendar

Corporate Meetings

- Sunday, January 19, 2025 at 1:45 pm (in person ONLY, Hyatt, Harvard Square room)
- Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Sunday March 23, 2025 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)

Arisia 2025 Division Head Meetings

- Sunday, January 5, 2025 from 2:00-4:00 pm (Zoom)

Arisia 2025 Con Comm Meetings

- Thursday, January 9, 2025 from 7:00-9:00 pm (Zoom)

Other Meetings and Events

Upcoming Conventions

- None.

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

Membership List

This membership list is as of 12:00 AM on 10/11/2024. Please report any corrections to clerk@arisia.org. Names in italics are non-voting members.

Vivian Abraham

Wendee Abramo
Joseph Andelman
Inanna Arthen
Julia Austein
Priscilla Ballou
Fred Bauer
Rob Bazemore
Anna Bradley
Andrew Brockert
Rebecca Brumberger
Brian Cooper
Skyler Crossman
Regis Donovan
Jan Dumas
Dennis Duquette
Daniel Eareckson
etana
Kelly Fabijanec
Sabina Fecteau
Allison Feldhusen
Jaime Garmendia
Diana Hsu
Lenore Jones
Rick Kovalcik
Susan Kramer
Henry Leong
Megan Lewis
Ken London
Glen Macwilliams
Claudia Mastroianni
Will McMain
Penelope Messier
Dale Meyer-Curley
Erik Meyer-Curley
Elliott Mitchell
Hope Moore
Skip Morris
Lia Olsborg
Kris Pelletier
Danielle Reese
A. Joseph Ross
Sharon Sbarsky
Richard Schmeidler
JB Segal
Jude Shabry
Nicholas "phi" Shectman
Cris Shuldiner
Rachel Silber
Mike Sprague

Mary Stock
 Rachel Tanenhaus
 Ilene Tatroe
 Mike Tatroe
 Ben Thornton
 D.J. Toland
 Melia Vaden
 Wendy Verschoor
 Tanya Washburn
 Nightwing Whitehead

Executive Board - eboard@

President	Mike Sprague	president@
Vice President	Ilene Tatroe	vice-president@
Treasurer	Nicholas "phi" Sheckman	treasurer@
Clerk	Rachel Tanenhaus	clerk@
Members-At-Large	Megan Lewis	at-large@
	TBD	
	TBD	
Arisia '25 Con Chairs	Wendee Abramo, Julia Austein, etana, and Dale Meyer-Curley	conchair@
Arisia '25 Treasurer	TBD	con-treasurer@

Committee Membership

Budget (budget@) Nicholas "phi" Sheckman (chair), Kelly Fabijanac
Corporate Communications (corpcomms@) Rachel Tanenhaus (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones
Corporate Inventory Control (cic@): Rick Kovalcik (chair), Benjamin Levy, Skip Morris
Discord: Justin duCoeur (chair), Jason Schneiderman, Andrew Brockert
Fundraising - donations@: Nicholas "phi" Sheckman (chair), Julia Austein
Grants (grantsrequest): Ilene Tatroe (chair), Joseph Andelman
Hotel Search (hotelsearch): (no chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Sheckman

Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@): etana (Chair), Ilene Tatroe, Rachel Tanenhaus, Megan Lewis (advisory members: Jaime Garmendia, Kris Pelletier)
IT (it@): Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas "phi" Shectman (Chair), Mike Tatroe
Location Search (no email address): Gail Terman (chair), etana, Sol Houser
Long Range Planning (lrp@): (No chair), Anna Bradley, Heather Cougar
Mailing List Monitoring (monitor@): Claudia Mastroianni, Rachel Tanenhaus
Postmaster (postmaster@): Sharon Sbarsky (chair), Rick Kovalcik, Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Mike Tatroe (advisory member)
Social (social@): Mike Sprague (chair)
Student Contests (student-contests@): In need of members

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
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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