



Mentor

The Newsletter of
Arisia, Incorporated

Volume 32, Issue 346, August 2026
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About the Meeting

The next corporate meeting of Arisia, Inc. will be held on **Sunday, September 27, 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 August corporate meeting was **17**, based on 51% of the average attendance of the last three meetings $((31+40+24/3 \times 0.51) = 17)$. The quorum for the September 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.

August 18, 2026 Corporate Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and called to order at **7:02 PM**. There were 27 members attending:

Joseph Andelman
Inanna Arthen
E.J. Barnes
Garret DeJong
Regis Donovan
Kelly Fabijanac
Alder Fehler
Joel Herda
Elaine Isaak
Lenore Jones
Rick Kovalcik
Henry Leong
Rachael Linker
Ken London

Claudia Mastroianni
Will McMain
Elliott Mitchell
Chris Murphy
Patrick Powers
Laurel Richman
JB Segal
Kylie Selkirk
Nicholas “phi” Shectman
Mike Sprague
Rachel Tanenhaus
Ilene Tatroe
Tanya Washburn

There was 1 non-member attending:

Dale Worley

Proxies:

- Jason Schneiderman to Rachel Tanenhaus (accepted)
- etana to Rachel Tanenhaus (accepted)
- Allison Feldhusen to JB Segal (accepted)

Approval of the July 2026 Minutes:

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

EBoard Report:

The EBoard received no new requests from other events to borrow equipment.

The IRMC made recommendations for the following three Incident Reports (IRs), and the EBoard voted to uphold the IRMC’s recommendations:

IR #1: Arisia received multiple reports that an attendee in the lobby at Arisia 2026 was wearing a costume that included two knives, which is a violation of the convention’s weapons policy. After looking into the report, the IRMC recommended that the attendee, who has been the subject of multiple IRs, receive a warning indicating that future convention policy violations may lead to an attendance ban. The EBoard has decided to uphold the IRMC’s recommendation.

IR #2: Arisia received multiple reports that an attendee and a Registration staff member got into a conflict at Arisia 2024 when the attendee was asked to show their ID at registration but would not do so because the ID contained their dead name. After looking into the report, the IRMC recommended upholding the actions of the IRT and that Registration staff be trained on how to handle situations where an attendee might understandably be reluctant to show the name on their ID. The EBoard has decided to uphold the IRMC’s recommendation.

Joseph asked how clearly the weapons policy is stated and where. Claudia read the policy.

IR #3: Arisia received a report that an attendee with a previous negative history with the reporter engaged in intentionally intimidating behavior directed at the reporter while walking from the hotel bar to the restroom at Arisia 2026. After looking into the report, the IRMC recommended no further action at this time. The EBoard has decided to uphold the IRMC's recommendation.

President's Report:

Mike met with the Hotel Search Committee and the Hiatus Committee. The Hotel Search Committee is narrowing down options for convention hotels for Arisia 2028.

VP's Report:

None.

Treasurer's Report:

None.

Clerk's Report:

It's time to re-up Corporate membership for the 2026-27 year! Annual dues are \$24. Pay by PayPal via the link on the Corporate web page, or e-mail eboard@arisia.org for a dues waiver. You do not need to provide a reason why you need a dues waiver. Since there will not be a 2027 convention, we can't provide dues exemptions for folks who are holding positions of Division Head or higher because no one is holding said positions. Let Rachel know at clerk@arisia.org if your name or e-mail address are different from those listed on your PayPal account if you're paying that way, or if you're writing a check. You must have settled up in order to run for office in September.

Member-At-Large's Report:

None.

A25 Con Comm Report:

None.

A26 Con Comm Report:

None.

Committee Reports:

Budget:

phi (Chair), Kelly Fabijanic

None.

Corporate Communications:

Rachel T. (Chair), Rachael, Alder, Justin

The Committee met and talked about what we're here to do and how to go about doing it. Since there's no convention in 2027, most communications are from the Corporation this year, which is unusual - generally, most years' communications are about an upcoming convention or an immediate crisis, so the Committee is looking at strategies for our current circumstances.

Corporate Inventory Control (CIC):

phi, Ben, Kylie, Skip, Sharon

Our lease at our storage space is up at the end of January, but our landlord thinks it's at the end of October. That might work even if we're moving within the building because October an easier time to move. The landlord has some smaller spaces in the building - ours is too large for our current needs. (We used to have a lot of video equipment, for example, but we no longer do and what we do have is smaller). We are looking to downsize from our current 2800-square foot space to between 1200 and 1500 square feet. The landlord has two potential spaces: one is between 1700 and 1800 square feet; the other is smaller than would be ideal for us and more expensive per square foot. phi is also looking at other storage spaces because Haverhill is far out and has some other issues. He's noticed some possibly good spaces in Peabody, and there are also some spaces next to a rental truck business, which might be convenient during conventions. phi will get more information and visit the two spaces in our current building.

Discord:

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

None.

Fundraising:

phi (Chair), Julia

None.

Grants:

Joseph

This Committee has been suspended until finances are stabilized.

Hiatus Committee:

Elaine (Chair), Rob, Jem, Rose, Pauline, etana, Alder, Violet, Rachael
Elaine reported the following:

1. The website working group has prepared a website framework for the Convention site and has a volunteer, Rachael Linker, willing to train as webmaster to submit to 48in48, a free web development group that works with nonprofits.
2. The Hiatus Committee met with the Hotel Search Committee and will be looking at their work to refine the options for suitable locations for Arisia 2028. Part of this process will include examining hotel availability for MLK weekend and a possible alternative weekend so that the Corporation can consider whether it makes sense to change convention weekends.
3. Melia from Registration has been working with Civet Solutions and Ben from the IT Committee to update the software and set up a test version of an art show that can be demoed to see if it would be suitable for Arisia's needs.
4. The Hiatus Committee intends to propose a year-round Volunteer Management structure to enable:
 - better on-boarding of new volunteers after the con when they're excited
 - coordination with existing volunteers who want to stay on and may want to switch roles
 - keeping track of information about our volunteers so that we can help them find roles to which they're best suited
 - supporting leadership in filling needed positions

If you may be interested in being part of this effort, please let Elaine know at Hiatus@Arisia.org. Elaine also hopes to write up a motion for a Volunteer Management Committee, so let her know if you're interested in being on that Committee or refining the language of the relevant motion.

5. The Hiatus Committee is reviewing possible software to support volunteer management that would include an app for volunteers to accept shifts and enter hours more easily than the paper forms.

Tanya wanted to make sure the current web site gets archived and not just replaced with a new web site. Rachael L. has copied everything from the web site, but noted that if anyone has a better way to archive it, they should let her know. Tanya expressed respect and appreciation. Joel noted that there is some web site content that has been commented out, and Rachael doesn't have access to that. phi suggested that Rachael contact it@arisia.org to give her access. Will pointed out that corp.arisia.org has a lot of content that should be on the regular web site and isn't. Elaine said that the Corporation web site is another area of concern, but the Convention web site is more public-facing so it took priority. Tanya's documentation project will intersect with the Corporation web site. The Hiatus Committee is also discussing putting training videos up on the web site for certain Convention staff positions.

Kylie would prefer that we not require the use of an app in order to volunteer. Elaine said there needs to be an alternative to the app as well, for folks who would prefer not to use it or can not do so.

Hotel Search Committee:

phi, Ben, Kelly

The Hotel Search Committee prepared a summary of current market conditions for the Hiatus Committee. There are a dozen hotels in the Grreater Boston area between the Hyatt's size and 25% larger. All of them have different flaws. Another 3 hotels are up to 10% smaller than the Hyatt. That combined list is long enough for the Committee to be able to go through them and determine our priorities without having to rely on the availability of particular hotels. The next step is for the Hiatus Committee to come up with more criteria to narrow things down and select dates to compare. If you want to help with data-wrangling without actually being on the Hotel Search Committee (e.g., researching number of parking spaces at each hotel, figuring out distances from public transit, etc.), contact hotel-search@arisia.org.

Tanya asked if the Committee has someone well-versed in accessibility issues. Kelly said that accessibility would be addressed when looking at specific hotels. All hotels have some accessible rooms. The Committee will look at the accessibility of spaces, but also how those spaces are accessed (for example, does one have to go through the back among the trash barrels to get to the accessible spaces?) Arisia is looking to go above and beyond the minimum requirements in terms of accessibility. Tanya and Rachel T. volunteered to help.

Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC):

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

The IRMC voted on 3 IRs and sent them on to the EBoard this month. There are 8 remaining open IRs: 5 from 2026, 1 from 2025, and 2 from 2024.

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.

Social:

Mike S.

None.

Student Contests:
(members needed)

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

The Corporation voted to set the December Corporate meeting date for **Tuesday, December 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm over Zoom.**

Announcements:

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Calendar

Corporate Meetings

- Sunday, September 27, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)
- Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Zoom)
- Tuesday, December 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Other Meetings and Events

Upcoming Conventions

- None listed.

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

Membership List

This membership list is as of 6:00 PM ET on 6/12/2026. 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
Pauline Arsenault
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
Stefanie Deschamps
Regis Donovan
etana
Kelly Fabijanic
Alder Fehler
Allison Feldhusen
Jaime Garmendia
Max Gladstone
Lisa Opus Goldstein
James Hammond
Charles Hannum
Carolyn Heald
Joel Herda
Elaine Isaak
Suriya Jeyapalan
Angela Jones
Lenore Jones
Rick Kovalcik
Susan Kramer
Henry Leong
Megan Lewis
Rachael Linker
Ken London
Glen Macwilliams
Marianna Martin
Claudia Mastroianni
Will McMain
Penelope Messier
Elliott Mitchell
Eliot Mohrmann
Rose Moore
Skip Morris
Chris Murphy

Lia Olsborg
 Charles Olson
 Peter Olszowka
 Kris Pelletier
 Patrick Powers
 Antonia Pugliese
 Danielle Reese
 R. Eric Reuss
 Laurel Richman
A. Joseph Ross
 Jo Rothman
 Sharon Sbarsky
 Richard Schmeidler
 Jason Schneiderman
 Cate Schneiderman
 JB Segal
 Frances Selkirk
 Kylie Selkirk
 Jude Shabry
 Nicholas “phi” Sheckman
Cris Shuldiner
 Rachel Silber
 Sarah Smith
 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	Joel Herda	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

Budget (budget@) Nicholas "phi" Shectman (chair), Kelly Fabijanec
Corporate Communications (corpcomms@) Rachel Tanenhaus (chair), Justin du Coeur, Lenore Jean Jones, Rachael Linker, Alder Fehler
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
Hiatus (hiatus@): Elaine Isaak (chair), Rob Allison, Jem, Rose Moore, Pauline, etana, Alder Fehler, Violet Zitola, Rachael Linker, Patrick Powers, Suriya Jeyapalan, Swati Joshi
Hotel Search (hotelsearch@): (no chair), Benjamin Levy, Nicholas "phi" Shectman, Kelly Fabijanec
Incident Response Management Committee (IRMC) (incidents@): Will McMain (chair), Rachel Tanenhaus, Megan Lewis, 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)
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

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