

LepreCon, Inc. | Minutes: Annual Membership Meeting 08/02/2020

Call to Order

Date: Sunday, August 2, 2020

Location: Google Meet

After an icebreaker, the meeting was called to order by Paul Tanton at 4.22 p.m.

Attendance

Voting Board Members Present: Dee Astell (*President* - exp. Aug. 2021), Hal C. F. Astell (*Vice Chair, Secretary* - exp. Aug. 2020), Woody Bernardi (*Assistant Vice President* - exp. Aug. 2020), Kathy Richardson (*Treasurer* - exp. Aug. 2022), Paul Tanton (*Chair* - exp. Aug. 2021).

Voting Board Members Absent: None.

Other Officers Present: Mark Boniece (*Vice President*).

Other Officers Absent: Kevin McAlonan (*Treasurer*).

Co-ordinators Present: Dee Astell (*Social Media* - joint), Hal C. F. Astell (*Financial Review, Webmaster*), Stephanie Bannon (*Bylaws & Policies, Positions*), Woody Bernardi (*Database, Fundraising*), Mark Boniece (*Quartermaster, Strategic Planning, Street Team*), Paul Tanton (*Google, Social Media* - joint).

Co-ordinators Absent: None.

Other Members Present: Len Berger, Craig Dyer, Andrea Rittschof, Duncan Rittschof, Gary Swaty, Willow Tanton, Tamiciko Williams.

Guests: None.

Petitions for Membership: None.

Proxies: Jim Strait to Mark Boniece.

Donations

Because we're virtual, Paul Tanton reminded of ways to virtually contribute to the organisation (use Amazon Smile, donate via PayPal donation, complete a donation form and send a check to PO Box) rather than pass around the Collection Cauldron.

Board Reports

Secretary's Report

Minutes for the April and May meetings and the Online Business report by Hal Astell were posted online in advance of the meeting. Hal posted links to the PDFs in the chat. There were no questions or concerns.

Hal included current status of Conflict of Interest Policy and Annual Statement forms and current status of contracts in the Secretary's report online. Since that was published, he's also received the hotel contract for LepreCon 47, which Woody Bernardi mailed right before the meeting. A number of board members asked for that to be sent to the boardlist.

Paul Tanton mentioned that it's time to sign Conflict of Interest forms afresh. Given that we're virtual, we can't just resign old forms, so he asked for them to be printed out, signed, scanned and mailed into the secretary.

Treasurer's Report

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Hal Astell mentioned that Kevin McAlonan had confirmed a new mobile number in PayPal settings.

LepreCon 46 Report

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Mark Boniece reported that all refunds have been handled and he's ready to close out. He's just waiting on confirmation from Kevin McAlonan.

LepreCon 47 Report

This report by Woody Bernardi was posted online in advance of the meeting.

He added that he has a hotel contract (to be signed on Wednesday), a treasurer (and a budget) and a website. He's now working on bringing in guests and building out a complete website.

The venue is Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Tempe University Research Park. The dates are July 23-25, 2021, which is Friday to Sunday. Room rates are \$84 per night, plus tax, single through quad, which includes breakfast. Rooms are also in the Home2Suites, which is attached. The treasurer is Tamiciko Williams.

Many questions and much discussion about the hotel. The hotel cost will be fixed as there's no attrition clause. We don't actually have to fill any rooms, though we do have a room block with a discounted room rate.

Full attending rate at con will range from \$25 at the cheapest pre-reg rate to \$50 at con with youths, students, seniors and military at half price. Staff rate would be \$20. Break even point would be 100 paid pre-reg members at four different rates and 60 paid at con members.

LepreCon 48 Report

This report by Dee Astell was posted online in advance of the meeting.

She added that, since details about LepreCon 47 were set at the Strategic Planning meeting, she started to work on a hotel. She's got a preliminary hotel in discussions and she's aiming for April 2022, though not necessarily Easter. She's hoping to put a budget together in the next week. If her treasurer isn't available, she'll plan to adapt the LepreCon 45 budget to LepreCon 47.

Co-ordinator Reports

Bylaws & Policies

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Stephanie Bannon reported no change. Paul Tanton reported back that we'd made a decision at the Strategic Planning meeting. This is detailed in the Active Rules section of the Other Policies document and reads: "Pass-thrus should be handled by the two LepreCon chairs affected, being the one sending them forward and the one receiving them. Pass-thrus are only authorized if a given annual event makes a profit. If it does, then it pays the following annual event for those pass-thrus."

She agreed to continue on in this role.

Database

This report by Woody Bernardi was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

He agreed to continue on in this role.

Financial Review

This report by Hal Astell was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

He added that he's in the process of scanning documents to share. He agreed to continue on in this role.

Fundraising

This report by Woody Bernardi was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

He added that he has nothing new since the May payment from Amazon Smile. He suggest that, with restrictions on attending in person, we could do something virtual like a watch party and order food individually through Door Dash, with a percentage of the take returned to the organisation. We wouldn't even need to order from the same restaurant. He'll look into details.

Dee Astell added that she did some fundraising pushes on social media such as Giving Tuesday.

He agreed to continue on in this role.

Google

This report by Paul Tanton was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

He added that he has also unsubscribed from IPower mailing lists, now we're no longer there. Woody Bernardi mentioned that he'll need access to

He agreed to continue on in this role.

Positions

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Stephanie Bannon reported no change. There were no questions or concerns. She agreed to continue on in this role.

Quartermaster

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Mark Boniece reported no change. He also agreed to continue on in this role.

Social Media

This report by Dee Astell was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

Paul Tanton added that he'd reported some softcore lesbian porn sent to our Twitter account as spam and blocked the user.

Dee and Paul agreed to continue on in these roles.

Statutory Agent

No report was received in advance of the meeting and Kevin McAlonan was not present to report in person.

Strategic Planning

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Mark Boniece reported in person that he held a meeting on June 28. The committee put together a nascent list of milestones to apply to the planning of future conventions. It also put together some goals specific for LepreCon 47. The next meeting will be held on September 27 on Google Meet, at 4pm. He agreed to continue on in this role. Stephanie Bannon asked to be added to the committee.

Street Team

No report was received in advance of the meeting.

Mark Boniece reported no change, because of COVID-19. Paul Tanton added that he'd registered with Phoenix Fan Fusion Exhibitors. Mark agreed to continue on in this role.

Webmaster

This report by Hal Astell was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns.

He added that he'd made the LepreCon 47 site live. Woody Bernardi asked if he needed to go to JaguarPC to do anything, like check the inbox. Hal replied that he wouldn't as that's all within GSuite.

He agreed to continue on in this role.

Old Business

1. PSFAFAE. Woody Bernardi reported no change from the Unexpected Art Gallery. He's planning to contact them.
2. Update Chairs/Treasurers on Bank Accounts. Kevin McAlonan was not present to report. The past and present chair reported that it hadn't happened yet. The general thinking is that Kevin would need to be available to do this. Mark Boniece suggested that the registered secretary can send in a letter to the bank. Hal Astell replied that he's not able or willing to do that because he's an employee of Wells Fargo and so this would be a conflict of interest.

New Business

1. Social Media Addresses. Paul Tanton raised that we do not have @leprecon.org e-mail addresses set up for LepreCon, Inc. or Conflagration on Twitter. He asked for approval to create those. This motion was seconded and passed 11-0-1.
2. Election of 3 Year Director (2020-2023). A number of nominations were made but only Woody Bernardi accepted. 7-1-4.
3. Election of Assistant Vice-President (COO of LepreCon 49 in 2023). A number of nominations were made but only Kathy Richardson accepted. 11-0-1.
4. Election of Chairman of the Board. Paul Tanton was the only person nominated. He accepted and was elected 4-0-1.
5. Election of Vice Chairman of the Board. Mark Boniece was the only person nominated. He accepted and was elected 4-0-1.
6. Secretary. Hal Astell agreed to continue in this role.
7. Treasurer. Kevin McAlonan was not present but it was agreed that we should let him continue in the role until he says that he's unable or unwilling to do so.

Announcements

1. Hal Astell mentioned that none of the upcoming conventions in state are likely to happen. Some discussion about virtual conventions, especially for gaming conventions such as Gen Con.
2. Len Berger and Andrea Rittschof mentioned that a lot of studios aren't holding press screenings, but some screeners are being sent out.
3. Mark Boniece mentioned that *Star Trek: Lower Decks* will be coming out soon.
4. Len Berger mentioned that COVID has enabled him to reduce the number of shows on his DVR from 750 shows to 0.
5. Hal Astell mentioned that a joint bid has been submitted on behalf of Western SFA and CASFS to host Westercon 75 in 2023.

Meetings

The next meeting had been previously set for Sunday, October 18. This will be held on Google Meet, from 4pm.

The next quarterly meeting was set for Sunday, November 1, from 4pm, on Google Meet.

Adjournment

Paul Tanton adjourned the meeting at 7.47 p.m.