

Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment
General Meeting of the Membership on March 9, 2014
Hilton Vancouver Washington – 301 W 6th St, Vancouver WA 98660

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:17pm by Jeff Tyrrell.

At the opening of the meeting, 56 members were present out of 408 total, with 51 needed to reach quorum. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the general meeting of the membership of Jan. 12 were approved without objection.

Reports

Jeff Tyrrell, Chair

- Planning for 2014, and working on layouts.

Ally Fields, Vice Chair

Not present.

David Reynolds, Secretary

No report.

Bridget Hollander, Treasurer

No report.

Jason Tewksbury, Director of Membership

- 620 registered, 45% growth. Good portion new attendees.
- In charge of dog tags, come talk to him.
- Any questions about MSO or Registration, talk to him, Brian, Chris, Jon.

Wes Cox, Director of Operations

- Still need staff for Yojimbo Roaming, Hilton, Con Suite Staff.
- Finishing layouts, will have announcements soon.

Fox Young, Director of Programming

- Went to Asian Celebration, which was big hit. Lots of people interested in joining.
- Will be doing GameStorm March 20-23.

- Lots of staff openings.

Teph Williams, Director of Publicity

- Kumoricon is a member of Portland Geek Council. At the Geek Olympics, we're hoping to bring pro-bending
- Video Coordinator is doing staff interviews for promotional videos. Show up to next meeting, or email Cait at multimedia@kumoricon.org and she can set up something outside meeting.
- Events coming up: GameStorm, Sakura-Con Apr 18-20, Geek Olympics, booth at Anime Expo this year.
- If interested in staffing, there are openings in Press Room, Merchandise, Info Booth, Outreach, Video, and Photo Staff. For the latter positions, email multimedia@kumoricon.org with portfolio.

John Krall, Director of Relations

- Have all manager positions filled—Assistant Director Teresa Potter, Guest Manager Samantha Taylor, Industry Manager will be Nathan Schuler, and in a shift, the Arts and Auction department will be headed by Kat Martin. Not present: James Tonjes, Exhibitors Hall Manager.
- Need up to 7 Guest Liaisons, and half a dozen or so Exhibitors Hall Staff. For questions about these positions, see him during breakouts.
- Announcing guest—Karen Strassman. This is her third convention, so make her feel welcome.

Unfinished Business

Jeff announced that with regard to the proposal for financial reporting, the board has reviewed it and decided not to adopt it as written. The core of the policy was to release to membership the total income, expenses, and assets.

Jeff went on to explain why it's better to keep the information executive-level. Reasons include that not doing so would hurt our negotiating ability, the fact that sometimes numbers can reveal or hint at confidential information, significant delay between when money is approved and paid out, and the fact that releasing numbers isn't the best tool for helping managers request budgets. For complex budgets, the best thing is manager-director communication. Twenty-four exec-level staff have access to this information. We will be creating a more detailed report at the annual meeting—numbers, direction, etc., and working on a policy for that.

In addition, he noted that the board is creating an internal financial policy to more formally address the budget. Also, with regard to 501(c)(3), there are things we need to take care of that we wouldn't have had to be concerned with if we had addressed them when the organization was founded. When/if it happens, we will review this.

Devin Hunter raised the concern of constitutionality with respect to the bylaws, as the duties of the Treasurer are to deliver report to organization annually.

Jeff responded that our interpretation of “organization” is the governing body, which means the board. The text was written early in the history of the organization, so it’s difficult to determine what was intended, but generally references to “organization” mean “as an entity, with the board being the governing body”.

New Business

None.

Good of the Order

Michael Evans requested more information about the Geek Olympathon. Teph Williams responded that it’s a competition with teams of 5 competing. Last year there were about 21 participating teams. Roger LaMarche asked whether we will represent Kumoricon. Teph said that she would like to, but nothing final has been decided—let her know if you’re interested.

Wes Cox noted that we are trying to put on an event as part of the Geek Olympics (pro-bending). Arijan Clark explained that pro-bending is based on Avatar: The Last Airbender—in the sequel series Korra, this is a sport in which teams get up and throw elements at each other. Last year this was essentially dodge ball by the river; hoping to do it again next year.

Teresa Potter introduced herself as having been the Exhibitors Hall Manager for the last several years. For Exhibitors Hall a lot of things are going to be changing, and we need staff to walk around to make sure theft isn’t going on. James Tonjes will be taking it over; he is also a former exhibitor. For questions, come talk to her at the end of the meeting.

Rant and Rave

Jeff Tyrill noted that the board has set meeting locations by metro area: May in Eugene, July in Salem, and the rest in Portland/Vancouver.

Aaron McPherson asked when and where GameStorm would be. Paul Borte responded that it is Thursday through Sunday, Mar 20-23. It features all kinds of gaming, with Kumoricon providing video games.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:46pm by Jeff Tyrill.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ayers, Secretary