



Mentor

The Newsletter of
Arisia, Incorporated

Volume 32, Issue 338, December 2025
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About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 12:30 pm in person 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 **14**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings $((35+28+18)/3 \times 0.51) = 14$. The quorum for the January corporate meeting will be 16.

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 9, 2025 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at **7:05 PM**. There were 45 members attending:

Wendee Abramo
Rob Allison
Joseph Andelman
Inanna Arthen
Julia Austein
Priscilla Ballou
Andrew Brockert
Adam Burdick
Skyler Crossman
Garret DeJong
Regis Donovan
etana
Alder Fehler
Allison Feldhusen

Jaime Garmendia
Lisa Opus Goldstein
Charles Hannum
Carolyn Heald
Joel Herda
Elaine Isaak
Jennifer Koerber
Rick Kovalcik
Henry Leong
Megan Lewis
Ken London
Claudia Mastroianni
Will McMain
Elliott Mitchell
Charles Olson
Kris Pelletier
Antonia Pugliese
Laurel Richman
Sharon Sbarsky
Cate Schneiderman
Jason Schneiderman
Kylie Selkirk
Nicholas “phi” Shectman
Rachel Silber
Mike Sprague
Rachel Tanenhaus
Ilene Tatroe
Mike Tatroe
D.J. Toland
Tanya Washburn
Violet Zitola

5 non-members attended:

Diane Rosenberg
Julia B.
Jennifer Koerber
John Nelson
Matt Ringel

Proxies:

- JB Segal to Allison Feldhusen (accepted)
- Jason Schneiderman to Cate Schneiderman (accepted)
- Richard Schmeidler to Julia Austein (accepted)
- Elliot Mohrmann to Alder Fehler (accepted)
- Lisa Opus Goldstein to Kylie Selkirk (accepted)

Approval of the November 2025 Minutes:

Rachel T. suggested two corrections: the table of contents mentions the September minutes rather than the November minutes, and Kylie's name is spelled incorrectly in the member list. A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. **MOTION PASSES.**

EBoard Report:

In consultation with the EBoard, the IRMC would like to begin an internal review post-convention of processes with an eye towards addressing challenges. If you have ideas, please feel free to e-mail irmc@arisia.org.

President's Report:

None.

VPs Report:

None.

Treasurer's Report:

phi presented an updated financial report:

Date:	12/1/2025	
Assets:		
Bank accounts:	\$76,256.17	
Total assets:		\$76,256.17
Reserved funds:		
Arisia 2026:	\$10,976.96	
Snow fund:	\$51,458.64	
Training fund:	\$1,022.00	
Total reserved funds:		\$63,457.60
Net unrestricted funds:		\$12,798.57

This is a substantially stronger total net unrestricted funds number than the last one of these I sent out, which is mostly because Arisia 2025, which we asked to transfer \$24,000 to the corporation to cover most of our expenses, actually transferred approximately \$32,000.

I was hoping to also have complete budget actuals or at least an exact total bottom line number for Arisia 2025 tonight. Sadly I'm still missing a little bit of detail so the final report will have to wait.

The snow fund is set as two years' expenses. Most of this is rent, and if we downsized our storage we would not only save money on rent going forward (so that conventions would not be asked to come up with as much money) but also reduce the size of the reserve we needed to keep in the snow fund, which would free up funding for other uses. So we can make money as a smaller con. We are not at financial risk this way.

Opus asked if skipping the 2027 convention meant we would still have the startup funds for the next convention, and phi said yes. Joel stated that the cost of canceling the 2026 con, which is not currently on the table, would be \$50,000.

Clerk's Report:

Rachel noted that she generally puts more detail than is required in the minutes, and asked if members would prefer that she simply include votes and results. Several members noted that they benefited from the more detailed style of minutes.

Member-At-Large's Report:

None.

A25 Con Comm Report:

None.

A26 Con Comm Report:

An in-person Con Comm meeting took place on December 7. Our previously-confirmed Writer Guest of Honor John Wiswell unfortunately can not make it to the convention. We do have an Artist Guest of Honor, and Joel is looking at other possibilities that could work at this late date. The nuts and bolts of the convention are coming together.

Committee Reports:

Budget:

phi (Chair), Kelly Fabijanic

None.

Corporate Communications:

Rachel T. (Chair)

None.

Corporate Inventory Control (CIC):

phi, Ben, Kylie, Skip, Sharon

None.

Discord:

Will (Chair), Justin, Ken, Jason, Andrew

We have a Discord now! Corp and staff folks should have received an invitation to join and poke around. The server will be opened to the public on Sunday, December 14. Mike S. asked if people who have never been to Arisia can join, and Will said yes, they could. Mike asked if someone has to agree to the Code of Conduct when they join, and Will said he would try to set things up so that new people joining the server would at least have to read it. Mike then asked about moderators and admins, and Will said there are 4 or 5 moderators on top of admins. If you want to be a moderator, reach out to Will. Violet asked if it was possible to set up the Discord such that agreeing to the Code of Conduct is a condition of joining. Will will talk to Justin about making that happen. Charles H. noted that such an arrangement is commonly carried out on Discord using roles.

Fundraising:

phi (Chair), Julia

None.

Grants:

Joseph

This Committee has been suspended until finances are stabilized.

Hotel Search Committee:

phi, Ben, Kelly

None.

Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC):

Jaime (Interim Chair), Kris P. (advisory member), Rachel T., Megan, Will, Adam

None.

IT:

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

None.

Long Range Planning (LRP):

Tanya (chair), phi, Dan T., Julia, Henry

None.

Postmaster:

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

None.

Recruiting:

Wendee (Chair), Allison

None.

Social:

Mike S.

None.

Student Contests:

(members needed)

None.

Old Business:

Discussion of proposed convention hiatus for 2027:

Mike S. proposed that we enter into Committee of the Whole, and the proposal was seconded.

MOTION PASSES.

Upon exiting Committee of the Whole, the Corporation addressed the following proposals:

Motion by Rachel Silber:

Resolved: That we act and plan to hold the next Arisia convention after 2026 in 2028, by surveying the community during Arisia 2026, by executing on some of the long term infrastructure needs of Arisia 2028, and by including the community in regular communications and updates, and possibly smaller events between now and then.

Additional text from etana:

The Eboard will survey the Arisia 2026 community using multiple methods, including but not limited to panels and/or a formal survey.

The Board will then turn the survey results to a Hiatus Committee comprised of volunteers from the board, corporate and convention attendees.

The Hiatus Committee will report out scope and pillars within the first 3 months, and identify 6 and 9 month goals within year 1 with additional working committees developed as needed.

Additional text from Joseph:

These responsibilities will be distributed to established committees or a new committee as needed. This distribution will be proposed no later than the February 2026 meeting and voted on in the March 2026 meeting.

Mycroft noted that etana didn't intend their text to be a separate amendment. Joseph agreed and noted that etana's text was more specific and structured than his own.

Andrew made a motion to combine Rachel S.'s and Joseph's texts. phi agreed and noted that the Bylaws clarify who has the responsibilities laid out in the motions, and therefore the motions were not ambiguous and did not require more detail. Claudia preferred etana's text to the proposed combination of text. Ilene asked why we were using Joseph's text if Joseph himself had pointed out the advantages in etana's text. Andrew withdrew the motion. Joseph withdrew his text.

Will moved to incorporate etana's text into Rachel S.'s motion, and his motion was seconded. phi indicated that he did not like the idea of a Hiatus Committee, which would assign too much power to the EBoard and would not be transparent. He also said that making new committees is often a good way to kill things. Furthermore, the Hiatus Committee would not be able to make new committees as laid out in etana's text; under the Bylaws only the Corporation can make new committees. Joel pointed out that nothing will happen without sufficient volunteers. He also would prefer that we not name it the Hiatus Committee, but has no problem with the word "committee", since it's just a name for a working team. Tanya said we need a group of people to look at who we have and what we need to do and build working groups out of that. Will stated that the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) already conducted a survey; we don't have to do another. Rick felt that we should vote on combining the two motions. Ilene suggested that an initial plan, including required committees, be reported out to and voted on by the Corporation by March at the latest. Elliott requested a secret ballot for all proposed motions. Rachel T. liked etana's text, but felt that the organization may not have the people power to carry out the specifics. Will was optimistic that people would step up, and Dan noted that most Arisia attendees don't even know this conversation is happening, but may be willing to stand up when they find out. Mycroft opined that the survey the LRPC carried out isn't the same as the survey we should be doing as part of the work proposed in these motions. Tanya noted that a report can include statements like, "We need more time", and etana's proposed framework could hold us accountable. etana suggested that since we already have a why, we should spend the first three months determining our who and our scope. After that we can figure out how. They also

agreed to drop the portion of their text regarding creating additional committees. Will moved to call the question to combine the motions. **MOTION PASSES 28-5.**

Rick moved to amend adding a period to “after 9 month goals”, strike the portion regarding additional working committees, and add, “Additional committees may be recommended to the Corporation.” The motion was seconded. **MOTION PASSES 31-0.**

The following combined and amended motion was proposed:

Resolved: That we act and plan to hold the next Arisia convention after 2026 in 2028, by surveying the community during Arisia 2026, by executing on some of the long term infrastructure needs of Arisia 2028, and by including the community in regular communications and updates, and possibly smaller events between now and then.

The Eboard will survey the Arisia 2026 community using multiple methods, including but not limited to panels and/or a formal survey.

The Board will then turn the survey results to a Hiatus Committee comprised of volunteers from the board, corporate and convention attendees.

The Hiatus Committee will report out scope and pillars within the first 3 months, and identify 6 and 9 month goals. Additional committees may be added by the Corporation.

MOTION PASSES. 36-6.

New Business:

The Corporation voted to set the April corporate meeting date for **Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm over Zoom.**

Announcements:

- Con Chair office hours (informal Zoom meeting) will take place on Sunday, December 14th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Calendar

Corporate Meetings

- Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 12:30 pm at the Hyatt Cambridge (in person)
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Other Meetings and Events

- Con Chair office hours - Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 pm (Zoom)

Upcoming Conventions

- Boskone - February 13-15, 2026 - Westin Boston Seaport District, Boston, MA

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

Membership List

This membership list is as of 8:00 PM on 10/19/2025. Please report any corrections to clerk@arisia.org. Names in italics are non-voting members.

Vivian Abraham
Wendee Abramo
Dawn Albright
Robert Allison
Joseph Andelman
Inanna Arthen
Julia Austein
Priscilla Ballou
Fred Bauer
Rob Bazemore
Melia Beetham-Vaden
Anna Bradley
Andrew Brockert
Adam Burdick
Adam Cohn
Brian Cooper
Skyler Crossman
Garret Dejong
Regis Donovan
etana
Kelly Fabijanec
Alder Fehler
Allison Feldhusen
Jaime Garmendia
Lisa Opus Goldstein
Charles Hannum
Carolyn Heald
Joel Herda
Elaine Isaak
Angela Jones
Lenore Jones
Rick Kovalcik
Susan Kramer
Henry Leong
Megan Lewis
Ken London

Glen Macwilliams
 Claudia Mastroianni
 Will McMain
 Penelope Messier
 Elliott Mitchell
 Eliot Mohrmann
 Skip Morris
 Lia Olsborg
 Charles Olson
 Kris Pelletier
 Antonia Pugliese
 Danielle Reese
 Laurel Richman
A. Joseph Ross
 Sharon Sbarsky
 Richard Schmeidler
 Jason Schneiderman
 Cate Schneiderman
 JB Segal
 Kylie Selkirk
 Nicholas “phi” Shectman
Cris Shuldiner
 Rachel Silber
 Mike Sprague
 Mary Stock
 Rachel Tanenhaus
 Ilene Tatroe
 Mike Tatroe
 D.J. Toland
 Tanya Washburn
 Nightwing Whitehead
 Violet Zitola

Executive Board - eboard@

President	Mike Sprague	president@
Vice President		vice-president@
Treasurer	Nicholas “phi” Shectman	treasurer@
Clerk	Rachel Tanenhaus	clerk@
Members-At-Large	Megan Lewis	at-large@
	Julia Austein	
	Allison Feldhusen	
Arisia '26 Con Chair	Joel Herda	conchair@
Arisia '26 Treasurer	None	con-treasurer@

Committee Membership

Budget (budget@) Nicholas "phi" Shectman (chair), Kelly Fabijanec
Corporate Communications (corpcomms@) Rachel Tanenhaus (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones
Corporate Inventory Control (cic@): Benjamin Levy, Skip Morris, Nicholas "phi" Shectman
Discord: Will McMain, (chair), Justin duCoeur, Jason Schneiderman, Andrew Brockert, Ken London
Fundraising - donations@: Nicholas "phi" Shectman (chair), Julia Austein
Grants (grantsrequest): (on hiatus) (no chair), Joseph Andelman
Hotel Search (hotelsearch): (no chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Kelly Fabijanec
Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@): (no chair), Rachel Tanenhaus, Megan Lewis, Will McMain, Adam Burdick (advisory members: Jaime Garmendia, Kris Pelletier)
IT (it@): Benjamin Levy, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas "phi" Shectman (Chair), Mike Tatroe
Location Search (no email address): Gail Terman (chair), Sol Houser
Long Range Planning (lrp@): Tanya Washburn (chair), Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Julia Austein, Henry Leong, Dan Toland
Mailing List Monitoring (monitor@): Claudia Mastroianni, Rachel Tanenhaus
Postmaster (postmaster@): Sharon Sbarsky (chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Mike Tatroe (advisory member)
Recruiting (recruiting@): Wendee Abramo (chair), Allison Feldhusen
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

If you cannot afford to purchase a membership, you may reach out to the Executive Board at ebboard@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