

Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment
General Meeting of the Membership on Aug. 4, 2013
Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay
100 Columbia St, Vancouver, WA 98660

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:28pm by T.J. Stinson.

At the opening of the meeting, 87 members were present out of 271 total, with 38 needed to reach quorum. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the general meeting of the membership of July 13, 2013 were approved without objection.

Reports

T.J. Stinson, Chair

- Still have staff dogtags. If signed up before May meeting, have them here. Otherwise will have at next meeting, or at con.

Jason Tewksbury, Vice Chair

- Custom badge images are due Aug. 17. Will use default if don't have one.
- As of Aug 1, there are 2726 registrations.

Jeff Tyrill, Secretary

- About 265 staff, not counting those who submitted a staff form before the meeting.

Barbara Hunt, Treasurer

- Money's coming in, money's going out.

Ally Fields, Facilities Liaison

Not present. Phillip Koop, Assistant, reported:

- If emailed hotel@kumoricon.org requesting a room or room type change, all of those have been processed. Will email confirmation numbers shortly. Will have to call hotel to leave a credit card.
- Staff rate requests at the Hilton have been approved for one staff rate room night per staff member staying in the room. Staff rate requests at the Red Lion have been approved for everything. At the Hilton, we are limited to 100 staff room nights, and have used about 80 so far, so have to ration them.

- Working on parking options. We should have access to a couple more lots than in the past.
- Remaining staff rooms at the Hilton will be first-come, first-served.

Wes Cox, Director of Operations

- Operations meeting in the hall during breakouts.
- After Operations meeting, policies training by Ben Riker.

Jaki Hunt, Director of Programming

- Schedule has been sent out for review and approval. Nearly final.
- Still accepting applications for Cosplay Contest, Cosplay Chess, and Art Show.
- Guy Letourneau, AMV Coordinator, reported:
 - Thank you to AMV judges.
 - Received 113 entries.
 - Categories and number of entries per category finalized for ballots.
 - Judges spent 9.5 hours: 8 hours winnowing down selections, and 1.5 hours to debate particular choices: Judges' Choice, Master of Technical Effects, and Honorary Mention. Judges also created a new category: Horror, picking four that would go into that category.
 - Will be filling Show and Pre-Show with some of the runner-ups, awarding 11 prizes, awarding the various judges' choices, and doing audience ballot for best of show.
 - Playlist will be posted around Aug 17.

Teph Williams, Director of Publicity

- More technical difficulties for monthly meeting buttons. Don't have August meeting button, but at the next August meeting, both August meetings will be available. June buttons that weren't available before, are here today.
- Really needing Press Room Staff, and also Merchandise Booth Staff. Can do both or hybrids.
- On Facebook, if you've ever mentioned that you are a Kumoricon staff member online, then you are representing Kumoricon. Just keep in mind when posting. People don't always have the most updated information. If ever don't know information 100%, hold off on answering. It's ok to interact, but just keep in mind that you're representing the convention. Put your best foot forward.

Sarah Paige, Director of Relations

- Announcing guest of honor Cassandra Morris. Voice of Ritsu in K-On!, prominent role in Nura: Rise of the Yokai Clan, and Leafa from Sword Art Online. All current guest info is on website.
- Artists Alley confirmations have been sent out to those who have been accepted, put on waitlist, or declined. If you haven't heard anything yet, email artists@kumoricon.org.

- Exhibitors Hall contracts have been sent out. Still have a waitlist if want to be added.
- Still accepting Charity Auction Donations up until convention. Can make arrangements if you need something picked up.
- Sent teams to both Anime Expo and San Diego Comic-Con. Trips were absolutely, fantastically successful. Made new and re-established old industry contacts. Got swag and prize support. Have some goodies to give out, some of it not topical. Available at table during breakouts.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

New Business

T.J. introduced the Bylaws Amendment as was previously sent to the members as notice (attached, below). T.J. stated that copies of the amendment text as well as marked-up changes are available up front to review. Creates Membership Directorate, and absorbs Facilities into Vice Chair to keep the nine-member board. T.J. reported that the board approved it unanimously. T.J. stated that this year, we moved Registration from Operations to Vice Chair as a test, and it's done very well, and flourished. Want to make it so that the people working Registration and MSO can vote on their director. Membership Directorate will be member-elected. Changes board composition to 5 voted by members and 4 by the board, to 6 and 3. As a result, change to the way that ties are dealt with in board election process.

Jeff stated that voting procedure will be hand vote, with a roll call vote to ensure an accurate vote if the hand vote looks close. Jeff clarified that only formal members of Altonimbus Entertainment can vote, though anyone may speak.

Jon B. participant asked what would be done by the Membership department. T.J. responded to say primarily Registration and Member Services, which handles staff badges and shirts. Member Services will also collect signatures to compare against proxy forms.

Aaron M. asked to clarify which are the current member-elected directors. T.J. responded stating Chair, Programming, Operations, Relations, and Publicity. Other four, Vice Chair, Facilities, Treasurer, and Secretary, are elected by the "small board". The elected five review candidates and ask questions about a week after elections, and elect the other four. What will change is that Facilities will be dissolved, and in its place, Membership will be created. Jeff clarified to state that Vice Chair is adding the previous duties of Facilities. T.J. stated that Vice has been a super staff position, and the individual holding office tends to pick up roles based on their expertise. Now, adding Facilities roles officially. Facilities duties will be the primary role, but Vice will do other things too. Intentionally ambiguous.

There were no more questions or comments. T.J. called for hand votes in favor of, and then against, the amendment. The amendment passed with a vast, overwhelming majority in favor, thereby becoming ratified.

T.J. ceremoniously announced that for the 2014 year, will have a Membership Director that will be elected at the Annual Meeting.

Good of the Order

John K asked that now that the bylaws amendment has been passed, is there work being done on the entire board being elected by the staff. T.J. responded that it's an ongoing discussion, and that we looked at what it means to be member elected or board elected, and that the amendment respected traditions, but was an expansion of member elections that made sense. T.J. stated that there is a strong movement to make the board entirely member-elected, but that at this point, there wasn't enough support for it at the board level; but that the discussion wasn't over, and that the amendment was moving in that direction.

A meeting participant said that during the Yojimbo training last meeting, for the topic of costume codes, the topic of swastikas came up for Hetalia cosplayers, and it had been stated that it is only allowed for Hetalia. She said that it makes her uneasy, because it's related to the Nazis, and she felt that it shouldn't be allowed.

Wes replied that each year, he and a small team reviews the current culture to see what is offensive and what's not, and that the line is drawn in a very gray area. Allowed for Hetalia because Hetalia is very prominent. However, if somebody is dressed like Hitler or an SS member, or displaying a swastika in a derogatory fashion, then we would require them to stop. If a complaint is made about a Hetalia cosplayer, will address it on a case-by-case basis.

Another meeting participant stated that the iron cross is not a Nazi symbol, and was in use much earlier. Other participants discussed the details of historical usage of certain symbols in more detail.

Wes continued to clarify that sometimes cosplayers are unaware, and staff members would deal with each situation on a case-by-case basis.

Aaron M. asked if there would be a Code Adam training as a result of there being many new staffers. T.J. stated that yes, at the Aug. 17 meeting.

T.J. announced that for the Aug. 17 general meeting, the start time is being pushed back to 2pm, and that there would be a meeting for Coordinators and up at noon. Both meetings are at the Hilton.

A meeting participant stated that the trash bins in the park next to the con were overflowing, and that we could inform the city so that they could place extra trash bins or do extra pickups. T.J. stated that Wes, Phillip, and himself had a meeting with the city, and that the city will have dedicated patrols to help the park service and will quadruple the number of trash bins. The convention will also be asking volunteers to go to the Operations Office to be assigned to park cleaning. The park is shared space and we can use it but need to take care of it.

A meeting participant asked if there were other events in the area at the same time. T.J. said that the farmers' market will be there Saturday and Sunday, and that Oxfest will be in the park on Monday.

A meeting participant asked if there was a masquerade ball. Jaki replied that the Kumori Ball is semi-formal, and a mask is allowed but not required, but that the dress code requires a certain

standard of semi-formal. Tickets have been renamed Event Passes to avoid confusion—they are free. Kumori Ball will do dress code check when Event Passes are picked up.

Rant and Rave

There were a couple of general raves about the staff.

Adjournment

T.J. stated that there would be a new staff orientation in the hallway.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02pm by T.J.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tyrill, Secretary

Attachment

In Paragraph 3.A.2, insert before the ending period “, except as modified by the tiebreaking power of the President only as described in Subparagraph 7.E.2.a”.

In Paragraph 4.A.1, insert “and ” before “Secretary” and strike “, and Facilities Liaison”.

In Section 4.F, move Paragraphs 1 to 3 after Paragraph 4.C.3, renumber them as 4 to 6, change the period in Paragraph 4.C.3 to a semicolon, renumber the Paragraph references to 4.F.1 as 4.C.4, strike Section 4.F, and renumber Section 4.G to 4.F.

In Paragraph 4.D.2, strike “all ” and insert “ as necessary or desirable” after “correspondence”.

In Section 6.B, insert “Director of Membership, ” before “Director of Operations”.

In Paragraph 7.B.1, insert “Director of Membership, ” before “Director of Operations”.

In Paragraph 7.B.2, insert “and ” before Treasurer and strike “and Facilities Liaison ”.

In Subparagraphs 7.C.6.a and 7.C.6.b, strike “Article 9” and replace with “Article 10” as a fix for typographical errors.

Insert a new Subparagraph 7.E.2.a with text “Only in an election for a Board-Elected position, if the number voting in favor of a particular candidate is equal to the number voting against that candidate or for a different candidate, not counting abstentions, and if all Board Members eligible to vote to elect a Board-Elected Position are present for the vote (regardless if any are abstaining from voting), and if the President is voting in favor of that candidate, then the President may exercise a tiebreaker option to cause that candidate to be elected as if he or she had received a majority vote, provided that the President announces his or her intent to use the tiebreaker option and no Board Member immediately thereafter expresses a wish to change his or her vote, or change whether he or she is voting or abstaining.”

In Paragraph 8.B.3, strike “shall have intervened” and replace with “occurs”.

In Paragraph 10.A.9, capitalize the first letter of “board” as a fix for a typographical error.

In Paragraph 10.C.2, strike “or of the Founding Directors ”.

Insert a new Paragraph 10.C.3 with text “The Board must inform all Members of the text and passing date of any successful amendment to these bylaws no later than 10 days after such amendment is passed, except for an amendment for which passage is authorized by Section 2.B or Paragraph 5.D.6.”

Insert a new Article at the end of the bylaws with text:

Article of Amendment to Change Board Composition

1. These bylaws were amended on <date this amendment is passed> to effectuate a change in the composition of the Board, and to change other matters, to take effect at such times as specified herein.

2. Matters which have not yet taken effect shall be governed by those relevant provisions in the bylaws in effect immediately prior to this amendment, and Altonimbus Entertainment shall continue to publish such version of the bylaws for such reference, at least until all matters of

this amendment have taken effect. Matters which have taken effect shall be governed by the most recently amended bylaws.

3. The creation of the Director of Membership position, and its status as a Board Member, shall take effect such that the first term begins at the close of the first Annual Meeting of the Membership which occurs after the date that this amendment passed. The election for such term of the Director of Membership shall take place at such Annual Meeting of the Membership. If such election does not successfully take place, then the position shall still be created and be considered vacant.

4. The elimination of the Facilities Liaison Officer Position, and its status as a Board Member, shall take effect at the conclusion of the Position's final term, and the final term shall be the term in effect when this amendment passed.

5. The establishment of the tiebreaking power of the President shall take effect at the start of the first term of the Director of Membership Position.

6. The change in duties of the Vice Chair shall take effect at the end of the final term of the Facilities Liaison Position.

7. The change in duties of the Secretary represent current practice and shall take effect immediately.

8. The changes to Notice requirements in Section 10.C shall take effect immediately.

9. The changes in Article number references in Subparagraphs 7.C.6.a and 7.C.6.b, and to capitalization in Paragraph 10.A.9, are corrections to typographical errors; and the change in wording in Paragraph 8.B.3 is to improve clarity; and do not represent any change of practice.

10. This entire amendment, including this Article (except for this inoperability provision) and all inline changes, shall be null and void unless it is passed by the Board and by the Members no later than August 30, 2013.

11. Once all provisions of this amendment have taken effect, Altonimbus Entertainment shall alter these bylaws to remove this Article governing this amendment.