

Annual Meeting of Altonimbus Entertainment Membership
Saturday, October 8, 2011
Phoenix Inn Suites
Tigard, Oregon

Meeting called to order at 1:18pm by the President, Beau Gentry.

At the opening of the meeting, 53 members are present out of 230 total. Quorum is met.

Welcome of Guests, Founders, and Special Guests

Duncan Barth, one of Founders, here. Staff title is The Duncan. Will be returning to staff next year.

Minutes

The Secretary motions to approve the August 27 General Meeting minutes as posted. Motion passes by acclamation.

Reports

Chair, Beau Gentry

- Convention went amazingly well this year, from standpoint hotel staff, our staff, attendees, volunteers, and surrounding area. Had a really good year in a year when we really needed to have a good year. Had two previous years when not as great.
- Attendance didn't grow like we thought it would, but expecting positive word of mouth to cause growth next year.
- Will return to same site. People liked it last time there, and this time.
- Next year—10th year—will be pretty amazing. Dawn has always hoped for us to break 5000 people. Industry benchmark, where you change from a small-medium con, to a medium-largish con.
- Small conflict with Oxfest, the group in park on Monday. Will work with city to smooth over. The group's officials were fine with us, but maybe some friction with some of their attendees. Event takes place in the park every year.
- Bit of issue with trash in park the first day. We took care of it after first day and we just need to be more proactive about that next year.
- Dogtags left for 8 people, for those who signed up. See me.
- Staff recruitment buttons not quite made in time, but will happen and be given to people on the list.

Secretary, Jeff Tyrrill

- Staff grew this year. Final member count, including staff, board, and founders is 230. Highest count yet. Great, growing staff this year.

Director of Programming, Jaki Hunt

- Content went really well. Good turnout for contests. Art show fabulous. Video game tournaments went well. AMV went well. Cosplay was great. Cosplay scavenger hunt went way better than expected, and will be harder next year.
- No major flare-ups, except power issue causing video gaming to be off to slow start, but can fix that for next year.

Director of Publicity, Ally Fields

- Publicity team got pictures and video proof that con happened. Website team putting those up. Will have stock footage and video to use for 2012.
- Attempted press room, semi-failed, but will learn a lot for that to function better for next year.
- Sold out 2011 T-shirts for attendees, except a few kept for posterity. Usually have a ton left. Also sold all merchandise for first time.
- Learned a lot about parades this year, and incorporating that into next year's promotions.
- Became familiar with InDesign, and will improve program book and pocket guide. Will be ready earlier so that content can be plugged in, so ready for bag stuffing earlier. Also, will review logistics for pocket guide, and may change that a bit.
- Established press contacts, working with some that got from Comic-Con.
- Now have more of a symbiotic and functioning team for photography and videography. Team excited to start supporting CCTV.
- Decided after two cover contests, that in the future, will most likely have a commissioned cover for books instead of contests. Turnout is low and the same person has multiple years. Mascot will stay a contest, because a lot of good entries.

Treasurer, Barbara Hunt

No report.

Director of Relations, Sarah Paige

- Three guests of honor, two guests, and five industry guests. Taxed my staff to the bone. Need all the help we can get in guest staffing.
- Post-con reviews from guests overwhelmingly positive. We were praised for our professionalism and organization. They expressed sincere requests to be part of Kumoricon in the future. Were complimented on hospitality and on how welcome we made all of our guests feel, including anyone they encountered and attendees, not just our staff.
- For industry, Relations department in contact with more than 60 different companies this year. Interesting in strengthening local ties, which we began this year by reaching out to fabric stores in the area. Didn't get involved as much as we wanted, but we've opened doors to future opportunities. Made many contacts that will take some time to mature.
- For Exhibitors Hall, size obviously the main issue. Already exploring options on how to increase size. Although ultimately under purview of relations director next year, needed to start exploring options right away. Exhibitors this year, including industry such as FUNimation, Dark Horse, and sister convention Sakura-Con, expressed how pleased they were with the organization and professionalism of our Exhibitors Hall staff. We have a good team which we can expand next year.
- Artists Alley had some of same space concerns that Exhibitors Hall did, but artists showed great flexible by being willing to break down each night, which we don't normally ask them to do—this allowed us to have an additional row of tables this year.
- Introduction of silent auction this year was a huge success. Implemented cataloging and tracking system that made managing both auctions more organized and streamlined. Total auctions brought in \$3602 for Sunshine Division. Had representative from Sunshine Division attend the auction for the first time, which was a request of earlier auction attendees. Would like to improve visibility of silent auction for next year. Some bugs in tracking system to work out, so didn't quite have full real-time tracking like hoped.

Facilities Liaison, Phillip Koop

- Hotels were Hilton Vancouver Washington, and Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay.
- Fulfilled all of our contractual obligations for room nights at both hotels, and actually far surpassed required numbers.
- Weather was great Kumoricon weekend. Attendees made excellent use of Esther Short Park.
- Some problems with trash on ground. Had some volunteer groups go out and collect trash, which was really helpful.

- Made new uses of garage in the Hilton. A few hiccups with setup, like power issue in the garage, but layouts worked really well, especially for registration.
- Arranged for extra ATMs on site. One next to registration, and one next to Exhibitors Hall. Those two ATMs combined, ignoring all other ATMs in area, shelled out about \$37000.
- For the first time, had unisex bathroom, in Hilton. No complaints about it, and some positive reviews, but people said there was lack of signage about it.
- Parking was confusing at first but ended up not being very much of a problem, based on me hearing no complaints about parking not being available.
- Walk between the two hotels is always an issue. Can't change the distance, but will work with city on it. Most of issues were late-night issues, which we can work to address; or making the walk in high heels. Shuttle was available, but not enough signage saying that shuttle was available.
- Next year, as previously announced, we will be returning to the Hilton Vancouver Washington, and Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay.

Director of Operations, TJ Stinson

- Operations took daring leap in organization this year because of needing to deal with two hotels. Split everything down the middle except registration and volunteers. Resounding success.
- Yojimbo and guiding attendees is massive manpower drain, and were understaffed, but because of robust volunteer department, a lot of people were quickly put to use.
- Registration was around 4k. Never had a line longer than 45 minutes throughout the day. Big change from previous years. Partly because of computerized system, and partly because we were able to move people through quickly.
- Con Suite was split up. Mixed reviews. Difficult logistically to move things back and forth between two buildings. Next year, might centralize more.
- Added new Logistics department, which took over Nextels and internal communication. Non-descriptive contact directory labels for Nextels, which will change next year. May program them months earlier, using names of people instead of titles. Will try to expand to more people, pushing toward 100 if possible. Want to avoid using bumblebees.
- Con went very well and hoping to expand next year for 10-year anniversary.

Vice Chair, Dawn Hewitt

Not present.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

New Business

A bylaws amendment is presented to the members for a vote. See attachment.

Jeff Tyrill discusses the amendment:

- At every meeting of the membership, including general meetings and this annual meeting, in order to take a vote on everything, need 20% of the members to attend—quorum. Very common in membership organizations as protection to make sure that enough of the membership is represented to make a decision. For example, if just 5 people show up, those 5 people can't just vote for the whole membership.
- 20% quorum has been present for two years, and our experience indicates this level is a little too high. Quorum is supposed to be the largest number of members that can be depended to attend a meeting unless there are exceptional conditions like bad weather.
- Last two elections meetings before, we met quorum by just a handful of people. If fewer had shown up, we would have had to send people home and reschedule it.
- Quorum is specified in the bylaws. Amending the bylaws requires a member vote. Proposed amendment uses a sliding-scale formula based on 20% of the count of members up to 100, and then 10% of the count above 100.
- Effect is that at elections, with usually a little over 200 staff, we need around 10 less members to attend if amendment passes. This would put us into a safe zone where we'd be pretty assured of getting quorum at elections meetings. Will still serve function of ensuring that a meeting has adequate representation.
- Currently, membership for a given year continues approximately three months after the next staff term opens, so that if you want to sign up for staff again, membership is continuous. However, during this time, meeting attendance is low. In the amendment, when the next staff term opens, quorum is 10% of people who are still members of the previous term, but have not yet signed up again.

- Of seven meetings reviewed at which quorum was not met, five would have met quorum under proposed new rules.
- I strongly recommend you vote in favor of amendment. The board has today voted it in. The amendment immediately takes effect when both the board vote and member vote approve it. If the members vote it in today, then if people leave elections meeting, the new quorum rule will help us this very meeting.

Suggestion is made that the amendment specify rounding procedure. Jeff clarifies that amendment simply does not round during quorum calculations.

Suggestion is made to take member renewals for next year prior to elections meeting. Jeff says that that is a more substantial change. Reason that is not done is that member renewal involves signing up for a staff position, and staff positions report to new directors. New directors may make changes to the organizational chart. After 5 member-elected directors are elected, and 4 board-elected directors are elected, board creates new organizational chart and then opens staff registration. Beau says that starting this year, implemented new policy where staff fees are waived for returning staff if they register before membership expires.

Comment is made that meeting location is sometimes not announced until day before, and that additional notice would increase attendance. Beau says that venues sometimes don't talk to us as far in advance as we'd like.

Comment is made that some meetings were given good notice but failed to meet quorum because they were in a period of time when many people weren't able to attend.

Voting occurs on the amendment. Clarification is made that proxy votes can apply to this vote. Voting is by show of hands, with examination of proxies if it appears it may affect the outcome. Call for votes against is done first, with 4 votes against, including proxies. Vote in favor receives an overwhelming number of hands, so examination of proxies is not performed for vote in favor. Majority is met, so amendment passes the member vote, and because the board had previously approved the amendment, it becomes active.

Good of the Order

Beau: Free food is good trick to increase attendance, and we will continue to do that. Please observe food manners by not taking inordinate amount of food prior to everyone being initially served.

Beau: Will skip Rant and Rave period this meeting due to length, unless there is objection.

A member announces that they will motion to elect by acclamation for the unopposed races.

Elections

Order of elections is announced, arranging contested races first:

- Chair/President
- Director of Relations
- Director of Operations
- Director of Programming
- Director of Publicity

As required, section 7.D of the bylaws, "Requirements and Conduct of Elections for Membership-Elected Positions" is read.

Agenda for each election race is summarized: Speeches, question-and-answer period, and comment period with candidates out of the room.

Statement is made that audio- and video-recording is not allowed for the elections portion of the meeting, except for the official audio recording.

The Chair/President race is held. The candidates are Jon Bressler and Beau Gentry. In a ballot vote, Beau Gentry is elected Chair/President for 2012.

The Director of Relations race is held. The candidates are Sarah Paige and Debra Stansbury. In a ballot vote, Sarah Paige is elected Director of Relations for 2012.

The Director of Operations race is held. The candidate is Elias "TJ" Stinson, running unopposed. A member motions to elect Elias Stinson by acclamation after the Q&A period but before the comment period. The motion passes in a unanimous show-of-hands vote, thereby electing Elias Stinson as Director of Operations for 2012.

The Director of Programming race is held. The candidate is Jaki Hunt, running unopposed. A member motions to elect Jaki Hunt by acclamation after the Q&A period but before the comment period. This motion fails. The comment period is held. After the comment period, a member motions to elect Jaki Hunt by acclamation. The motion passes in a unanimous show-of-hands vote, thereby electing Jaki Hunt as Director of Programming for 2012.

The Director of Publicity race is held. The candidate is Ally Fields, running unopposed. After the comment period, a member motions to elect Ally Fields by acclamation. The motion passes in a unanimous show-of-hands vote, thereby electing Ally Fields as Director of Publicity for 2012.

After elections, Jeff asks the room who finds the recordings made available to members useful. A few respond in the affirmative. Beau explains that official meeting recordings began earlier over concern of people being misquoted or misrepresented about something spoken at a meeting. Can also be used to catch up on missed meetings.

Beau announces that if you have a suggestion to the board for somebody for one of the board-elected positions (Secretary, Treasurer, Facilities Liaison, and Vice Chair), can bring it to our attention and get in contact with that person.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tyrrell
Secretary
Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment 2011

Attachment (next page)

In paragraph 10.B.4, strike "at least one-fifth of" and insert in its place "the", and after the words "must be present", insert ", as described in Paragraph 10.B.5".

Add the following paragraph, and renumber:

"10.B.5. Quorum of the Members shall be computed based on the following process, which takes into account the provision for overlapping Terms of Membership as described in Paragraph 8.B.2 and elsewhere in these bylaws. For purposes of computing quorum, Members shall be divided into two non-overlapping divisions which collectively encompass the Membership as described in the following subparagraphs. Quorum shall then be the sum (without rounding at any point) of the following calculations:

a. The first division shall consist of Members who are members of the latest currently active Term of Membership. Take the count of this division. Take twenty percent of the count up to 100, plus ten percent of the portion of the count greater than 100.

b. The other division shall consist of Members who are not members of the latest currently active Term of Membership, meaning that they are members only of the previous still-active term. Take ten percent of the count of this division."

Strike paragraph 8.B.2 and replace with the following:

"8.B.2. Each Term of Membership shall begin at 12:01am Pacific Time on the date specified by the Board, such date being not earlier than the 6th day after the Annual Meeting of the Board, and not earlier than the 3rd day after Notice to the Members has been given specifying the begin date of such term, and ending at 11:59pm Pacific Time either on the 90th day, or on the 10th day after the third Meeting of the Membership at which quorum is attained, whichever is later, after the date that the Term associated with the next Kumoricon shall begin."