

Leprecon, Inc. Meeting Minutes - 5/2/2010

Meeting Started at 3:15 pm

17 people present - Guests included Michael Contos, Theresa Contos, Len Berger, and Kevin McAlonan
Mike Griffin assigned his proxy to Nadine Armstrong

Minutes from preceding meeting were read. Jean G. approved, Gary second. Many Approved, 0 against, 1 abstained.

Gary asked about the status of Westercon refunds. Mike Willmoth indicated that Jeff Richards ran out of checks and had to reorder to be able to finish.

Financial Report - See attached

Doreen W. Approved, Jim W. seconded, Many, 0, 1

Lep 36 Report - Theresa - indicated that TusCon was interested in an ad trade. Mike W (treasurer) reported we currently had about 115 paid memberships. Also noted that room nights were low. Jim Webbert indicated he'd made a reservation that was not in the block and would get Mike the confirmation number.

LepreCon 37 Report - John Picacio as Artist Guest, Elizabeth Bear and Sarah Monette as author guests. The authors will also take part in the Shadow Unit mini-con as part of the convention with Emma Bull, Will Shetterly and others.

LepreCon 38 Report - Still looking for a hotel and guests.

World Fantasy 2004 - Still working on the memory DVDs.

Westercon 62/FiestaCon - Jeff Richards working on getting more checks. Donations made to other organizations will be \$35 towards the organization that the staff member specifies. Staff who worked significant time pre-con will be able to specify \$70 for their org donation. Jean G. recommended giving to state parks, many of which as closed down due to the budget crunch. Mike plans to have it wrapped up before Westercon 63 in July.

Discworld Report - Final Charity donations have been made - \$828 to Breast cancer via Esther Friesner, \$15,172.68 to Alzheimer's Research Trust and \$14,752.28 to the Orangutan Foundation. We will do a pass-through of a bit under \$2000 as a pass-forward to the 2011 NA Discworld Convention. For organizing the video, Michael Contos wants to do a viewing party to watch the footage to determine what should be used. Gary noted that he has audio of some of the events and panels. Hope to do the party sometime in June.

Left Coast Crime - No real progress

Bylaws committee - no report

Database - No Report

Tucson Festival of Books - No real news. They are working on arranging for authors.

Website - still there. Nothing new to report.

Strategic Planning - No Report - Noted outside influences such as the Immigration bill and Phoenix Comic Con having an influence on our prospects.

Quartermaster - No real updates

Old Business

Corporate Filing - Mike has not gotten together with Bruce Farr yet. Gary noted that we do have the minutes from 1989 to 1999 scanned in to files on CD. Not transcribed, but scanned in.

Discussion follow-up of proposal by Jean Goddin to have the board select a Preferred Guest - Use some of the corporate funds to cover the cost of additional guests to be honored such as UK artists Jim Burns and David Hardy. Lots of discussion and then tabled for further discussion during New Business.

LepreCon announce - Will do a mailing to it for LepreCon 36.

LepreCon storage - Need to renew the 10'x10' storage for another year. Close out the second, smaller storage space and move it all into the big one after LepreCon 36. Voted - Many for, 0 against, 0 abstained.

Online Business - Phoenix Comic Con - Board agreed to loan video projectors to Phoenix Comic Con in exchange for an ad in their program book. Requested that they sign a form for the loan.

New Business

Sue Uttke - suggested we might look into video conferencing at a con for some overseas guests.

Jean Goddin - Motion for a specific guest at each LepreCon sponsored by Leprecon, Inc. It would cover transportation, accommodations, per diem for the guest.

Mark - Noted that he'd like to have something similar to cover media guests.

Mark seconded Jean's motion and more discussion ensued. Vote - 8 for, 1 opposed, 3 abstained.

Discussion of a debit card for Discworld - Mike noted that the board had previously discussed use of debit cards for bank accounts and voted not to use them previously. Cards were activated and used for some Discworld expenses. They had expired and needed to be restarted. Discussion followed on use of debit versus credit. Motion by Gary Swaty to have corporate account with no overdraft without monthly fees. Mike Seconded. Vote was 7 for, 0 against, 3 abstain. Gave OK for Jeff to finish out Discworld convention with the card for any final expenses.

Mike noted that he had been approached about an international space development conference. The person was asked to appear at the meeting but had not shown up.

Mark asked about how Space Access did. It was indicated that there was a good turnout and support from NASA.

Announcements

Phoenix Comic Con - Memorial Day weekend

Westercon - in Pasadena over July 4th

San Diego Comic Con - July 22-25

NASFIC in Raleigh, NC in early August.

Next meeting - August 15th, 3 pm at Coco's Restaurant, Tempe, AZ

Jim Moved, Nadine seconded

Meeting ended at 4:47 pm.

Leprecon, Inc. Annual Meeting August 15, 2010
Coco's in Tempe

Meeting started at about 3:05 pm

Proxies given.

Janet White to Mark Boniece
Gerry Nordley to Mike Willmoth
Paul Tanton to Lee Whiteside
Mike Griffin to Lee Whiteside

Minutes read of previous meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Jean G, seconded by Michael Contos, Many for, 0 against, 2 abstained

Financial report - see attached

Motion to approve by Nadine Armstrong, seconded by Michael Contos. Many for, 0 against, 2 abstained

Lep 36 Report - Approximately 340 members, with 155 room nights (including some through Expedia) People who attended the convention had a good time. Just needed more of them. Con will definitely be in the red. Combination of closeness to Phoenix ComiCon plus fans upset with George Martin for not being done with the latest book.

Lep 37 - Have guest lineup done. Possibly will have some additional authors decide to come.

Lep 38 - Still looking into a hotel. Costume Con has the second weekend (May 11-14) at the Tempe Mission Palms. Other weekends not available there.

Short discussion about if we want to do any promotion at WorldCon in Reno, possibly partnering with Costume Con suggested by Michael Contos. Some additional discussions about costume con and the hotel and date conflicts.

World Fantasy - Mike Willmoth reported that some more DVDs had been done and mailed out.

Westercon 62 - Mike Willmoth gave a report at Westercon 63. He impressed the business meeting with the level of detail in the report, setting a new bar for future reports. The convention had \$35,000 revenue, \$28,604 in expenses with a surplus of \$6,982. Estimated 420 attendees, 83 staff, 16 dealers, 131 participants, 56 guests, 14 supporting, 77 presupporters. Had 200 memberships at the door.

Storage update - Leprecon now has one 10' x 10' unit paid through the end of June, 2011.

Online business - voted to loan food service equipment to ASFA for use at the Raleigh Nasfic. Event went well and ASFA was appreciative and said thanks.

Gaming Discussion. With the demise of RandomCon (put on by the WesternSFA) and the success that SAGA has had with the RinCon gaming convention in Tucson, it was brought up that Leprecon should look into possibly starting up or sponsoring a separate gaming convention. Lep 36 had a larger gaming area and will likely do more at Lep 37. Response has been good to Jason Youngdale as gaming organizer.

Mike mentioned that Leprecon has had small gaming events in the past, mostly prior to the starting up of HexaCon. Asked for suggestions for names. Should do some checking of potential names to see if they have been used anywhere else.

Mike reported on NASFIC - indicated it drew 800 total people and made a profit, mainly due to

budget cuts.

Mike gave an update on ASFA matters. ASFA will be discontinuing their magazine in favor of the web site and social networking. For Leprecon contract to handle ASFA mail, Leprecon gets a free ad in the magazine . Will look into changing the contract or discontinuing it. A banner ad on the ASFA website might be an option. The website is in process of being redesigned. .It was moved that we continue to handle the mail in exchange for a banner ad. Moved by Mark Boniece, seconded by Nadine Armstrong - Many for, 0 against, 4 abstained.

Jean - suggested we look into doing another special event. One suggestion was a Harry Potter convention. Suggested doing research into other floating conventions.

Elections.

Lee Whiteside chaired Lep 36, which would roll onto the voting board while Lep 34 chair rolls off. Shahn filled Liz's (Lep 34) spot, so he rolls off the board. Lee is chairing Lep 37, so needs to vacate Lep 36 slot, which has 2 years left. Board slot rolling off is the one Mike Cassidy held, that Mark took over the last year of.

Elections will be for Lep 36 Chair board position, 3 year board position, Lep 39 chair

Three year board position - Nadine nominated Jeff George.
Lep 36 2 year position - Mark Boniece nominated

For LepreCon 39 chair, it was decided to defer it to the next meeting.

Nominations closed and voting by acclamation was Many for, 0 against, 1 abstained.

New three year board position - Jeff George
Remainder of Lep 36 chair board position - Mark Boniece

Announcements included upcoming signings, reminders of WorldCon, RinCon, and CopperCon

Next meeting set for Nov 21, 3pm at Cocos.

Adjourned at 4:43 pm.