Call to Order

Date: Sunday, May 16, 2021
Location: Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Paul Tanton at 4:23 p.m.

Attendance


Other Officers Present: Hal C. F. Astell (Secretary).

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), Mark Boniece (Quartermaster, Strategic Planning), Paul Tanton (Google, Social Media - joint).

Co-ordinators Absent: Woody Bernardi (Database, Fundraising, Street Team).

Other Members Present: Len Berger, Craig Dyer, Jeff George, Natalie Herbeke, Michael Lesnick, Andrea Rittschof, Duncan Rittschof, Gary Swaty, Willow Tanton, Jason Youngdale.

Guests: Ann Mair, Wayne Myers.

Petitions for Membership: None.

Proxies: Woody Bernardi for Paul Tanton; Craig Dyer for Stephanie Bannon; Jim Strait for Mark Boniece. Michael Lesnick left partway through the meeting and left a proxy for Hal Astell.

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 January and February meetings were posted online in advance of the meeting. He read Online Business aloud. There were no questions or concerns.

Treasurer’s Report

Paul Tanton reported in Kevin McAlonan’s stead. There were no questions or concerns.

Kevin had Paul start an e-mail thread with people who need to be on the various accounts. Kevin filed the IRS e-postcard and will pay the PO Box renewal tomorrow. Leprecon, Inc. checking has $571.27. Westercon 70 has $526.00. Leprecon, Inc. savings has $5,545.51. PayPal has $0.00.
**LepreCon 46 Report**

This report by Mark Boniece was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that he's just waiting on Kevin to send the three checks before he can close out.

**LepreCon 47 Report**

Woody Bernardi sent a report in via Paul Tanton. He’s working on a program book and waiting on his editor to get back to him. The convention was held on Zoom with one track of programming. The single Artist Guest of Honor was Jeffrey Veregge. Most people seemed to have a good time. There were panels, gaming, evening filk concerts and a busy dead dog.

A few people asked about panel recordings and how they will be shared. Paul answered that Woody’s plan was to share them on a staggered basis. The general opinion was to share the videos on the LepreCon YouTube channel all at once. Nobody seemed to be opposed. Mark Boniece volunteered to handle any minor editing needed. Hal Astell will get him the files. Len Berger asked if we should include a copyright statement. It was generally agreed that we should. Paul mentioned that all panelists had approved the panels to be recorded. Wayne Myers asked if there were age-restricted panels. There weren’t. Paul will follow up with Peggi, who coordinated the filk, to check on licensing. Paul and Dee will attempt to figure out the YouTube password.

**LepreCon 48 Report**

This report by Paul Tanton was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that the website went live at the end of LepreCon 47. A couple of guests have given tentative approval but they haven’t signed contracts and communication seems lost. He’s therefore reached out to a couple of other people. He’s going with Zoom as a platform.

**LepreCon 49 Report**

This report by Kathy Richardson was posted online in advance of the meeting. She expanded on that. Michael Lesnick volunteered his services. Hal Astell suggested she look into Artemis. A number of people suggested contacts for that.

**Co-ordinator Reports**

**Bylaws & Policies**

This report by Stephanie Bannon was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns. She added that the committee is working on financial procedures.

She summarised the bylaws changes. The primary two were a shift from membership coming from convention attendance to dues and a shift to five elected board members instead of two coming from chairmanship of a convention. However, there are many smaller changes to fix issues we’ve had over the last decade or so. Lots of discussion about the pros and cons and reasons for the changes.

She also summarised financial procedures, which are a set of best practices to ensure a healthy organisation.

**Database**

This report by Woody Bernardi was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported through Paul that he’s going to start work on the database after he’s closed out LepreCon 47. Mark Boniece added that Woody had built a mailing list.

**Financial Review**

This report by Hal Astell was posted online in advance of the meeting. There were no questions or concerns specifically, though more general questions were asked and Hal explained the situation.
**Fundraising**

This report by Woody Bernardi was not received in advance of the meeting. Stephanie Bannon raised a future Chompies as a potential location for future meetings. It will be on Cactus and 32nd Street. They give 15% back from what’s spent during meetings, possibly on a wider level like Jerry’s. Various people will ask at other places.

**Google**

This report by Paul Tanton was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that he’s signed up for an annual Zoom, as per board vote on the boardlist. He set up a bunch of e-mail addresses for future conventions. He called it Online Platforms because he’s now handling Zoom too.

**Positions**

This report by Stephanie Bannon was posted online in advance of the meeting. Some discussion about virtual positions.

**Quartermaster**

This report by Mark Boniece was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that there was no change.

**Social Media**

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

**Statutory Agent**

This report by Kevin McAlonan was not posted online in advance of the meeting but we believe that we have not been served.

**Strategic Planning**

This report by Mark Boniece was was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that we had a further meeting, but LepreCon 47 planning knocked off us off schedule. We’ll get back on track as of the next meeting.

**Street Team**

This report by Woody Bernardi was was not received in advance of the meeting. He reported in person that there was no change. Some discussion about current plans.

**Webmaster**

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

**Old Business**

1. **PayPal.** Kevin McAlonan was not present to report.
2. **PSFAFAE Refund.** Woody Bernardi was not present to report.
3. **Corporate Logo.** Hal Astell reported no change, as he’s waiting for TusCon.
4. **Update Chairs/Treasurers on Bank Accounts.** Paul Tanton reported that this is being coordinated.
New Business

1. **Bylaw Changes.** Much discussion, including some history as to when and why the current bylaws tied membership in the organisation to membership of an individual convention. It used to be that membership was by request and approval by the board. Later, there were dues. Later, there weren’t.

2. Len Berger proposed a new policy to clarify a point in the bylaws: “Corporate and convention committees are open to LepreCon, Inc. members and non-members, subject to approval by the committee chair who must be a member of LepreCon, Inc.” This was seconded and passed 17-0-0.

3. Gary Swaty proposed that we accept the proposed bylaws, as drafted and published on 17th January, 2021. This was seconded and passed 14-3-0.

4. Mark Boniece proposed that “We extend all active members at this time to the end of the AGM in 2021, at which point annual dues must be paid. Dues cover the period from the beginning of an AGM to the beginning of the following AGM.” This was seconded and passed 12-0-4.

Announcements

1. Paul Tanton mentioned that some upcoming conventions are happening in person: Maricopa Con, Saboten Con and the Apocalypse Later International Fantastic Film Festival. Dee Astell added Phoenix FearCon and Mad Monster Party. Len Berger added Phoenix Fan Fusion. Andrea Rittschof mentioned that San Diego Comic-Con will be happening both in person and virtually.

2. Len Berger and Andrea Rittschof talked about physical movie screenings coming back.

3. Hal Astell mentioned that the next CoKoCon virtual Conversations in ConSuite will be on 23rd May from 2.00pm to 6.00pm in Discord.

Meetings

The next coordinators meeting had been previously set for Sunday, July 18. This will be held on Zoom from 4.00pm.

The annual meeting was set for Sunday, August 15 on Zoom, from 4.00pm.

Adjournment

Paul Tanton adjourned the meeting at 8.32pm.