



# Mentor

The Newsletter of  
**Arisia, Incorporated**

Volume 32, Issue 340, February 2026  
519 Somerville Ave #371, Somerville, MA 02143  
+ 1-917-7ARISIA (+1-917-727-4742)

## Contents

About the Meeting	1
February Meeting Summary	1
Calendar	7
Membership List	7
Executive Board	9
Committee Membership	9
Subscription and Dues Information	10

## About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm over Zoom**. The corresponding agenda will be distributed over the corp-announce email list in advance of the meeting.

The quorum for the February corporate meeting was **16**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings  $((18+45+30)/3 \times 0.51) = 18$ . The quorum for the March corporate meeting will be 18.

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.

## February 17, 2026 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at **7:04 PM**. There were 27 members attending:

Wendee Abramo  
Joseph Andelman  
Inanna Arthen  
etana  
Alder Fehler  
Allison Feldhusen  
Charles Hannum  
Joel Herda  
Rick Kovalcik  
Henry Leong  
Megan Lewis  
Ken London  
Will McMain  
Elliott Mitchell

Chris Murphy  
Laurel Richman  
Sharon Sbarsky  
Cate Schneiderman  
Nicholas “phi” Sheckman  
Rachel Silber  
Stephani Smith  
Mike Sprague  
Rachel Tanenhaus  
Ilene Tatroe  
Mike Tatroe  
D.J. Toland  
Tanya Washburn

1 non-member attended:

Diane Rosenberg

Proxies:

- Priscilla Ballou to etana (accepted)
- Rob Allison to Tanya Washburn (accepted)
- Jason Schneiderman to Rachel Tanenhaus (accepted)
- JB Segal to Allison Feldhusen (accepted)

### **Approval of the January 2025 Minutes:**

A motion was made to amend the minutes to show that no valid vote was taken on the date of the May meeting. The motion received no second. **MOTION FAILS.**

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

### **EBoard Report:**

Mike S. discussed the Hiatus Committee and what that might look like.

- Enough people have volunteered, but none have offered to Chair. Mike thanked the volunteers for their enthusiasm.
- Joseph asked about the purpose of the Hiatus Committee. It is meant for planning next steps during the gap year, but not necessarily for carrying them out.
- Wendee asked what would be necessary to make the Committee happen.
  - Mike said that we need a Chair and he needs to finish going through the applicants.
  - phi noted that we should confirm that volunteers know what the Committee is for and that that purpose lines up with what they think it's for.
  - Rick said that it is possible to appoint a Committee and then put in a Chair later. Mike responded that he does not have their consent. etana noted that leading with consent is new for the organization and an important value, and reminded everyone that we have until March to have the Hiatus Committee up and running.

- Several people pointed out the importance of balancing the excitement of people who want to help with the need for rest after con, and suggested that giving some grace might not go amiss.
- Mike assured the membership that we would have a Hiatus Committee soon. phi expressed excitement to see so many new names on the list of volunteers.

### **President's Report:**

Will McMMain has stepped up to Chair the Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC), and Mike S. has accepted his offer pending a vote by the membership. Will was on the IRMC for several years, took a break, and then came back about a year ago. The IRMC hasn't had a permanent Chair in a year, and Will is eager to work on process improvements and transparency.

Mike S. made a motion to accept Will McMMain as Chair of the IRMC and received multiple seconds. **MOTION PASSES.**

### **VPs Report:**

None.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

None.

### **Clerk's Report:**

None.

### **Member-At-Large's Report:**

None.

### **A25 Con Comm Report:**

None.

### **A26 Con Comm Report:**

- Joel has taken a preliminary look at the A26 budget. People should send in their reimbursement forms to [treasurer@arisia.org](mailto:treasurer@arisia.org) or [treasury@arisia.org](mailto:treasury@arisia.org); phi has been handling them.
- Joel has heard great reactions to the con.
- Debriefing will take place this Sunday, February 22 at 2:00 pm on Zoom.

- Generally Debriefing is run by the upcoming Con Chair, but we don't have one, so Rachel S. will run the meeting.
- Rachel S. would love to get debrief reports from folks who had relevant roles on con staff.
- She is planning a free-form discussion of what the convention did, learned, wants to remember, and where we go from here.
- phi noted that Art Show reconciliation is not yet complete. Usually that takes place within 4-6 weeks, but there was an issue with the Art Show computer system, so it might take longer this time. Everything regarding Art Show's information is documented on paper, though, so no data loss has occurred.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Budget:

phi (Chair), Kelly Fabijanic

None.

#### Corporate Communications:

Rachel T. (Chair)

None.

#### Corporate Inventory Control (CIC):

phi, Ben, Kylie, Skip, Sharon

- Arisia lent some gear to Boskone and Boskone has returned it.
- Arisia wants to get rid of some refrigerators.
- We have been working on condensing our various materials in order to save money on storage space and also to make Logistics easier so there is less extraneous stuff in the way when we're trying to load in and out for con.
- phi had previously erroneously reported that our lease was up this January 31, but it's up next January 31. This gives us time to look for new space.
- Our current space is 2800 square feet in a warehouse in Haverhill; it's about a quarter full.

#### Discord:

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

None.

#### 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):

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

None.

IT:

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

None.

Long Range Planning (LRP):

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

- Tanya asked if the EBoard wants this Committee to do anything.
- Joseph asked if we can have more Fan Tables at other cons, and who's in charge of that.
- Joel said that usually the Con Comm for the following year is in charge of such things, but we don't have one and the A26 team did not have the capacity.
- Wendee said the responsible party could be the Hiatus Committee, the Arisia 2028 Con Comm, or the Recruiting Committee - but we have nothing to promote yet. We have time to be intentional. But tabling has a cost, and expenses would have come out of a Con Comm budget, so we'd have to find somewhere else for it to come from until we have a Con Comm for A28. Wendee would love to do fan tables, but feels that we should wait.
- phi noted that there is usually a budget for the next year's Con Chair to promote the con, but we don't have such a thing yet. He wonders if the Hiatus Committee or someone else could do it. phi made a motion to authorize the Hiatus Committee to spend money from the 2% marketing budget set aside by our policies.
- Rick said that it might be worth doing tables now to get people involved in the Corporation and see if they've been to the con and would like to.
- etana thinks it's great we're thinking about this, but we don't want a bunch of energized people without direction, so tabling should not be a priority right now.

- Mike T. pointed out that tabling might establish proof of life, since some people are skeptical that Arisia will make it through our gap year.
- Wendee agreed that we need to have a plan, and has been keeping track of deadlines for applying to table at events. Joseph agrees, but likes phi's proposal and suggests that we vote on it now and use it later when we need it.
- Mike S. said that historically upcoming Con Chairs would ask who was going to a given con, and people who were going would say whether they wanted to table or not. It's never been organized or under a particular committee.
- Rachel T. moved to call the question. **MOTION PASSES.**
- The membership voted on phi's motion to authorize the Hiatus Committee to spend money from the 2% marketing budget set aside by our policies. **MOTION PASSES.**

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:**

None.

**New Business:**

The Corporation voted to set the June corporate meeting date for **Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm over Zoom.**

**Announcements:**

- phi needs someone to do remote data entry work or take pictures of pieces of paper with lots of numbers on them and turn them into spreadsheets. If you're interested, e-mail him at [treasury@arisia.org](mailto:treasury@arisia.org).
- Watch City Steampunk Festival is going through some bumps and needs volunteers. The event will take place on May 9 on Waltham Commons. Some of the people in charge of the event are heavily involved with Arisia. The Festival suddenly has to pivot to being a 4-hour event from being a day-long event, so they probably need volunteer help before and during the actual event. [www.watchcityfestival.com](http://www.watchcityfestival.com).
- Joseph is trying to run an in-person anime meetup event in March. Details to come, and he will post them on Discord.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

## Calendar

### Corporate Meetings

- Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)
- Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)

### Other Meetings and Events

#### Upcoming Conventions

- Watch City Steampunk Festival - Saturday, May 9, 12:00-4:00 pm, Waltham Common, Waltham

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

## Membership List

This membership list is as of 8:00 PM ET on 2/11/2026. Please report any corrections to [clerk@arisia.org](mailto: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 Fabijanac  
Alder Fehler  
Allison Feldhusen  
Jaime Garmendia  
Lisa Opus Goldstein  
Charles Hannum  
Carolyn Heald  
Joel Herda  
Elaine Isaak  
Suriya Jeyapalan  
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  
Chris Murphy  
Lia Olsborg  
Charles Olson  
Kris Pelletier  
Antonia Pugliese  
Danielle Reese  
Laurel Richman  
*A. Joseph Ross*  
Jo Rothman  
Sharon Sbarsky  
Richard Schmeidler  
Jason Schneiderman  
Cate Schneiderman  
JB Segal  
Kylie Selkirk  
Nicholas "phi" Shectman  
*Cris Shuldiner*  
Rachel Silber  
Stephani Smith

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" Sheckman	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

<b>Budget (budget@)</b> Nicholas "phi" Sheckman (chair), Kelly Fabijanic
<b>Corporate Communications (corpcomms@)</b> Rachel Tanenhaus (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones
<b>Corporate Inventory Control (cic@):</b> Benjamin Levy, Skip Morris, Nicholas "phi" Sheckman
<b>Discord:</b> Will McMain, (chair), Justin duCoeur, Jason Schneiderman, Andrew Brockert, Ken London
<b>Fundraising - donations@:</b> Nicholas "phi" Sheckman (chair), Julia Austein
<b>Grants (grantsrequest): (on hiatus)</b> (no chair), Joseph Andelman
<b>Hotel Search (hotelsearch):</b> (no chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Sheckman, Kelly Fabijanic
<b>Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@):</b> Will McMain (chair), Rachel Tanenhaus, Megan Lewis, Adam Burdick (advisory members: Jaime Garmendia, Kris Pelletier)

<b>IT (it@):</b> Benjamin Levy, Sharon Sbarsky, Nicholas "phi" Shectman (Chair), Mike Tatroe
<b>Location Search (no email address):</b> Gail Terman (chair), Sol Houser
<b>Long Range Planning (lrp@):</b> Tanya Washburn (chair), Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Julia Austein, Henry Leong, Dan Toland
<b>Mailing List Monitoring (monitor@):</b> Claudia Mastroianni, Rachel Tanenhaus
<b>Postmaster (postmaster@):</b> Sharon Sbarsky (chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Mike Tatroe (advisory member)
<b>Recruiting (recruiting@):</b> Wendee Abramo (chair), Allison Feldhusen
<b>Social (social@):</b> Mike Sprague (chair)
<b>Student Contests (student-contests@):</b> 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 [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**

**Somerville, MA 02143**