

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of New England Interactive Literature
January 13, 2013, 3pm
Chelmsford Radisson Executive Boardroom

In attendance: Laura Boylan (president), Julia Suggs (vice president), Chad Bergeron (treasurer), Jeff Diewald (member), Nat Budin, Viktorya Fuzaylova, Kevin Riggle, Tim Lasko (member), Joshua Sheena (member), Stephanie Davis, Dave Kapell (member)

Intercon M convention committee reports:

Hotel: Added 4 suites for a total of 12 suites used for gaming, but 2 will be set aside for storage. Thus, total is 10 suites and the Presidential Suite for games, 2 suites for storage. Furniture requests need to start soon; we need to get a first draft to the hotel on the 21st. We now have hotel event insurance. The hotel will run a shuttle to the T station if needed, on call.

Pre-con: We have a draft schedule. We have 28 panelists. We will be announcing the schedule to panelists soon, as soon as it's finalized. Once panelists approve, we'll publicize to attendees in the next email blast.

GM Liaison: Things are going pretty well. On their request, we will probably be canceling Senate Chambers due to low turnout. Oracle of Amun expanded their player slots to include players on their waitlist. Some GMs have questions about not getting casting questionnaire responses; we have a policy that will be shared with them. Dystopia Rising wants a table outside their room during their game, and it is a build-your-own-character-during-the-con game.

Registrar: We have 394 attendees! Trends suggest the final attendance will be about 390, +/-5. I will provide sign-up sheets for ops to keep track of info for at-the-door registration.

Hospitality: We don't have many volunteers yet, but ops will share some of theirs. We definitely want clean-up help. We're working on plans and lists. We'd like a budget. Planning for 200 people per meal. Things we're planning: platters of meat and cheese, vegetarian options, make-your-own sandwich stuff, soda and snacks and things. Not hard-boiled eggs. Gonna downplay sweets/candy a notch. Snow cones and fruit during the dance. Hotel Sunday breakfast is usually about 190 people (last year's numbers.)

Art :

T-shirt art is done and on the web site.

We need info for the program booklet such as chairman's note, vendor information, ads etc.

Once we get a Con Chair for N we will need the theme for N to start coming up with art/theme so we can post that ad to the booklet.

Raffle:

The following people have agreed to donate:

- Confetti Cases (this is a woman out in California who writes boxed murder mysteries. The descriptions I've read make them sound more like LARPs. She's sending two boxes.)
- Thorin Tabor/TAB Creations (usually brings some homebrew RPG books directly to the convention)
- Vericon (memberships and t shirt vouchers)
- Andy/3 Trolls (most likely gift certificates and/or books)
- Stranger Ways (CDs)
- Threads of Time (costuming)

WyrdCon, surprisingly, has not responded. Attempts will be made to contact them through Aaron Vanek.

Also, I tried contacting LARP Exchange through their website, but I keep getting an error message. As they're running a game, will try the info on the site.

I've also emailed a costuming store (The Iron Ring), no response.

If anyone has any suggestions for conventions, costuming stores, RPG companies, whatever, let me know! Steve Jackson Games declined to donate last year, though if someone thinks it might be worth trying again this year, I'll try them. I've posted a couple places online, but never gotten any new donors that way.

TAB Creations, 3 Trolls, and Threads of Time would all like us to re-use last year's ads. I can dig them up from old emails if Barry (I'm assuming he's doing the con booklet?) needs me to. Stranger Ways would like to send a new one, as would Vericon. (I need to be on top of Vericon because last year they sent the t-shirt vouchers a day too late (though I did email them the dates.) Confetti Cases hasn't sent us an ad, I will email her and remind her. Since I wasn't given a due date, I told everyone the sooner the better, but before Feb. 1st was probably ok.

I've given Laura's address to those who plan to ship the prizes (Confetti Cases and Threads of Time). Please let me know if you receive them so I can just check them off.

Bid Com:

All bids have been reviewed. We have a pretty full schedule.

Nothing further to report at this time.

Ops:

Ops is proceeding as scheduled. I will be meeting with Dave Shevett at Arisia to discuss borrowing his badge printers. Ops has been discussing issues pertaining to that with conchairs and registrar, and a further report will be available after my meeting.

Sparrow proposed getting a Square account to take credit card payments at the Ops desk. That discussion kind of petered out, but it is a thing I would like to either pursue or have Registrar pursue, as I think it is a good idea.

Shirt orders are still coming in. There was some discussion of moving the order deadline up a week but it looks like that never happened. A February 5 deadline will be cutting it close, but we should be ok. ... The conchairs will move the shirt-order date to January 31.

Small note on posters- in previous years, someone else has gotten the supplies and given them to Adina. If someone's already done that, let her know, otherwise she'll just go get them herself and bring the receipts to treasurer for reimbursement.

Website:

- The website came through the usual signup rush well.
- The new shirt code handles purchases before the shirt design(s) are finalized well, and allows for an arbitrary number of shirts. Future ConChairs should *not* take this as a challenge.
- I've purchased the intercon-n.org domain. We can put up the new website as soon as we have a new ConChair.

Program Booklet:

- The deadline for bios is 15-Jan.
- I need program ads ASAP. At the very least I need to know how much space to reserve. Do we have an ad from WyrdCon this year?
- I'll also need vendor info.
- I will need to know about any changes to the schedule, including room assignment changes.
- Absolute, final deadline for the program booklet will be 1 week before packet stuffing, so I can get the files to Ops for printing.
- A page is reserved for the ConChair note. The sooner it's done, the better.

Vendors

We have 4 vendor slots sold, I think one of our long-time vendors will not be coming due to personal reasons. One vendor was interested but did not like the security. I will work on getting ads from them all this week.

Iron GM

Logistically: have 6 teams all confirmed they will run, even a team in waitlist if one team drops out. Writing weekend is 23-24th, late pm to late pm. We will send out the secret ingredient info via email at start time, and they have to get it back to us in email by the deadline. Teams have to print their own materials for running at-con. Prizes will be \$250 for first place, \$150 for second and \$100 for third. Maybe we'll make a giant check? We're editing the scoring rubric from the last time it ran. A player survey will exist. Send input you have on judgment points.

Pre-con survey:

Tim has finished it. Send to conchairs and we'll include it in the next mailing.

Treasurer

Intercon M has \$8957.46

NEIL has \$7595.47

NEIL now has a EIN (employer id #) for tax stuff & Paypal.

NEIL BOARD:

NELCO: Next event date tentatively Aug 9-11.

Capital request: Pre-con wants a projector. Estimate \$500 for projector, \$150 for portable screen, and all cables and adapters = approx \$700? Chad will research with a knowledgeable coworker and come up with a specific item request and price.

Comped memberships discussion: Do we want to expand offerings to more than the current "2 comps per game"? Unanimous vote to add a line saying that over 2 comps are available at the whim of the conchair, on request. Exact wording will be worked out.

Future planning: Dave suggests we take the knowledge this year of how this hotel handles 400 people to figure out if we need to move hotels. If so, we choose the Intercon O con chair early to give him/her/them plenty of time to figure out possible hotel moving.

NEIL President/Intercon N con chair elections.

New NEIL president will take over on March 10 EOD.

Nominees: Joshua Sheena.

Unanimous vote to elect Joshua Sheena.

Meeting called at 5:55pm.