

Kumoricon / Altonimbus Entertainment

General Meeting of the Membership on May 7, 2022, 12:00 noon

Online

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm by Charmaine Martinez.

At the initial quorum count, the meeting continued once 30 members signed in as present, thus meeting quorum. In total during the meeting, 43 members signed in as present out of 453 total, with 30 needed to reach quorum.

Minutes

The minutes from the membership meetings of March 13, 2022, (as corrected) and April 2, 2022, were approved without objection.

Reports

Chair

Charmaine Martinez, Chair, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Icy and Brian have been getting balls rolling—Thank you! ♥
 - I am (not) alone :D
- Involved with Sakura-Con.
- April ended up being a down month for Chair.
- May will be a planning month for Chair.
 - Meeting with Assistant-To
 - Meeting with Charity

Infrastructure

Leon Lewis, Assistant Infrastructure Director, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- We are hiring in all our subdepartments!
- We have been working very hard on processing all of the applicants for space in the KumoriMarket, lots of exciting applicants this year.
- Hotels should be open very soon, we are sorry for the delay.
- Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy!

Membership

Charly Youravish, Director of Membership, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- What has Membership been up to?
 - Answering email
 - Planning
 - Training and a little more retraining
 - Just trying to keep it together.
 - Total 2022 pre-registrations so far: 2,259

- Kumoricon has hired 151 staff.
- We need staff!
 - Kumori Staff Station (Con Suite)
 - Cosplay Repair
 - Registration Hall
 - Reg Software Development
 - Accessibility

Operations

Nolan Dedrickson, Assistant Operations Director, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Teamwork makes the dream work on the Operations team!
 - We work behind the scenes, helping everything go smoothly.
 - We always need more feet on the ground.
 - Our main divisions in Ops are Yojimbo (general), Hitsujikai (line management), Peace-Bonding, Dispatch, and Office.
 - For those interested in a remote option, Dispatch may be a good fit.
 - To get in touch with questions or to sign up, email us at operations@kumoricon.org.

Nolan also reported:

- We work behind the scenes, helping everything go smoothly
 - Pre-con, this means planning, planning, and more planning our way ahead to run things well.
 - If you've attended a con before, you've probably passed someone from Operations on the con floor. From at-con messengers to keeping lines in order, we're doing our job well if we're hard to notice.
 - Last year we had many new challenges to tackle. We've taken notes and we're working hard to make sure everyone attending can have a safe and healthy con again this year.
 - Like many of our departments, Operations is always looking for more staff. We work best with many hands to make light work, and floor staff can be a great entry point for getting more involved!
 - If you're interested in helping out with the convention but aren't sure you'd know where to start or what to do, Operations can be a great place to start out. Many of our Yojimbo positions rely on clear "go here, do this" instructions.
- You can see our main divisions listed on this slide—the largest are our floor staff, Yojimbo and Hitsujikai.
 - Many of our division names come from Japanese words and cultural touchpoints.
 - Hitsujikai translates as "shepherd", representing our staff responsible for guiding folks throughout the con.
 - Yojimbo would most literally be read as "bodyguard"—but this word has a few more layers of meaning, and within our department refers to the staff who work to keep the con floor as a whole safe and healthy.
 - One of our newest positions, Shinobi, takes responsibility for training and mentoring new and existing staff in the details of the Operations department.
 - Once you've learned the ropes, we're happy to help you branch out from there!
 - One of our goals for 2022 is to provide more opportunities for staff training early in the year. Questions are always welcome!
 - If you're interested in getting involved, but aren't sure about attending in person, Dispatch may be an option for remote volunteering.
 - If you'd like to reach us, email operations@kumoricon.org.
 - We try to get back to everyone quickly—if you've sent us a message and haven't heard back within a day or two, feel free to send a reminder just in case we missed it.

Programming

Steven Garcia, Director of Programming, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- What we've been up to
 - Panel applications are now open.
 - Hiring staff... like a lot of staff and we are still looking for more!
 - If you're interested in staffing you can meet us on the official Kumoricon Discord server in the #Programming voice channel after the stream.
 - Preparing old and new events for this year.

Publicity

Charmaine presented slides on behalf of Panda, Director of Publicity *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- See you next time!

Relations

Amber Feldman, Director of Relations, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Guests updates:
 - 8 more guests announced!
 - Cherami Leigh, Bryce Papenbrook, Ray Chase, Max Mittelman, Robbie Daymond, Caleb Hyles, Kaiji Tang, Anne Yatco
 - There's a handful more, including cosplay guests, musical guests, DJs, and even a few more voice actors.
 - As always, we want to hear from you; guest requests, feedback, etc.
- Other Relations updates: What've we been up to?
 - Hiring; still hiring for many positions, including Guest Liaisons, Drivers, Industry Staff, Autograph Staff, etc. Come join us!
 - Developing some trainings for our staff.
 - Expanding industry goals; we have some exciting goals and hope to bring you some awesome industry offerings.
 - Partner Table applications will be released soon, so if you want to apply, keep an eye out.

Secretary

Tracy Creel, Secretary, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Training our second Assistant Secretary.
- Working on motion templates for exec meetings.

Treasurer

Charmaine presented slides on behalf of Matt Rushford, Treasurer *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Money in, money out!
- (Come be staff!)

Outreach

Brian Mathews, Outreach Committee Chair, presented slides *[lightly copy-edited]*:

- Sakura-Con happened!
 - Over the weekend, we talked to 323 people! About 24% hadn't heard of us.
 - We sold 69 pre-registrations!
 - We made nearly triple the amount of non-registration merch income compared to 2019!
 - We experienced a *lot* of goodwill for Kumo at the booth! Thank you!
- Next up:
 - Chibi Chibi Con—May 21 at Evergreen College, WA.
 - Portland Pride Waterfront Festival—June 18 [*as corrected*] – June 19 at Waterfront Park.
- Keep your eyes on your email and Discord for booth opportunities!

Brian also reported:

- What sound does an anime ambulance make? Wee-boo-wee-boo-wee-boo.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Good of the Order

Joining staff

- Want to join staff but not sure what you want to do?
 - Visit <https://www.kumoricon.org/open-positions> to read about all the positions we have available
- Know what you want to do or need some help making a decision?
 - Visit <https://www.kumoricon.org/staff-application> to apply or take a small survey so we can help you figure out what to go.

Did you know—Excerpts from the staff manual

- How to get help:
 - If you're in a difficult situation at the convention and need assistance, please request help to assist you. If you have a radio, please call for help on the dispatch channel. You can call or text your supervisor or a fellow staff on your team. If this is not an option, you can even see if a nearby staff member is available who can make contact for you, or send a message to the Operations Office.
 - Kumoricon uses the Code Adam missing-child program that is used in many retail stores. In case of a missing child at the convention, Yojimbo and other select, trained staff will carry out this procedure. Designated on-duty staff will systematically search the convention area by area and keep track of the progress of the search, including involving police if necessary. In the overwhelming majority of cases, this quickly locates the missing child. If a Yojimbo who is carrying out Code Adam requests your assistance, please follow their instructions if your staff duties allow for it.
 - Before the convention, if you need help, you can email or call your supervisor or director. If you're having an issue and need somebody else to talk to, you can also contact another board member, the Chair, or Vice Chair.

- Many basic pieces of information can be found at the public website, including the convention code of conduct, the staff policies, registration prices, the full convention schedule, a list of guests of honor, and archived copies of previous years' websites.
- <https://www.kumoricon.org/staff-manual>

Recruiting staff workgroup

- Workgroup for recruiting staff for Kumoricon!
 - Have to be current Kumoricon staff.
 - Best if you have Discord.
 - Focusing on schools:
 - High schools, colleges, universities
 - Best to network with clubs, groups, and school staff if you already have those connections!
 - <https://www.kumoricon.org/school-recruiting-workgroup-interest>

Good of the Order is accepting submissions!

- You can email good.of.the.order@kumoricon.org!

Anime and media

- Ponyo
- Akira
- Fortune Favors Lady Nikuko
- Netflix:
 - Ghost in the Shell: SAC_2045
 - Vampire in the Garden
 - Quintessential Quintuplets
- Shows this season:
 - Ya Boy Kongming! (HIDIVE)
 - The Executioner and Her Way of Life (HIDIVE)

Mental Health Awareness Month

Please be aware of your mental health and the mental health of your friends. Try to find resources online to help encourage proper mental health.

Open Time!

- If you have questions/comments/anything to bring up:
 - Be in the public Discord, and use the “raise hand” icon.
 - A moderator will invite you to the stage, and you have to accept.
 - You’re live!

Heather might start talking about having a Manga Minute. She mentioned Manga Plus, to read manga legally by a subscription service.

A breakdown of the VIP packages was presented, detailing the differences between each of the VIP tiers. The current VIP pre-registrations are 34 Cumulus, 7 Altocumulus, 6 Cumulonimbus.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm by Charmaine Martinez.

Submitted, and revised and approved by the members,
Tracy Creel, Secretary

Attachment: Presentation slides

See file *kumoricon-minutes-member-20220507-attachment.pdf*