

**Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment
General Meeting of the Membership on Dec. 7, 2013
Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay
100 Columbia St, Vancouver, WA 98660**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:23pm by T.J. Stinson.

At the opening of the meeting, 56 members were present out of 387 total, with 44 needed to reach quorum. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the annual meeting of the membership of Sep. 29, 2013 were approved without objection.

Reports

T.J. Stinson, Chair

- Staff registration launched last week.
- Next event we will be at is Newcon. Several directors and I will be there.

Ally Fields, Vice Chair

- Staff should be thinking about who they want to room with for the staff rate, and contacting me about rooms.
- Many staff under coordinator level will be at the Red Lion because it has a good staff room rate, with a few at the Hilton. Will give priority to coordinators and above at Hilton rooms. More information will be given in the coming months.
- Working on new policy for room comping for coordinators, managers, and assistants. Will be giving presentation at the next meeting on how this works, and how to get a comped room. Will also post presentation afterward.

Jeff Tyrill, Secretary

- Staff registration is open. The open positions page on the website lists the 2014 org chart.
- Staff can register online, and coordinators and managers can pre-approve their staff.
- Continuing to work on legal and policy issues.

Bridget Hollander, Treasurer

- Finances going as expected.

Jason Tewksbury, Director of Membership

- Membership department covers registration and member services, which is a staff-related area.
- New staff positions are opening up.

Wes Cox, Director of Operations

- New org chart and positions are posted online.
- Operations will be expanding to both suites on the 3rd floor of the Hilton. Operations was too large for just one office.
- Will use brand new staff scheduling system.

Fox Young, Director of Programming

Fox was absent due to snow. Andrew Young, Assistant Director of Programming, gave the Programming report:

- Things went well with OryCon tech trade.
- Guy Letourneau, AMV Coordinator, reported:
 - AMV Contest will have some new and some returning categories. Aiming to satisfy both audience and editors.
- Considering having two balls (dances) this year, one semi-formal, one formal.

Teph Williams, Director of Publicity

- Attended OryCon; went really well. Next event we're attending is Newcon. We'll be attending a couple of events in January.
- Adding a newsletter.
- Info Booth will be moving to Publicity.
- Many staff positions are open, but specifically looking for:
 - Press Office Staff, including print shop stuff
 - Outreach Staff to go to events and help promote Kumoricon
 - Merchandise Staff
 - Graphic Design Staff
 - Photography Staff; because we have a lot of interest, will do a slightly more rigorous portfolio review.
- Everybody in Kumoricon is effectively Outreach Staff. When talking on social media, and especially our Facebook group or forums, you're representing Kumoricon. It's ok to interact with attendees, but be conscious about what you're posting. Have casual conversations with attendees, but be careful if conflicts come up. To help avoid escalation, alert myself or Jeff, the primary moderators for the Facebook group, and we can delete comments or make a statement. If you have any questions about things going on, please address those internally rather than on the public Facebook group or public areas of the forums. We have staff forums and a staff Facebook group, and directors are available to field questions.

Sarah Paige, Director of Relations

- Exciting announcements coming in the next month.
- Looking for Exhibitors Hall Staff, Artists Alley Staff, and other open positions.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

New Business

Devin Hunter, Main Events Manager, made a general recommendation for department reports to be more specific on the number and type of open staff positions.

Devin asked if there are plans in the works to create a rules video. Ally replied yes, but that it would be attended to after several staff hotel room issues are taken care of.

Devin asked if we would have a band this year, since that is a large part of Main Events. Sarah replied that that was under discussion and had nothing to announce yet.

Devin asked if, regarding budgets, there could be some summary numbers released to the membership such as attendee count, total revenue, and total expenditures. Jason clarified that attendee counts are released. Devin clarified that as a manager, he doesn't know what the total budget numbers are, and summary numbers would assist in him creating a better budget request year-to-year calibrated with the overall spending goals for that year. T.J. suggested asking for more details from one's director on crafting a budget. T.J. stated that summary numbers may not tell the whole picture because money is received and spent on a rolling basis. Devin stated that from a membership point of view, the members have absolutely no idea on the monetary side of things, and clarified he was requesting things like the revenue and spending on an annual basis. Ally asked if Devin was requesting a year profit-and-loss report. Devin clarified yes, and elaborated that knowing the amount of money in reserve helps inform. Ally explained that the board would need to discuss and vote before deciding on a change in policy, and that some of these numbers are sensitive, and that if outside parties have access to that information, they can adjust their prices for us. Ally also explained that money can be apportioned to certain fiscal years unexpectedly. Ally suggested that we might be able to release certain information as percentages. Devin clarified his request that he was looking for a snapshot at the close of each fiscal year and a look at our reserve amount, and wasn't worried about day-to-day details. Jason explained that we haven't increased our total badge price very much recently, but have had consistent attendee growth in the last couple of years. He stated that as a director, he discusses with his managers each year the budget for the particular department. Bridget explained that taxes are filed on a calendar year, but budgets are done on a fiscal year, so final information on a fiscal year isn't available until taxes are filed on a calendar year, so that tax information won't be final until March or April which would close the previous fiscal year. Devin requested a rough snapshot and then a final snapshot, and summarized that he was asking for four numbers, as that would determine whether we are going to grow or not. Ally requested that Devin write a suggested written policy as the directors might have other tasks and it might otherwise slip through the cracks.

Alex Hunt, Volunteer Manager, asked if, because we are expanding to 4 days, there would be an increase in the 16-hour staffing minimum. T.J. stated that traditionally, the staff hour requirement is a guideline and not a hard requirement, and that different directors would have different requirements. T.J. stated that the consensus among the executives was to not yet increase the organization requirement as this was the first year of the expanded convention, and that it could be reexamined if necessary, and clarified that organization minimum is not the overriding driver of staff position requirements.

Chris Arnesen, Assistant Main Events Manager, stated that to clarify what Devin was asking for, that he was asking for a sort of annual report, and stated that most nonprofits create that kind of report. T.J. clarified that we are not a nonprofit in the 501(c)(3) sense, with Jeff clarifying that we are a state nonprofit, and T.J. continued that we are not held to the same requirements, and that there are some advantages specifically with negotiating, especially with facilities, as we can put forth a strong position. T.J. stated that likely at the next meeting we can have a comprehensive discussion over how we can best meet the needs for transparency but not give away the specific card in our arsenal. Chris asked if we are still pursuing 501(c)(3), to which T.J. replied yes.

Good of the Order

T.J. made a brief statement that the board knows about the situation in the convention north of us, and that we are seeking legal counsel about how that affects us and what we should do, and that we would report back on our findings as soon as we know. T.J. stated that further discussion about the matter was closed for the general meeting as it was not the proper venue to discuss it.

Kathryn Marvin, Charity Auction Manager for 2013, reported that the charity auction is always seeking donations, and that costume props did really well, and suggested that when cleaning out old costumes, items could be donated. She stated that most items are accepted, but noted that old VHS tapes (unless genuinely rare), incomplete series, and items available off-the-shelf at a store are discouraged or turned away.

Roger LaMarche asked if there are groups that get together outside the convention for costume-making or prop-making. Andrew stated that there are convention panels on those topics, and forum topics with lots of discussion. Guy stated that meet-ups can be arranged on the forums, and also that other non-anime conventions in the Portland or Vancouver area in the steampunk or sci-fi fandoms have costuming as a part of their activities.

Tanis Akers stated that regarding the events at Aki Con, he suggested that we background check our staff. T.J. re-iterated that we were researching with legal counsel, but wouldn't discuss it more this meeting.

Rant and Rave

No separate Rant and Rave. Blended with Good of the Order.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm by T.J. Stinson.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tyrrell, Secretary