

**Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment**  
**General Meeting of the Membership on September 21, 2019**  
**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Portland**  
**1000 NE Multnomah St, Portland, OR 97232**

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:11pm by Brian Mathews.

At the opening of the meeting, 48 members were present out of 326 total, with 42 needed to reach quorum. Quorum was met.

## **Minutes**

The minutes from the membership meetings of July 21, 2019; and August 24, 2019; were approved without objection.

## **Reports**

### **Brian Mathews, Chair**

- Keeping up with everyone, helping how I can.
- Starting to feel how close it is to con—only 2 months.
- There is some procedural stuff that you guys should see soon.

### **Ash “Bunny” Butler, Director of Infrastructure**

- Meeting after meeting with hotels and the venue. Putting the last details together.
- The hotel room block closes October 14. Make your reservations and apply for the staff rate. You would be surprised how likely you are to get some sort of discount; some sort of discount is near-guaranteed. You need an existing reservation to apply.
- If you are in the staff Discord, there is a channel in the Infrastructure section for finding roommates.
- Hotels are great. We want you guys to sleep during con.

### **Jessica Ulibarri, Director of Membership**

- Registration:
  - The current general attendee pre-registration numbers are just shy of 3,000 as of this morning.
  - At this time last year, the day ended with at 2,787 registrations, which is 213 up from this time last year.
  - Pre-registration closes on November 2.
  - The at-the-door price is \$70.

- VIPs are sold out. A total of 92 were sold, which is double last year's number.
- Seeking staff in all sub-departments:
  - Staff Registration Check-in, General level—Checking in other staff; give T-shirts, information, lanyard, and badge. Work Thursday to Saturday, and a bit on Sunday.
  - Specialty Registration—Check in VIPs, artists, exhibitors, and other specialty badge types.
    - One Coordinator position left: VIP Registration Coordinator.
  - Cosplay Repair—Experience building cosplays, sewing, crafting, or using a glue gun.
  - Con Suite—Needs a lot of staff. Feed staff, three meals per day, plus snacks.
  - Attendee Registration Staff, General level—Check in, greet, attendees; give them their badge, take information and/or money. Cash handling, customer service experience.
  - All departments will work around schedules, such as attending a panel.

### **Jason Pollard, Director of Operations**

- Seeking staff:
  - Yojimbo—Customer service, policy enforcement, peace-bonding, and making sure everyone's being safe.
  - Dispatch—Inter-department communication, radio sign-outs, and tracking issues throughout the con.

### **Devin Hunter, Director of Programming**

Not present. Steven Garcia, Assistant Director of Programming, reported:

- Devin is running the Uwajicon booth today.
- We passed our first big hurdle: The first draft of the schedule has been sent to panelists for review. Trying to confirm dates and times and get through any conflicts reported.
- Will have the final schedule announced at least two weeks before con if not sooner. Keep an eye on social media for that kind of information.
- Cosplay Contest and Lip Sync Battle entries are open on the website. Karaoke, Chess, and Pro-Bending are coming soon.
- Seeking staff:
  - Pro-Bending—About 4 hours of staff time on Saturday, during the Fashion Show and Cosplay Contest; add-on staff position.
  - Biggest need is in Programming Office and Programming Booth.
  - Panel support
  - Craft and Chibi Room staff
  - The department deals with content.
- Share your cosplay line-up on the Facebook page. Builds hype for the convention, and lets us know what's popular with attendees.

### **Samantha Rushford, Director of Publicity**

- TriMet ads are active.

- Last year, we just had them on bus shelters, backs of buses, and benches. This year, we have more than that: On 40 buses with backs, a few shelters, a couple of benches, and also 30 ads inside MAX trains and buses.
- Different ads with multiple guests; find them all. Two guests are on each bus ad, for a total of five different designs.
- We announced a few guests. More detail is in the Relations report.
- We posted the Cosplan: a graphical frame for showing your cosplay plans.
- Mascot Contest entries just closed. A staff perk is to vote on the mascot for next year. Voting should be on the website in the next 1 to 2 weeks.
- Press:
  - Cover the event for media and YouTube sharing.
  - We are doing the first round of approvals, but we are still open for more applicants.
- Merchandise:
  - We are really excited for merch this year.
  - We have scarves this year, and are selling them at outreach events.
    - For staff only we are selling a misprint scarf with a misspelling, for half price.
  - There are 11 new pin designs this year.
  - There will be two merchandise booths this year, one upstairs, and one downstairs. Also, they will be open on Thursday, which will help staff.
  - Staff get a discount.
  - Limited edition construction neko pin. There are two designs, with only 200 of each. If you show your 2018 Kumoricon badge, you get a dollar off. One design says "I survived 2018 construction". The other design shows construction neko standing up and looking determined. We will slowly release them throughout the weekend.
- Seeking staff:
  - Info Booth Staff—A couple more
  - Press Office Staff—A couple more
  - Videographers and Photographers—We need a lot more videographers, and a few more photographers.

## **Sam Taylor, Director of Relations**

- Exhibits Hall is 100% sold out and nearly fully paid. We are still accepting waitlist entries.
- Artist Alley and Small Press have been sold out for months. We will share the participant list soon. Over 50% of Artist Alley is from outside the Pacific Northwest.
- Maid Cafe tickets should be open in the next month.
- We have announced four guests:
  - Ciarán Strange—Returning this year. Recently announced as a Borderlands 3 character, Lorelei.
  - Karen Strassman—Returning this year.
  - MINORI—Japanese nature artist/model. Joining for the first time.
  - Morgan Berry
- Specialty Events is preparing for the Anime Bar. Drinks will be rebranded for this year's guests.

- Fashion Show applications will be opening soon. We will have 4 brands that will be announced soon.
  - We will be looking for hair and makeup artists for those events. Applications will be opening very soon.
- Art Show applications are now closed.
- Seeking staff:
  - Maid Cafe Staff
  - KumoriMarket Staff—Supervising Artist Alley, Exhibits Hall, Small Press.
  - Autographs Staff—Still in the process of developing the system to make it the most effective it can be. To make it as successful as we want, we really need more staff.
  - Guest Hospitality
  - Guest Liaisons

### **Jeff Tyrrell, Secretary**

- Earlier this week, reviewed staff applications that are still pending, and departments are reaching out to those people.
- Continuing to work on internal policies.

### **Jo Ayers, Treasurer**

- Seeking staff:
  - Load-In/Load-Out Staff—Moving things around, or pointing to things that need to be moved.
  - Load-In/Load-Out Driver—If like to do things on demand, or help when needed.
  - Treasury Staff—Work in the Treasury office at the con.
  - Visit the open positions page for details.
- In the mailbag this month:
  - Annual renewal for Japan-America Society of Oregon (JASO) membership. They do outreach, classes, and promote business between Japanese and American businesses.
  - We received feedback from a customer in our Square. They thanked us for being at Resin Rose BJD Expo and used sunglasses and thumbs up emojis.
- Money in, money out. This month we have been spending money on things like: Airfare, ASCAP.

### **Outreach**

Brian reported:

- We finished a gauntlet of seven events in a row from July to August. There are only two since then to report on. We are also participating in one today.
- Nan Desu Kan—Denver, CO. At the end of August; a little farther away than we're used to. We received a lot of interest, but didn't sell any pre-registrations. We sold a ton of ghost nekos. Nobody there had seen it before.

- Rose City Comic Con—Last week. Was very successful. We sold a lot of merchandise, and also think we made a record number of pre-registration sales, at 72. Their booth is pretty expensive, but we made back triple what it costs.
- Devin is running the Uwajicon table today until 6pm.
- Currently reaching out to Portland Retro Gaming Expo. Our events are more than a week apart this year, so it might be more practical to collaborate.
- OryCon—Sci-fi convention the weekend before our event. We are providing equipment and games.
- Then we'll wrap up, reconcile, debrief, find out what worked, what didn't, and set events for next year. Some are in January and February, so will hear about them very soon.

## Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

## New Business

There was no new business.

## Good of the Order

Meeting participants reported the following upcoming events: *[Secretary's note: The threshold for inclusion in the minutes is that the event or showing can be confirmed by title, date, and venue (or distributor) via an official web presence, and that it takes place in the future (partially or entirely) as of the date of the meeting.]*

- Sci-fi festival—OMSI, September 19 - November 6
- Serenity—OMSI, September 22
- Hulk vs. Hulk—Hollywood Theatre, September 25
- Promare—OMSI, September 27-28
- The Secret World of Arrietty—Fathom Events, September 29-30
- Joker—opens October 3
- HP Lovecraft film festival—Hollywood Theatre, October 4-6
- The Matrix trilogy—OMSI, October 5

Jessica reported that we opened our educational group discount program as of yesterday. It is open to nonprofit or government-based youth groups serving ages K-12. If your application is accepted, we will provide discounted registration for youth, and one free chaperone membership for every 5 youth.

Brian reminded that we are two months out from con, and that as things ramp up, we want to remind everyone that you can talk to people up here. You can also talk to Fox, Vice Chair overseeing Human Relationships.

In response to a question, Sammi said that it is undecided whether specialty-badge members will have access to merchandise booths on Thursday, or only staff. There is a possibility of locating a booth in the KumoriMarket on Thursday, which would provide access to staff and exhibitors, but not attendees.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48pm by Brian Mathews.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Tyrill, Secretary