MEETING OF MARK PROTECTION COMMITTEE August 13, 2017

MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE

Members of the Mark Protection Committee ("MPC") now consists of the following people (followed by the year of expiration of their term in parentheses): Stephen Boucher (elected until 2018), John Coxon (elected until 2020), Joni Dashoff (appointed by Worldcon 76 until 2020), Linda Deneroff (elected until 2020), Paul Dormer (appointed by Dublin 2019 an Irish Worldcon), Donald E. Eastlake III (elected until 2018), Bruce Farr (elected until 2018), Michael Lee (appointed by Worldcon 75 until 2019), Tim Illingworth (elected until 2019), Dave McCarty (elected until 2020), Mark Olson (appointed by MidAmericon II until 2018), Randall Shepherd (appointed by NASFiC 2017 until 2019), Kevin Standlee (elected until 2019), and Ben Yalow (elected until 2019).

The meeting was called to order at 10:53 a.m. Members present were Linda Deneroff, Paul Dormer, Donald Eastlake, Michael Lee, Dave McCarty, Kevin Standlee and Ben Yalow. Since no quorum was present, and in his capacity as WSFS division head for Worldcon 76, Kevin Standlee, in his role as WSFS division manager for Worldcon 76, appointed Judith C. Bemis as the representative for Worldcon 76 in place of Joni Dashoff for the duration of this meeting. Others attending were Don Clary, Peter DeWeerdt, Peggy Hults Larreau, Dave McCarty, Deidre Saoirse Moen, and Rick Moen.

The first item of business was election of officers. There was no objection to suspending the rules and reelecting Kevin Standlee as Chairman; Linda Deneroff as Secretary, and Bruce Farr as Treasurer.

The MPC agreed to move forward with creating a budget. Linda will remind Ben to start preparing the draft budget to be presented at SMOFCon in December.

Again without objection, Dave McCarty, Cheryl Morgan, Kevin Standlee, and the other existing members of the Hugo Awards Marketing Committee ("HAMC") were reappointed to that committee for the coming year.

The committee also instructed the chair to request our British solicitor to develop a boilerplate letter that we as a committee can use in simple mark infringement cases on our European marks.

Paul Dormer will be added to our mailing list.

We discussed continuing to obtain domain names for conventions with Worldcon xxxx in their names. We already have domains for worldcon.us and worldcon.info (which may have lapsed). It was the sense of the meeting that we should go five years into the future, but we will discuss this further on line (Linda will remind Kevin). We will need to regularize this, but if a convention decides not to use the domain, we can point it to that convention's website. Ben will build these costs into the proposed budget.

The HAMC coverage of this year's Hugo Awards Ceremony through CoverItLive had 1,308 watching, so we got our money's worth (\$200). We picked up a lot of extra viewers when the promised live-streaming of the ceremony by Worldcon 75 failed to materialize. It was more elaborate this year thanks to Susan deGuardiola and Cheryl Morgan, and we got a lot of nice feedback.

We will hold our final meeting on the first evening at next year's Worldcon in San Jose.

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.