

Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment
Annual Meeting of the Membership on Saturday, September 27, 2014
100 Columbia St, Vancouver, WA 98660

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:47am by Jeff Tyrill.

At the opening of the meeting, 71 members were present out of 489 total, with 59 needed to reach quorum. Quorum was met.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the general meeting of the membership of August 17, 2014, were approved without objection.

Reports

Jeff Tyrill, Chair

Jeff reported feedback from the attendee survey (through Guidebook) and the staff feedback survey about having a four day convention. Attendees loved it; staff gave mixed reviews. Kumoricon 2015 has been announced as a four-day convention. Attendees gave mostly good feedback at Rant & Rave as well.

This year demonstrated some room for improvement with regard to layout timelines and budgets, but the board was great at coming together as needed to review, finalize, and improve these things.

Ally Fields, Vice Chair

Ally reported on that the Staff Rate at Hilton sold out in record time - 25 days. We will work on providing more rooms at the Red Lion for Staff. As for providing rooms for coordinators and up, we provided about 30 hotel rooms serving approximately 86 coordinator level or higher staff, which was a great success! We will work on execution of complimentary rooms for next year. Hotel room-nights used totaled approximately 1700 (not including Comfort inn and Econolodge).

We caused some damages (spills, dirt, dents etc.) to rooms at our venue. However, Hilton staff were very happy with our attitudes. We provided front desk staff with t-shirts, and they looked great! We utilized all available space, and convention felt comfortable due to weather. Next year will take place at Hilton and Red Lion again.

The shuttle was an underwhelming experience, due to lack of information and knowledge. For next year, shuttle size will decrease, potentially renting two small ones instead of single large

one. Costs may double due to this, so budgeting will be a factor. Anyone who is interested in helping out with this should speak to Infrastructure/Vice.

The music festival went well, very little problem between Kumoricon and City of Vancouver and CouvFestNW. We need to publicize and be proactive about trash pickup. (This is not a staff duty, but we need to set good examples as Kumoricon staff to attendees.) We may look into partnering with CouvFestNW to offer potential bands for next year (if they return).

Jo Ayers, Secretary

Jo reported some staff statistics and aggregate results from the staff feedback survey. Slide images will be posted on the Kumoricon website with the minutes.

Bridget Hollander, Treasurer

Bridget reported income and expenditures as percentages of the total. The greatest source of income was memberships, followed by merchandise and exhibits hall. Bridget would like exhibits and artist alley booths to provide a greater percentage in the future (currently very underpriced). Cat Ears, though a smaller fraction of the total, did make money. The greatest expense was facilities, followed by programming and publicity. If it weren't for a large tax due based on last year's income, we would have broken even for the year.

Bridget noted the numbers are not final since not all bills have been submitted.

A question about taxes led to a digression into the status of 501(c)3.

Jason Tewksbury, Director of Membership

Jason reported our total pre-registration of 4142, an increase from last year's ~3200. Unique badge sales excludes repeat purchases. The total unique badge sales (pre-con and at-con) was 6391 (overall total 6416). The badge pick up line for people who registered before the convention had a line time of 45 minutes, which was comparable to last year (40-60 minutes). At-con registration line was 3-4 hours maximum, and that was a 30-40% improvement over line times from last year (4-6 hrs), and a 25-34% improvement in overall wait times.

Jason noted the outstanding work of his team. Membership saved about \$2500 by not mailing pre-reg badges, and the line time for that line was about the same even though the time to locate badges for pick up had increased since there were a lot more to look through. Badge reprints also drastically decreased from 425 last year to under 100 this year. Line coordination was much better this year.

Sending quarterly reminders is recommended for next year, to thank and remind our pre-registered attendees. Improved data software is also recommended.

Member Services went smoothly. A lesson learned for MSO was to improve communication surrounding VIP, both to VIPs.

Jason closed by again thanking his team.

Wes Cox, Director of Operations

Ben Riker (Assistant Director of Operations) delivered a report on behalf of Wes Cox. Ben reported there were fewer missing children this year in spite of the longer convention. Lost and Found has been cataloged and returns have already begun as information is available.

Con Suite got a shout out for its hard working staff who began their work three (3) days before the convention to cook over 300 pounds of meat.

Fox Young, Director of Programming

Fox reported that the convention programming went off with few minor glitches and an abundance of steam and excitement. Staff were getting understandable worn at the end of the four day convention. We entertained our highest capacity of attendees to date. Many of those involved in panels and cultural content have expressed interest in returning next year. Growth will no doubt continue.

Fox concluded by expressing her heartfelt gratitude to the staff in Programming.

Teph Williams, Director of Publicity

Teph reported on the great participation in social media from attendees and staff, which built enthusiasm before the convention – and during, due to pictures being posted during the con itself. Posts about staff openings helped with the late staff growth.

Outreach was very successful in making connections both for representatives from Publicity and Relations. Kumoricon attended 15 outreach events.

Press response to Kumoricon was great. We had some interviews before and during the convention. Reviews were also great.

Teph concluded by thanking her Publicity staff.

John Krall, Director of Relations

John thanked his staff for making the term go so well since he picked up the ball in January.

Some facets of Artist Alley and Exhibits Hall will need to be revisited.

Guests had a great time and have all made it home safely.

John closed by again thanking his staff.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business.

New Business

A bylaws amendment had been presented to the membership in the forums and via the staff email distribution list at least 10 days prior. The bylaws amendment was to create the position of Director of Infrastructure, end the position of Vice Chair, and remove the no-longer-needed

tiebreaker vote held by the Chair during elections by the board. After discussion and clarifications, the majority of the membership voted to adopt the amendment.

The amendment having been previously approved by a unanimous board vote, the election of the first Director of Infrastructure was included in the later elections.

Good of the Order

Elections were held for the member-elected board members in the following order, as determined by the membership during the election, with the indicated results.

- Chair Phillip Koop
- Membership Brian Mathews
- Programming Jaki Hunt
- Publicity Teph Williams
- Infrastructure Diana Hoffman
- Operations Jason Pollard
- Relations John Krall

The next meeting will be posted at www.kumoricon.org/meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm by Jeff Tyrrill.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ayers, Secretary