

**2021 WSFS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**DISCON III, THE 79TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**  
**December 16-18, 2021**

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**2021 WSFS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**DISCON III, THE 79TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**  
**December 16-18, 2021**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Business Meeting was held in the Palladian Room at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. The Officers were:

Presiding Officer:	Donald E. Eastlake III
Deputy Presiding Officer:	Kent Bloom
Secretary:	Janice Murphy
Assistant Secretary	Linda Deneroff
Timekeeper:	Todd Dashoff
Videographer:	Lisa Hayes
Floor Manager	Martin Pyne

The debates in the minutes are not to be considered word-for-word accurate, but every attempt has been made to represent the sense of the arguments. These minutes are complete and accurate to the best of the Secretary's knowledge, based on contemporaneous notes, verified against the video, and reviewed by the Presiding Officer.

**WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY  
BUSINESS MINUTES  
December 16-18, 2021**

The 2021 business meeting staff consisted of Donald E. Eastlake III, Presiding Officer; Kent Bloom, Deputy Presiding Officer; Janice Murphy, Secretary; Linda Deneroff, Assistant Secretary; Todd Dashoff, Timekeeper; Lisa Hayes, Videographer; and Martin Pyne, Floor Manager.

The proceedings of these meetings were recorded per Standing Rule 1.6. Any member may also make their own recordings and distribute them at their discretion.

Prior to the official opening of the meeting, Ben Yalow addressed the members. This was his fifty-first business meeting, and he acknowledged this community as one in particular that made him feel welcome. He felt honored, as Guest of Honor, to call recognition to the business meeting.

The preliminary meeting was called to order Thursday at 10:04 a.m. and adjourned at 11:33 a.m.; the main meeting on Friday convened at 10:05 a.m. and adjourned at 12:17 p.m., and reconvened on Saturday at 10:03 a.m. and adjourned *sine die* at 12:26 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **A. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MOTIONS**

Last year at CoNZealand, without objection the rules were suspended to receive without comment all of the committee reports that were submitted and to re-appoint and re-acknowledge the membership and remit of all committees to DisCon III.

### **A.1 Standing Committee of WSFS**

#### **A.1.1 Mark Protection Committee Report and Nominations**

The members of the MPC for 2020-2021 were Judy Bemis (elected until 2021), Stephen Boucher (elected until 2021), John Coxon (interim appointment until 2021), Linda Deneroff (Secretary, interim appointment until 2021), Paul Dormer (appointed by Dublin 2019 an Irish Worldcon until 2021), Cliff Dunn (appointed by DisCon III until 2023), Donald E. Eastlake III (elected until 2021), Dave McCarty (interim appointment until 2021), Helen Montgomery (appointed by Chicon 8 until 2024), Ron Oakes (appointed by NASFiC 2020 until 2022), Daniel Spector (appointed by CoNZealand until 2022), Kevin Standlee (Vice Chair, elected until 2022), Jo Van Ekeren (Chair, elected until 2022), Mike Willmoth (appointed by NASFiC 2019 until 2021), and Ben Yalow (elected until 2022). Bruce Farr is a non-voting member appointed to the board of Worldcon Intellectual Property to meet a corporate requirement, and he is also Treasurer. For the full MPC written report, please see [Exhibit A](#), attached to these minutes.

Because elections were not held in 2020, this year (and this year only) the Business Meeting elected six people to the Mark Protection Committee (“MPC”), with three positions for 3 years and three more for 2 years, with the first three elected to fill the 3-year terms, and the next three elected to fill the 2-year terms.

**Thursday:** Kevin Standlee (he/him) introduced the report of the Mark Protection Committee, the only permanent standing entity of WSFS. The MPC is also the board of directors of Worldcon Intellectual Property (“WIP”), the legal entity that owns our service marks outside the U.S. The MPC, acting as an unincorporated association, owns our marks within the United States. There were no questions.

Joni Dashoff, Nicholas Whyte, Mike Willmoth, and the incumbents (John Coxon, Judy Bemis, Stephen Boucher, Linda Deneroff, Donald E. Eastlake III, and Dave McCarty), were nominated. The first three persons elected would be elected for three-year terms, and the next three would be elected for two years.

**Friday:** The results of the election were announced: Sharon Sbarsky (she/her) reported that there was a total of 67 ballots submitted. Since two were blank, there were 65 valid ballots, of which 33 were needed for a majority. There were a number of “no preference” ballots, since not everyone ranked all the candidates. The candidates winning three year terms were (in alphabetical order) Linda Deneroff, Donald E. Eastlake III and Dave McCarty. Those elected to two-year terms were Judy Bemis, Joni Dashoff and Mike Willmoth (again in alphabetical order). Without objection, the tellers were instructed to destroy the ballots.

The full results are noted in [Exhibit B](#).

## **A.2. Standing Committees of the Business Meeting**

### **A.2.1 Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee**

The members of the NP&FSC for 2020-2021 were Don Eastlake (Chair), Jared Dashoff, Linda Deneroff, Tim Illingworth, Jesi Lipp, Kevin Standlee, and Jo Van Ekeren. The authority of this committee stems from:

#### **Standing Rule 7.7: Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee**

The Business Meeting shall appoint a Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee. The Committee shall:

- (1) Maintain the list of Rulings and Resolutions of Continuing Effect;
- (2) Codify the Customs and Usages of WSFS and of the Business Meeting.

**Actions:** This year the committee assisted groups that requested help with preparing Constitutional amendments and considered an editorial change to the listing of Hugo Awards that would make it easier to refer to “story” categories as a block. In addition, as we reported last year, we have proposals elsewhere in the minutes that were referred to us in 2019 for review that we initially intended to submit to the 2020 Meeting but put off until this year due to the pandemic.

**Discussion:** As the chairperson of the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee, Donald E. Eastlake III recused himself and asked the deputy chairperson, Kent Bloom, to preside. There were no questions, and Mr. Eastlake resumed chairing the meeting. Without objection, the committee was continued as currently constituted.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **A.2.2 Worldcon Runners Guide Editorial Committee**

The Worldcon Runners' Guide Editorial Committee members for 2020-2021 were Mike Willmoth were <[mwillmoth@gmail.com](mailto:mwillmoth@gmail.com)> (Chair), Bobbi Armbruster <[barmbru@gmail.com](mailto:barmbru@gmail.com)>, Linda Deneroff <[lindad@isomedia.com](mailto:lindad@isomedia.com)>; Cheryl Morgan <[cheryl@cheryl-morgan.com](mailto:cheryl@cheryl-morgan.com)>; and Kevin Standlee <[kastandlee@gmail.com](mailto:kastandlee@gmail.com)>. Thanks go out to Bobbi Armbruster for her contribution to the new Timeline page, to Linda Deneroff for her editing, reformatting, and updating of the Guide, to Cheryl Morgan for her work on the Guide's website, and to Kevin Standlee for his contributions to the WSFS page updates. The authority of this committee stems from:

#### **Standing Rule 7.8: Worldcon Runners Guide Editorial Committee**

The Business Meeting shall appoint a Worldcon Runners Guide Editorial Committee. The Committee shall maintain the Worldcon Runners Guide, which shall contain a compilation of the best practices in use among those who run Worldcons.

Linda Deneroff noted that there were two or three other documents that were revised last year, but have not been added to the website. Mr. Willmoth indicated he had run out of time prior to DisCon III to review them.

Anyone wishing to help on the guide should contact <[guide@wsfs.org](mailto:guide@wsfs.org)> or Mike Willmoth directly.

The direct website is <<http://www.wsfs.org/committees/worldcon-runners-guide/>>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **A.3 Special Committees**

#### **A.3.1 Formalization of Long List Entries (FOLLE) Committee**

Long List Committee report for 2021  
July 2020 – December 2021

The current membership of the Long List Committee consists of Mark Olson (chairman), Joe Siclari, Kent Bloom, Colin Harris, Kevin Standlee, Tim Illingworth and Ben Yalow.

The Long List Committee has continued to curate the Long List of Worldcons. Like Worldcon itself, this was a year of adapting to COVID-19 as the committee documented CoNZeland, added Chicon 8, and kept current with DisCon III.

**Action:** The committee requested that the WSFS BM continue its endorsement of the committee for another year.

The current working website is at <<http://www.smofinfo.com/LL/TheLongList.html>>.

Without objection, the committee was continued as currently constituted.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **A.3.2 Hugo Awards Study Committee**

The Hugo Awards Study Committee (“HASC”) for 2019-2020 consisted of Cliff Dunn (Chair), Alex Acks, Andrew A. Adams, Ira Alexandre, Paul Cornell, Joni Brill Dashoff, Todd Dashoff, Vincent Docherty, Kathryn Duval, Martin Easterbrook, Lisa Garrison, Helen Gbala, Colin Harris, John Hertz, Kevin Hewett, Tim Illingworth, Kat Jones, Marguerite Kenner, Elspeth Kovar<sup>1</sup>, Guy Kovel, Joshua Kronengold, Michael Lee, Perrienne Lurie, Mark J. Meenan, Farah Mendlesohn, Lisa Padol, Hanne Paine, PRK, Martin Pyne, Oskari Rantala, Mark Richards, Claire Rousseau, Ann Marie Rudolph, Kate Secor, Kevin Standlee, Corina Stark, Kelly Strait, Don A. Timm, Kári Tulinius, Jo Van Ekeren, Lew Wolkoff, Betsy Wollheim, and Ben Yalow.

Since CoNZealand, the Hugo Study Committee has not made much progress and has decided not to tender any proposals for consideration at DisCon III. There are several reasons for this, most of which will be familiar to many people:

- For much of 2021, the actuality of an in-person Business Meeting was seen as being in doubt (especially once the Delta wave hit over the summer). While such a meeting is likely, the current wave of cases is still rising in significant parts of the U.S. (though, as of this writing, thankfully not the Washington, DC, metro area).
- There was also persistent uncertainty as to who would be allowed into the U.S. by December (something which was only really resolved when the border reopening actually came to pass). This caused significant resistance to bringing proposals forward, as the potential for the exclusion of all of non-U.S. fandom was a serious concern.
- The decision to require full vaccination for all persons attending DisCon III, while laudable, also potentially excluded many potential attendees with minor children. As above, this was only partially resolved with the U.S. approval of the Pfizer vaccine at the very end of October, and somewhat contrary to prior expectations this approval only covered 5-11 year olds (versus the previously-speculated 2-11 year olds).
- Even with all of the above having been resolved, some questions about time and space availability for the Business Meeting were lurking. As it stands, we have been advised that a combination of circumstances mean that the Business Meeting will have roughly half of its “normal” time allotment (that is, two hours on each of the first three days, plus whatever is managed on the fourth day).

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Kovar requested that she not be appointed to the 2021-2022 committee and was not reappointed.

When all of these factors were combined with a general pandemic-induced distractedness (as well as the winter date resulting in the “normal” work period being in the fall, versus the early summer), energy was simply lacking.

As a result of all of the above, the Hugo Study Committee has declined to bring any proposals forward for consideration at DisCon III’s Business Meeting. We would encourage that the Committee be retained for another year as-is.

We would note that we explicitly intend to consider the results of the “test category” for Video Game this year, as much work has been done with respect to that award proposal over the last few years.

**Discussion:** In addition to his report, Cliff Dunn noted that the committee has set up a Discord server to expedite discussions and allow people to deal only with those portions of the Hugo Awards in which they have an interest.

Without objection the committee was continued as constituted for another year.

### **A.3.3 Nontransferability Committee**

Ben Yalow (he/him) reported that the Nontransferability Committee met with the purpose of producing a resolution that had been referred to it and has submitted both its report and an amendment to the Constitution (see Item F.6). Mr. Yalow also noted that unless the Business Meeting decided to kick the amendment back to the committee, the committee did not need to be reconstituted.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

### B.1 Anticipation (Montréal)

**Financial Report  
Anticipation  
For the period of July 1, 2020 to November 15, 2021**

**This is the final report for Anticipation.**

Balance on July 1, 2020	\$8,321.77
Administrative Fees	\$505.78
Grants	
CostumeCon	\$401.34
SMOFCon Scholarships	\$503.47
World Fantasy Convention <sup>2</sup>	\$14,195.53
Total expenses	\$15,606.12
Balance on November 15, 2021	-\$7,284.35

Submitted by René Walling on behalf of Cansmof Inc.

Note 1: All amount in Canadian Dollars (CAD)

Note 2: Cansmof, a federally incorporated Canadian not for profit corporation, may be reached by mail at:

103-2077 Wilson  
Montréal, QC H4A 0A3  
Canada

or by e-mail at: [cansmof@gmail.com](mailto:cansmof@gmail.com)

The current Board of Cansmof Inc., consists of (in alphabetical order): Robbie Bourget, Terry Fong (Treasurer), Eugene Heller (Vice-President), Diane Lacey, Dawn McKechnie, Linda Ross-Mansfield, Jannie Shea, Kevin Standlee, and René Walling (President).

**Discussion:** Jannie Shea noted that this is the final report from Anticipation.

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<sup>2</sup> This includes committed expenses for WFC 2021 not yet paid as of this report.

## B.2 LoneStarCon 3 (San Antonio)



### Remaining Funds June 26, 2020 – November 15, 2021

Date	Description	Amount	Total
6/26/2020	2019 Balance		<b>\$43,144.20</b>
11/07/2020	ASFA Grant	105.00	\$43,039.20
11/15/2021	Outstanding balance		\$43,039.20

**Prepared by:** Bill Parker  
**Convention:** LoneStarCon 3  
**Parent Organization:** Alamo Literary Art Maintenance Organization  
**Current Tax Status:** a 501(c)(3) Organization  
**Address:** P.O. Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755-2277  
**Contact Email:** <[president@alamo-sf.org](mailto:president@alamo-sf.org)>  
**Website:** <<http://alamo-sf.org>>

**Officers:**  
President: Scott Zrubek <[president@alamo-sf.org](mailto:president@alamo-sf.org)>  
Vice President: Randall Shepherd <[vicepresident@alamo-sf.org](mailto:vicepresident@alamo-sf.org)>  
Secretary: Jonathan Guthrie <[secretary@alamo-sf.org](mailto:secretary@alamo-sf.org)>  
Treasurer: Bill Parker <[treasurer2016@alamosf.org](mailto:treasurer2016@alamosf.org)>  
Communications: Kurt Baty <[communications@alamo-sf.org](mailto:communications@alamo-sf.org)>  
IT: Steve Staton <[it@alamo-sf.org](mailto:it@alamo-sf.org)>  
Webmaster: Bill Parker & Clif Davis <[webmaster@alamo-sf.org](mailto:webmaster@alamo-sf.org)>

### B.3 Sasquan (Spokane)



#### Sasquan Financial Report as of November 14, 2021

Date	Description	Amount	Total
6/24/2020	2020 Balance		\$29,585.96
11/14/2021	Remaining Balance		\$29,585.96

Sasquan wound down as an organization and disbursed its remaining funds to the parent organization, SWOC, a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in the State of Washington. You can find more information at [www.swoc.org](http://www.swoc.org).

In September 2017, the SWOC board voted to create the Bobbie DuFault Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will be financed using these remaining surplus funds. This fund will be used to grant scholarships to fans who want to attend SMOFcon and other con-running conventions.

The criteria for requesting a scholarship to a specific convention are: (1) never having attended that specific convention before; (2) having served on a convention in a staff position; (3) not being able to attend without the granting of a scholarship; and (4) sending a letter requesting a scholarship to the SWOC Board of Directors. These scholarships will be given out only one time to each person.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent cancellations of the 2020 SMOFCon and the 2021 ConComCon, no scholarships were awarded this past period. We are hoping to award scholarships to qualified candidates as COVID-19 restrictions lessen in 2022.

**Prepared by:** Richard O'Shea, [aricosh@earthlink.net](mailto:aricosh@earthlink.net)  
New Inquiries should go to the new SWOC Treasurer, Richard O'Shea.

**Convention:** Sasquan  
**Parent Organization:** Seattle Westercon Organizing Committee ("SWOC")  
**Current Tax Status:** a 501(c)(3) Organization  
**Address:** SWOC; P.O. Box 88154; Seattle, WA 98138  
**Website:** <http://www.swoc.org>

**Officers:**  
President: Jerry Geiseke  
Vice President: Angela Jones  
Treasurer: Richard O'Shea  
Marah Searle-Kovacevic, Pat Porter, Sally Woehrl, James Stringer – Members-at-large

## B.4 MidAmeriCon II (Kansas City)



### MidAmeriCon II Financial Statement July 15, 2020 - July 15 2021

			\$37,666.01
<b>Balance Forward 7/15/2020</b>			
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>
Interest Income		\$20.23	
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>\$20.23</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>
Table Fees – Book Giveaways		(\$45.00)	
Internet Hosting		(\$143.23)	
<i>Pair Networks</i>	(\$53.58)		
<i>Hostway</i>	(\$89.65)		
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>(\$188.23)</b>
<b>Remaining Balance</b>			<b>\$36,477.78</b>

**Prepared by:** Ruth Lichtwardt, Convention Chair & MASFFC Treasurer

**Convention:** MidAmeriCon II

**Parent Organization:** MidAmerican Science Fiction and Fantasy Conventions, Inc. (MASFFC)

**Current Tax Status:** a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Missouri

**Contact Email:** <[rlichtwardt@icloud.com](mailto:rlichtwardt@icloud.com)>

**Address:** PO Box 414175, Kansas City, MO, 64141

**Convention Website:** <https://www.midamericon2.org>

**Officers and Members:**

President & Chairman of the Board: Margene S. Bahm – <[arya.stark4@gmail.com](mailto:arya.stark4@gmail.com)>

Vice President: James J. Murray – <[james.murray013@gmail.com](mailto:james.murray013@gmail.com)>

Treasurer: Ruth Lichtwardt – <[rlichtwardt@icloud.com](mailto:rlichtwardt@icloud.com)>

Secretary: Carol Doms – <[carol.doms@gmail.com](mailto:carol.doms@gmail.com)>

Board Members:

Paula Helm Murray – <[kaylisdragon2@gmail.com](mailto:kaylisdragon2@gmail.com)>

Jeff Orth – <[jeff.orth@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.orth@gmail.com)>

John J. Platt IV – <[jplattiv@gmail.com](mailto:jplattiv@gmail.com)>

Earline Beebe – <[earlinembeebee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:earlinembeebee@sbcglobal.net)>

## B.5 Worldcon 75 (Helsinki, Finland)



No report was submitted. Worldcon 75's last reported balance, as of the 2020 Worldcon, was €11,764.62.

**B.6 Worldcon 76 (San Jose)**



**Financial Report  
Worldcon 76  
for the period of August 20, 2016 to October 31, 2021  
(Life of the Convention)**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>US Dollars</b>
Attending Memberships	\$ 958,071.92
Supporting memberships	127,100.00
Dealers	95,480.00
Creator's Alley	2,057.35
Art Show Net Sales	22,456.72
Hotel Rebates	82,110.00
Mobies	10,897.50
Garage Sale	1,325.47
Sales to Members	5,197.08
Advertising	21,684.92
Donations	18,852.72
TAFF/DUFF donations	1,901.50
Alzheimer's Association	13,232.97
Sponsorships	48,150.00
PAF	74,906.20
MexicanX Donations	22,204.19
LGBTQ Donations	6,563.00
Tours	6,165.50
Credit Card rewards to cash	1,550.00
Extra Hugo Trophies Purchased	1,575.00
Interest	<u>1,118.98</u>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$1,522,601.02</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Tech	\$ 195,538.83
Exhibits	24,034.45
Member Services	90,952.18
Events	9,601.80
Chair's Office	203,572.21
Promotions & Publicity	28,504.49
Facilities	572,971.97
Operations	15,446.81
WSFS	24,612.55
Hospitality	44,337.80

Programming	14,663.96
Publications	69,018.52
Finance	159,504.78
<b>CONVENTION EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$1,452,760.35</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$ 69,840.67</u></b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	92,442.36
Total Current Assets	92,442.36
Other Assets	6,194.19
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 98,636.55</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	\$ 65,763.20
Equity	<u>32,873.35</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>\$ 98,636.55</u></b>

**Membership Count:**

All Attending 6,091  
Supporting 1,810  
**Total Memberships 7,901**

**Prepared by:** Cindy Scott <[cindy@worldcon76.org](mailto:cindy@worldcon76.org)>

**Convention:** Worldcon 76

**Parent Organization:** SFSFC Inc. (San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions Inc.)

**Current Tax Status:** a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in California

**Address:** PO Box 61363, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1363 USA

**Contact Email:** <[info@worldcon76.org](mailto:info@worldcon76.org)>

**Convention Website:** [www.worldcon76.org](http://www.worldcon76.org)

**Officers and Members:**

President: Kevin Roche	David W. Gallaher
Vice President: Cindy Scott	Cheryl Morgan
Secretary: Kevin Standlee	Randy Smith
Treasurer: Lisa Deutsch Harrigan	Andy Trembly
Sandra Childress	Jennifer "Radar" Wylie
Christine Doyle	David W. Clark, Director Emeritus
Bruce Farr	Tom Whitmore, Director Emeritus

**Notes:** The Extra Hugo Trophies income is a pass-through – one more was purchased this year.  
Chair's Office expenses increased due to legal fees.  
Member Services expense increased for storage costs.  
Facilities expenses increased as we found an unpaid bill.  
WSFS expense increased for MPC Dues payment.  
Publications expense increased as US attending member SBs were shipped to those who did not attend.

**Discussion: Thursday:** Kevin Roche (he/him) noted that there was a lot of interest in the lawsuit results and some of the convention's still-pending business, and was more than happy to answer questions. The article in *File 770* pretty much covered Worldcon 76's public response. The convention spent well over \$100,000 defending Worldcon 76, and the \$4,000 settlement was less than half the cost of half a day's trial. He added that every claim against the convention was thrown out, with the possible exception of defamation/racism. For \$4,000 it wasn't worth defending.

## **B.7 Spikecon 2019 (Layton, Utah)**

Incorporating 13th NASFiC 2019, Westercon 72, Manticon 2019 & 1632 Minicon  
4-7 July 2019, Layton, Utah



No report was submitted.

## B.8 Dublin 2019: An Irish Worldcon (Dublin, Ireland)



Financial Statement as of 30 June 2021

### Chair's Introduction

It was unimaginable that I'd be saying that Dublin 2019 An Irish Worldcon was the last in-person Worldcon, two years and two months after it had occurred. This has been an unprecedented time.

Covid and the pandemic has had an impact on all of us, and while Dublin 2019 team have continued to work, we have faced some unexpected and unusual challenges, and we continue to work in difficult circumstances.

We are continuing to work to reconcile all bills and we have yet to resolve all our tax affairs, which are outstanding, but in the current climate as you'll appreciate, manageable and understandable by all concerned.

Some projects such as preparing all the Hugo Award video footage for release has been incredibly laborious and difficult. Taking literally hundreds of hours. We continue to and have financially supported con projects that require completion.

Dublin 2019 needs to responsibly support fan activities where it can, during this time, and we have repeatedly reached out to do so. We have been in a unique time during a pandemic and unexpected position where we can dynamically help fan organisations facing unexpected challenges.

We have passed along funds to CoNZeland, DisCon III, and committed to doing so to Chicon 8. In these unusual circumstances, we've been dynamic about this, working to the needs of the conventions, and this year working cleverly and cohesively to protect both funds and conventions as required by the seated chairs to ensure robust fiscal logistical responsibility.

We continue to be ready as I write.

To date we have supported Octocon, the National Irish SF Convention, both in moments of need and to find a future location, which has been announced as Croke Park. Sustainability and a future Dublin city centre venue being key goals to our home convention. We have supported the Dublin Comic Arts Festival and Irish Artists, Gaelcon the annual gaming con in Dublin, the Science Fiction Encyclopedia as it migrated, Corflu Concord and offered direct development opportunities through fan scholarships to support attendance at a rate European Smofcon.

During this time on a number of occasions we have also offered financial support where it might have been required. One such example, we offered support to both Eastercons during Covid, which

wasn't required. (The chair was happy to allow us to mention this as an example of the discreet work that is ongoing)

We continue to minimise non committed spending for eventualities while reducing our funds and meeting commitments.

James Bacon

Chair Dublin 2019 An Irish Worldcon.

<b>Income</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Bid Pass-along	€ 20,000.00
Voting Fees	41,744.36
Membership Income	948,857.70
Merchandise	5,646.55
Pass-along - Kansas (MAC2)	26,829.27
Pass-along – Helsinki	16,500.00
Pass-along – San Jose	9,090.91
Faillte Ireland Grant	17,530.00
UNESCO/ DCC Grants	31,000.00
Facilities	27,273.16
Dealers/Art Show	41,356.76
Publications Ads	7,344.12
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€1,183,172.83</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Hotels & Odeon	(€ 139,480.82)
Convention Centre	(386,397.87)
Credit Card Fees	(29,288.03)
VAT (Value Added Tax)	(183,100.96)
Registration	(25,136.90)
Facilitation	(75,669.78)
Events	(39,339.94)
Exhibits	(17,351.36)
Programme & Fringe	(20,200.69)
Promotions	(25,644.42)
Publications	(36,703.70)
Logistics & Tech	(50,662.45)
MSS	(48,696.86)
WSFS	(20,507.07)
Passalong – Various	(6,927.92)
Passalong – DC III	(9,090.91)

Passalong – NZ	(9,090.91)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>(€1,123,290.59)</b>
<b>Net (Income - Expenditure)</b>	<b>€59,882.24</b>

**Notes**

All figures are in EUR

EUR is Dublin 2019 Base currency

VAT must be charged on memberships at 23%

**Membership Count (as of 19 August 2019):**

Attending Members	6,525
Total Members	8,430

**Prepared by:** John JC Clarke

**Convention:** Dublin 2019, An Irish Worldcon

**Parent Organization:** DUBLIN WORLDCON CONVENTION ORGANISING COMPANY  
(Trading as "Dublin 2019")

**Current Tax Status:** Standard tax liability (There is no applicable non profit status in Ireland)

**Address:** Whitethorn, Leopardstown Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18 D18 W2W2, Ireland

**Contact Email:** [info@dublin2019.com](mailto:info@dublin2019.com)

**Convention Website:** <https://dublin2019.com/>

**Officers and Members:** James Bacon (Director), Brian Nisbet (Director & Secretary) & John Clarke (Director)

Vince Docherty was available for questions, but there were none.

## B.9 CoNZealand (Wellington, New Zealand)



### Financial Statement as of October 31, 2021

Income		NZ\$
Aotearoa Inclusion Initiative	Donations	\$ 2,602.50
Executive	Misc Donations	17,194.99
Executive	Tourism NZ Support	12,477.12
Executive	Passalong	56,796.60
Exhibits	Dealer Fees	1,582.62
Exhibits	Artist Fees	600.00
Finance	Bank Interest	4,452.87
Finance	ForEx Benefit	1,397.42
Finance	Sponsorship: US Embassy to NZ	15,210.00
Member Services	Merchandise Sales	12,481.64
Publications	Advertising Sales	9,166.27
Registration	Adult Attending Memberships	655,810.73
Registration	Supporting Memberships	113,686.82
Registration	Supporting Conversions	115,211.93
Registration	Child Attending Memberships	1,308.24
Registration	Young Adult Attending Memberships	9,208.70
Registration	Unwaged Attending Memberships	10,060.80
Registration	Other Memberships	10,092.99
Registration	Pre-Supporter and Advanced Supporting Member	50,911.43
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$1,100,253.67</b>

Expenditures		
Events	Software Purchase/Subscriptions	\$ 113.99
Events	Sir Julius Vogel Awards	5,180.38
Events	GRRM Support	862.89
Executive	NZ Abroad	21,903.06
Executive	Hugo Losers' Party (Dublin)	4,430.64
Executive	Legal Advice	3,500.00
Executive	Shutterstock Licensing	174.54

<b>Expenditures</b>		
Executive	At-Con Crew Care and Feeding	5,268.56
Executive	Balticon Donation	2,280.68
Executive	DisCon III Passalong	83,151.88
Executive	Public Liability Insurance	1,550.00
Exhibits	Art Show	87.13
Exhibits	Dealers	157.72
Exhibits	Fixed Exhibits	415.63
Facilitation	Committee Care and Feeding	12,065.58
Facilitation	Some/All-Staff Meeting	18,285.12
Facilitation	Office Supplies	349.83
Facilitation	Software Purchase/Subscriptions	1,481.26
Facilities	Facilities Hire (Staff Meetings)	2,564.44
Finance	Credit Card Fees and Interest	28,517.76
Finance	Other Banking Fees	467.58
Finance	Office Expenses	683.48
Finance	Taxes (GST/VAT)	37.45
IT	Software/Hosting	10,273.47
IT	Web Site	8,400.86
Operations	Operations Support Hardware	1,095.02
Platform	Streaming Services Development Costs	30,323.89
Programme	GoH Costs	6,233.45
Promotions	Promotional Items	12,903.62
Promotions	Parties	2,091.81
Promotions	Advertising	3,548.00
Promotions	Other Expenses	5,161.39
Publications	PR1, PR2, PR3, PR4 (Production and Mailing)	5,880.66
Publications	Souvenir Book Production	31,767.71
Publications	Souvenir Book Mailing	17,542.44
Registration	Membership Refunds	89,697.32
Tech	Online Services	34,948.73
Welcome	Volunteer Gifts	31,092.93
Welcome	Misc Costs	311.30
WSFS	Business Meeting	969.67
WSFS	Hugo Awards	34,966.06
WSFS	Retro Hugo Awards	3,516.44
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>\$524,254.37</b>

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
Income	\$1,100,253.67
Expenses	524,254.37
Current Balance	<b>\$ 575,999.30</b>

**Notes**

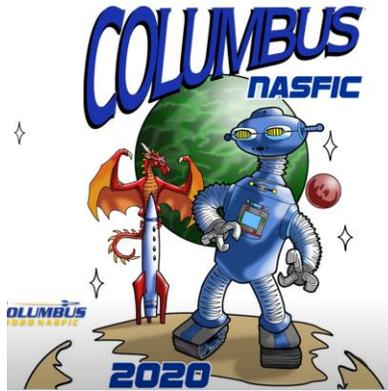
All values in NZ\$.

**Prepared by:** Andrew A. Adams (CoNZealand Financial DH)  
**Convention:** CoNZealand  
**Parent Organization:** Science Fiction & Fantasy Conventions of New Zealand Incorporated  
 aka SFFCoNZ  
**Current Tax Status:** New Zealand Charity, No. CC56587  
**Address:** 26 Halifax Street  
 Kingston  
 Wellington 6021  
 New Zealand  
**Contact Email:** <[lynelle.howell@gmail.com](mailto:lynelle.howell@gmail.com)>  
**Officers:** Daniel Spector President  
 Harry Hamilton Musgrave Treasurer  
 Lynelle Howell Secretary  
 Andrew Alexander Adams Director  
 Raewyn Olena Niven Director  
 Anton Reinauer Director

**Discussion:** Dave Gallaher was available for questions.

Cliff Dunn acknowledged that there were unprecedented challenges CoNZealand chose to run a virtual convention, but at what point did they realize how large its surplus would be? Mr. Gallaher said CoNZealand had no idea what the actual costs would be and did not know until fairly late in the process what the surplus would be. It came as a surprise, and they were currently in the process of making staff, volunteer and participant refunds.

**B.10 Columbus NASFiC 2020 (Columbus, Ohio)**



**Financial Statement as of September 30, 2021**

<b>Income</b>	
From bid (SOLAE) <sup>3</sup>	\$725.00
From election	\$2,000.00
Grant for Masquerade	\$10,000.00
Grant for Art Show/Literary Programming	\$12,500.00
Memberships	\$7,227.00
Donations	\$4,736.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,188.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Return of Grant	\$10,000.00
Return of Grant	\$12,500.00
2 Hotel Payments (@ \$5,000 each) <sup>4</sup>	\$10,000.00
Publicity	\$4,250.00
Forced PayPal returns	\$375.00
Returned to SOLAE	\$63.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,188.00</b>

The bank account is officially closed.

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<sup>3</sup> SOLAE (the Science Oriented Literature Arts and Education Foundation) originally gave \$2,500 to the bid in January 2018.

<sup>4</sup> We were supposed to pay the last \$5,000 on March 30 (but didn't) Those payments were a facility fee that was supposed to turn into F&B payments (for receptions) when the room block was reached.

**Prepared by:** Kim Williams

**Convention:** Columbus NASFiC 2020

**Parent Organization:** The Science Oriented Literature Arts & Education Foundation

**Current Tax Status:** 501(c)(3)

**Address:** (NASFiC) 4227 Beechrun Rd Columbus Oh 43213

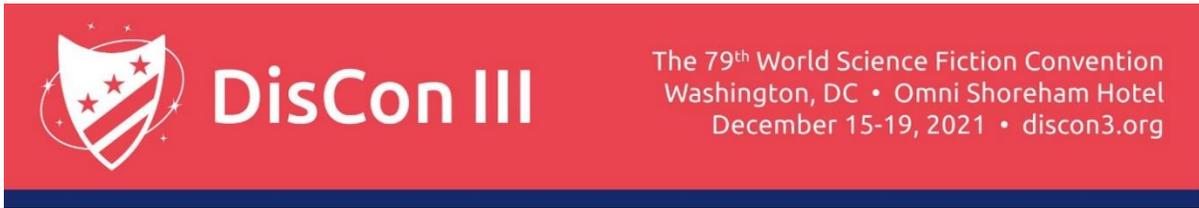
**Contact Email:** [finance@columbus2020nasfic.org](mailto:finance@columbus2020nasfic.org)

**Convention Website:** [www.columbus2020nasfic.org](http://www.columbus2020nasfic.org)

**Officers and Members:**

Lisa M. Garrison	Chair
Dale Mazzola	Vice Chair
Kim Williams	Treasurer

**B.10 DisCon III (Washington, DC)**



Financial Statement as of 14 November 2021

<b>Income</b>	
Memberships	\$583,780.27
Escrow from bid	\$25,440.00
Worldcon 76 Pass along Funds	\$10,000.00
Dublin 2019 Pass along Funds	\$10,000.00
CoNZealand Pass along Funds	\$60,000.00
Donations	\$24,285.84
Art show and dealer fees	\$34,530.00
Advertisements	\$510.00
Merchandise Sales	\$1,020.00
Site Selection payments	\$15,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$765,166.11</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Chair's Division	\$86,702.05
Publications	\$21,060.98
Facilities	\$12,000.00
Tech	\$12,679.70
Events	\$350.00
Exhibits	\$575.50
Member Services	\$2,227.31
Outreach	\$11,696.59
Programming	\$157.40
Operations	\$6,232.95
WSFS	\$14,984.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$168,667.07</b>
<b>Current balance</b>	<b>\$596,499.04</b>

**Prepared by:** Samuel M. Scheiner (DisCon III CFO)

**Approved by:** Mary Robinette Kowal, Chair

**Convention:** DisCon III

**Contact Email:** [chairs@discon3.org](mailto:chairs@discon3.org)

**Convention Website:** [www.discon3.org](http://www.discon3.org)

**Parent Organization:** Baltimore-Washington Area Worldcon Association

**Current Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) organization; incorporated in Maryland, USA

**Address:** P.O. Box 314, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

**Officers: President:** Michael Nelson

**Executive Vice President:** Judith Kindell

**Vice President:** John Sapienza

**Treasurer:** Robert MacIntosh

**Corresponding Secretary:** Ann Marie Rudolph

**Recording Secretary:** Jean Marie Ward

## B.11 Chicon 8 (Chicago, Illinois)



### Financial Report Worldcon 80 – Chicago July 29, 2020–November 2, 2021

<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>4000.00 Membership Revenue</b>	
<b>4001.00 Pre-Vote Memberships</b>	
4001.01 Chicago in 2022 before 2020	\$ 15,345.00
4001.02 Chicago in 2022 - 2020 income	6,119.16
4001.03 Voting Fees (from CoNZealand)	<u>31,750.00</u>
<b>Total 4001.00 Pre-Vote Memberships</b>	<b>\$ 53,214.16</b>
<b>4010.00 Basic Memberships</b>	
4010.01 Supporting	\$ 5,696.50
4010.02 Adult Attending	120,432.69
4010.03 YA (18-24)	990.00
4010.04 Teen (14-17)	730.00
4010.05 Child (10-13)	400.00
4010.10 First Worldcon	<u>19,559.06</u>
<b>Total 4010.00 Basic Memberships</b>	<b><u>\$147,808.25</u></b>
<b>Total 4000.00 Membership Revenue</b>	<b>\$201,022.41</b>
<b>4050.00 Member Services Revenue</b>	
<b>4052.00 Sales to Members</b>	
4052.01 Offworld Fees <sup>5</sup>	<u>\$ -5,794.63</u>
<b>Total 4052.00 Sales to Members</b>	<b><u>\$ -5,794.63</u></b>
<b>Total 4050.00 Member Services Revenue</b>	<b>\$ -5,794.63</b>
<b>4800.00 Chair &amp; Finance Revenue</b>	

<sup>5</sup> Offworld fees is revenue from Offworld Designs sales to members of logo wear. Chicon 8 fronts them money to cover their costs.

4806.00 · Chicago Worldcon Community Fund	\$ 2,302.00
<b>Total 4800.00 Chair &amp; Finance Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 2,302.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$197,529.78</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>5100.00 Chair</b>	
<b>5102.00 Corporate Expenses</b>	
5102.01 Incorporation & Fees	\$ 212.68
<b>Total 5102.00 Corporate Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 212.68</b>
<b>5103.00 Chair's Fund</b>	<b>\$ 160.41</b>
<b>Total 5100.00 Chair</b>	<b>\$ 373.09</b>
<b>5190 Finance</b>	
<b>5193 Insurance</b>	
5193.01 Liability – D&O	\$ 698.00
<b>Total 5193.00 Insurance</b>	<b>\$ 698.00</b>
<b>5194 Treasury Expenses</b>	
5194.01 Stripe Transaction Fees	\$ 4,786.08
5194.02 Conversion to USD	1,419.73
5194.03 PayPal Fees for Reimbursements	\$ 7.26
<b>Total 5194.00 Treasury Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,213.07</b>
<b>Total 5190.00 Finance</b>	<b>\$ 6,911.07</b>
<b>5200.00 Facilities</b>	
<b>5203.00 Exhibit Hall Expenses</b>	
5203.01 Exhibit Hall Rentals	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Total 5203.00 Exhibit Hall Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>
<b>Total 5200.00 Facilities</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>
<b>6000.00 Staff Services</b>	
<b>6002.00 Meeting Planning</b>	<b>\$ 5,073.05</b>
<b>6100.00 IT Support Expenses</b>	
<b>6104.00 Precon Software</b>	
6104.02 Zoom	\$ 165.04
6104.03 Email Management	16.48
6104.05 Planorama Program System	\$ 240.00
<b>Total 6104.00 Precon Software</b>	<b>\$ 421.52</b>
<b>Total 6100.00 IT Support Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 421.52</b>
<b>Total 6000.00 Staff Services</b>	<b>\$ 5,494.57</b>

<b>6300.00 Promotions/Marketing</b>	
6302.00 Advertising (outbound)	\$ 330.00
<b>Total 6300.00 Promotions/Marketing</b>	<b>\$ 330.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 33,108.73</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$164,421.05</b>

**Bank Balances as of November 2, 2021**

PNC Bank Main Fund	\$161,771.31
PNC Bank CW Fund	\$2,302.00
Undeposited Stripe	\$347.74

**Membership Count as of November 2, 2021**

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Count</b>
Adult Attending	929
First Worldcon Attending	188
Young Adult Attending	15
Teen Attending	11
Child Attending	8
<b>Total Attending</b>	<b>1151</b>
<b>Supporting</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1550</b>

**Prepared by:** Alexia Hebel, Finance Division Head

**Approved by:** Helen Montgomery, Chair

**Convention:** Chicon 8

**Business Entity:** Chicago in 2022 Worldcon

**Current Tax Status:** a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Illinois

**Address:** 2020 N. California, Suite 299, Chicago, IL 60647, USA

**Contact email:** [Treasurer@chicon.org](mailto:Treasurer@chicon.org)

**Convention Website:** [www.chicon.org](http://www.chicon.org)

Officers and Members:

President: Dave McCarty

Secretary: Sandra Levy

Treasurer: Shirley McKinzey

Members:

Helen Montgomery

Leane Verhulst

Jason Spitzer

Gary Agin  
Siobhan Murphy  
Dave McCarty  
Sandra Levy

**Discussion: Thursday:** Dave McCarty spoke for Chicon 8 and encouraged everyone who had not yet purchased a membership to do so.

## C. STANDING RULE CHANGES

No Standing Rules were submitted.

\*\*\*\*\*

## D. RESOLUTIONS

**WSFS Constitution Section 3.4.3:** In the event that a potential Hugo Award nominee receives extremely limited distribution in the year of its first publication or presentation, its eligibility may be extended for an additional year by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the intervening Business Meeting of WSFS.

### D.1 Short Title: Hugo Eligibility Extension for *Nine Days*

Moved, to extend for one year the eligibility of *Nine Days*, based on limited availability, as authorized by Section 3.4.3 of the WSFS Constitution.

**Proposed by:** Nana Amuah, Cora Buhlert, Olav Rokne and Terry Neill

**Commentary:** *Nine Days* is a 2020 supernatural drama film, initially screened at the Sundance Film Festival on January 27, 2020, and then playing throughout 2020 and 2021 on a limited, scant film festival circuit (often screening online due to COVID-19). Because of the pandemic, it did not get a wider release/distribution until July 30, 2021 (from Sony Pictures Classics).

Due to this limited release schedule in 2020, very few members of CoNZealand had the opportunity to view the film before the deadline for nominating the 2021 Hugo Awards.

**Discussion: Thursday:** Without discussion, the extension was granted unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

### D.2 Short Title: Hugo Eligibility Extension for *Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes*

Moved, to extend for one year the eligibility of the movie *Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes*, based on limited availability, as authorized by Section 3.4.3 of the WSFS Constitution.

**Proposed by:** Nana Amuah, Olav Rokne, Amanda Wakaruk, Cora Buhlert and Terry Neill

**Commentary:** *Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes* (AKA *Droste no Hate de Bokura*; “We’re At The End of the Droste”) is a 2020 Japanese science fiction film, initially released on June 5, 2020, in Japan. In 2021, it received release dates outside of Japan on the international festival circuit, eventually coming to the United States via the Fantasia Film Festival in September.

Due to this limited release schedule, very few members of CoNZealand had the opportunity to view the film before the deadline for nominating the 2021 Hugo Awards.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GczwQ47CffA>

**Discussion: Thursday:** Without discussion, the extension was granted unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**D.3 Short Title: Hugo Eligibility Extension for *PG: Psycho Goreman***

Moved, to extend for one year the Hugo Award eligibility of the movie *PG: Psycho Goreman*, based on limited availability, as authorized by Section 3.4.3 of the WSFS Constitution.

**Proposed by:** Nana Amuah, Olav Rokne and Terry Neill

**Commentary:** *PG: Psycho Goreman* (AKA *Psycho Goreman*) is a Canadian science fiction horror-comedy film. Originally scheduled for South by Southwest until that festival was cancelled, it premiered at Beyond Fest on October 7, 2020, later screening at Spain's Sitges Film Festival (September 10) and Australia's Monster Fest (November 1). On January 22, 2021, *PG: Psycho Goreman* received a theatrical release in the USA and Canada, along with a wider video-on-demand release. Because of this release schedule, the majority of WSFS members would not have seen the film before 2021.

**Discussion: Thursday:** Without discussion, the extension was granted unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*

**D.4 Short Title: Hugo Eligibility Extension for *The Last Wolf: Karl Edward Wagner***

Moved, to extend for one year the Hugo Award eligibility of the documentary *The Last Wolf: Karl Edward Wagner*, based on limited availability, as authorized by Section 3.4.3 of the WSFS Constitution.

**Proposed by:** Cora Buhlert, Nana Amuah, Olav Rokne, Howard Andrew Jones and Gideon Marcus

**Commentary:** *The Last Wolf: Karl Edward Wagner* is a documentary about the legendary horror and dark fantasy author and editor Karl Edward Wagner (1945-1994), featuring interviews with many of Wagner's friends and associates. The documentary had its global premiere on December 12, 2020, on Vimeo and is still only available as video-on-demand on that platform. A Blu-Ray release is in preparation. Due to its limited release schedule in 2020, very few members of DisCon III had the opportunity to view *The Last Wolf: Karl Edward Wagner* before the deadline for nominating for the 2021 Hugo Awards.

**Discussion: Thursday:** Perianne Lurie (she/her) spoke against the extension. This work was released in December 2020, and extending its eligibility would be setting a precedent that should not be set. Without further discussion the question was called. By a show of hands, and with two-thirds in favor, Hugo Award eligibility was extended for *The Last Wolf of Karl Edward Wagner*.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **D.5 Short Title: The Story Block**

Moved, to instruct the Secretary to use their Editorial authority under Standing Rule 4.3 to renumber Section 3.3.6 (Best Related Work) to 3.3.7, Section 3.3.7 (Best Graphic Story or Comic) to 3.3.6, and to correct all cross-references in the Constitution and any pending Constitutional amendments accordingly.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

**Commentary:** At this time, we have what we have come to call the “story” categories, which are the prose fiction categories (3.3.1 through 3.3.5) and Best Graphic Story or Comic (3.3.7). This leads to us needing references that skip over 3.3.6 when writing rules that apply only to those categories. This change would allow us to make the references in a continuous block from 3.3.1 to 3.3.6, which would be less awkward and potentially less confusing. Because it is an editorial change only, it does not represent a substantive change to the Constitution and can be done by an editorial correction in a single year.

**Discussion: Thursday:** The chairperson noted that the secretary is given some leeway to make some general changes, such as section numbering and titles, but the general layout and organization is under the control of the business meeting. This resolution would allow the secretary to renumber some sections so that the story categories are adjacent to each other. It would not change any substance concerning any award. By unanimous consent, the secretary was authorized to make the above changes.

\*\*\*\*\*

On Friday, a privileged motion was brought before the business meeting. The Chair permitted its introduction under Standing Rule 2.1, and further ruled that because time was of the essence, it could be considered immediately upon introduction.

## **D.6 Short Title: Required Site Selection Information**

Resolved, that it is the sense of the WSFS Business Meeting that any site selection ballot that does not contain a Name, Signature, Membership Number or Address that meets the country of origin’s address requirements, should be counted as “No Preference.”

**Proposed by:** Jannie Shea and Terry Fong

**Discussion: Friday:** The DisCon III site selection administrator, Tim Szczesuil, said that Section 4.4.1 of the Constitution is somewhat ambiguous as to what is required of voters. Is the ballot required to have four items: name, address, signature and member number, or is the voter required to include that information on the ballot? This motion is seeking a determination on this section.

Ben Yalow felt Section 4.4.1 was incredibly clear. It says: “Site selection ballots shall include name, signature, address, and membership number spaces to be filled in by the voter.” It doesn’t say how the voter has to fill it in; it simply says there must be spaces. We are not trying to change the rules on the fly. If we want to change the Constitution to require a specific requirement we should change the Constitution, but we should not change it for this meeting.

Joni Brill Dashoff (she/her) felt the problem was a conflict between the instructions on the ballot and the change in worldwide usage between street/postal addresses and email addresses as primary points of contact. This was a failure of instructions. Therefore, she proposed to amend the resolution such that “address” in the Constitution should specify street/postal address and/or email address as two separate data fields. There was no second to this amendment.

Terry Neill wanted it noted that she agreed with Mr. Yalow: that we cannot change the rules on voting in the middle of a vote.

Kent Bloom raised a point of order: The instructions were not part of the resolution and will not have any effect on this year’s site selection election. The Chair ruled the point of order well taken, and the amendment was not considered.

Lew Wolkoff, in favor of the resolution, noted that the Constitution says what should be on the ballot, but it doesn’t address what to do if the information is not there. Therefore, the site selection committee was asking for advice and guidance from the Business Meeting, and we should give it to them.

Perianne Lurie spoke against the resolution. The purpose of asking for this information was to allow the site selection administrators to determine if the voter is eligible, and if there is, they should count the ballot.

Elliott Mitchell (he/him) moved an amendment to remove the word “address” after the phrase “country of origin’s” since it was redundant, and also to move “membership number” to the start of the list since the country of origin places no requirements on the membership number. Only the name, signature and address are influenced by the requirements of the country. Thus the resolution would now read:

Resolved, that it is the sense of the WSFS Business Meeting that any site selection ballot that does not contain a Membership Number, Name, Signature, or Address that meets the country of origin’s requirements, should be counted as “No Preference.”

The second “address” was removed by unanimous consent, and a second change was made to re-order the requirements. There was no debate, and by a show of hands the revision to the resolution was passed.

Terry Neill spoke against the resolution and said if we can determine that the ballot is legitimate and if we can determine the intent of the voter, we should count it. We should not be changing the rules in the middle of an election.

At this point, the presiding officer, Donald E. Eastlake III, recused himself for the rest of this discussion, and the deputy presiding officer, Kent Bloom, took over so that Mr. Eastlake could speak.

Mr. Eastlake said that we should not allow anonymous or semi-anonymous people who don’t provide enough information to get back to them, or don’t provide a name or haven’t signed the ballot to affect site selection. In the past, ballots that were not signed had not been counted and were not counted this year. There is still a membership purchased by such ballots, and that’s fine, and this resolution clarifies the extent of this precedent.

Dave McCarty pointed out that the Constitution deals with people buying memberships for themselves and for other people. In the case of “for other people”, until the ballots are in the hands of another person, they are considered “non-natural people”. It is a requirement for the Worldcon to figure out if someone voting in site selection and/or the Hugo Awards is a natural person. We need this information so that their vote can be counted. If we cannot determine if they are real people and we don’t have a mechanism to find them in a timely manner, then the vote is counted as “no preference”.

The question was called and seconded, but failed in a show of hands to reach a two-thirds majority.

Judy Bemis moved to extend debate by 6 minutes, and this motion was seconded. This vote, too, failed in a show of hands to reach a two-thirds majority.

Alan Tipper felt this resolution did not logically work. “Or” means the site selection ballot it needs only one of these items, whereas “and” includes all the items. He moved to amend the resolution to change “or” to “and” between the words “Signature” and “Address.” The motion was seconded and, without debate, passed by a show of hands.

Resolved, that it is the sense of the WSFS Business Meeting that any site selection ballot that does not contain a Membership Number, Name, Signature, and Address that meets the country of origin’s requirements, should be counted as “No Preference.”

Stephen desJardins spoke in favor of the resolution. Section 4.5.1 of the Constitution gives each bidding committee the right to make a record of the name and address of every voter. If that isn’t present, it compromises the right of the committee to help them verify that the voters are natural persons.

Heather Rose Jones (she/her) felt there would be more violence done to the spirit of Worldcon by making this change, which is intended to address a highly specific situation, than the violence that would be done by going through with the situation that this resolution was trying to prevent.

Kevin Standlee said that while he was in favor of this resolution, it was only a resolution and that the business meeting was being asked to express an opinion and give advice to the administrator, not to change any rules.

Terry Neill again spoke against the resolution. She said this resolution gave the incredible appearance of changing the rules in the middle of a controversial vote, which would do untold violence to the World Science Fiction Society if it were allowed.

Ben Yalow added that we had not verified what the Chinese language version of the instructions said, which might be different from the English text. It was the administering convention that provided the Chinese translation. The Chinese translation might have indicated what is required in a way that did not match the meaning of the resolution as we passed it. Mr. Yalow felt that without knowing that, we should not try to change the instructions to the tellers.

Elliott Mitchell moved to postpone discussion until Saturday, but the chair ruled that out of order because by then it would be moot: the voting counting would be over by then.

Don Eastlake appealed the ruling of the chair concerning the motion to postpone voting on the resolution until the main meeting since the resolution had no dates in it and was generally applicable to future site selection voting. He felt the opinion of the business meeting would still be relevant, even if it occurred after the voting results were announced. Without discussion, the presiding officer reversed his ruling, and Mr. Eastlake withdrew his appeal.

Before the vote to postpone the discussion could proceed, Geri Sullivan (she/her) asked if there was any information about which language on the ballot instructions took precedence. Linda Deneroff, speaking in her role as WSFS Division Head, noted that each instruction sheet in the three translated languages [Chinese, French and Spanish] said the English language instructions contained the official rules and that the translations were for convenience only.

Joni Dashoff raised another point of enquiry: what were the instructions to the tellers at this time if the fields were incomplete. The presiding officer noted that a ballot would be counted as “no preference” if it does not meet the requirements. The presiding officer noted that this was a discussion of those requirements, and the business meeting was to provide an opinion on what those requirements were.

The presiding officer noted that debate on a motion to postpone is not permitted. Then, by a show of hands, the motion to postpone failed to achieve a majority.<sup>6</sup>

By a serpentine vote with 47 in favor, and 30 opposed, the resolution was adopted.

This resolution is an opinion only and has no binding effect on the administering convention or on the site selection vote. Mr. Eastlake noted that it was up to the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee whether they want to make this a Resolution of Continuing Effect.

Mr. Kent then returned the chair to Mr. Eastlake.

Mr. Szczesuil, the DisCon III site selection administrator, thanked the membership for their time and advice.

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<sup>6</sup> During the preparation of the minutes, it was noted that the motion to Postpone Definitely is debatable, although debate cannot go into the merits of the main motion.

## E. BUSINESS PASSED ON

The following items were ratified at Worldcon 75 in Helsinki, Finland, with sunset clauses requiring re-ratification at DisCon III in 2021 in order to remain part of the Worldcon Constitution.

### E.1 Short Title: Best Series

**3.2.4** Works appearing in a series are eligible as individual works, but the series as a whole is not eligible, [except under Section 3.3.5](#). However, a work appearing in a number of parts shall be eligible for the year of the final part.

**3.2.5** In the story categories (3.3.1-3.3.5 and 3.3.7), and author may withdraw a version of a work from consideration if the author feels that the version is not representative of what that author wrote.

**3.3.5: Best Series.** A multi-installment science fiction or fantasy story, unified by elements such as plot, characters, setting, and presentation, appearing in at least three (3) installments consisting in total of at least 240,000 words by the close of the previous calendar year, at least one (1) installment of which was published in the previous calendar year, and which has not previously won under 3.3.5.

**3.3.5.1:** Previous losing finalists in the Best Series category shall be eligible only upon the publication of at least two (2) additional installments consisting in total of at least 240,000 words after they qualified for their last appearance on the final ballot and by the close of the previous calendar year.

**3.8.3:** If any series and a subset series thereof both receive sufficient nominations to appear on the final ballot, only the version which received more nominations shall appear.

*Provided that unless this amendment is re-ratified by the 2021 Business Meeting, this provision shall be repealed, and*

*Provided that the question of re-ratification shall automatically be placed on the agenda of the 2021 Business Meeting, along with any other constitutional amendments awaiting ratification.*

**Proposed by:** Series Hugo Committee

See the [2017 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 21-26.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Dave Wallace (he/him) spoke against re-ratifying the Best Series Hugo Award. While he felt that while it's a good idea, the current implementation is not and doesn't seem to have realized the original maker's motion. It takes a lot of time to read all the material and doesn't leave enough

time to evaluate a series. He added that the timeline is a real mess when it comes to the Retro Hugo Awards. So, while he was not opposed to the Best Series in principle (and enjoyed having the material in the Hugo Award packet), he felt this amendment should be rejected and try to come up with a different proposal in future years.

Rafe Richards (he/him) spoke in favor of the motion. He felt the business meeting should re-ratify the Best Series Hugo Award and then vote amendments to fix it. This would preclude a two year gap in having a Best Series Hugo Award and give authors commendations for their work. This Hugo Award recognizes at its core the idea that there is literary merit in a body of work beyond the individual items within that body.

Ben Yalow spoke against the re-ratification. He felt we were not picking the best series this year; instead we were picking about the 15th series because some are no longer eligible, either permanently or temporarily (until the authors produce more volumes). Thus, the elimination rules themselves say we are not picking the best series, and in the future we will keep eliminating more and more series.

Joshua Kronengold (he/him), while speaking in favor of re-ratification, noted that the real problem as the award is currently constituted is that something can be nominated for Best Series at the same time the work in question is nominated for Best Novel. He added that we can fix that issue with amendments, and we should. Best Series was not meant only to recognize the best series, but also to take things off the Best Novel category that cannot win there but can compete in Best Series. We should keep it, and then fix it.

By a serpentine vote of 35 in favor and 30 opposed, the Best Series Hugo Award was re-ratified and will remain in the Constitution.

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## **E.2 Short Title: Lodestar Award**

**3.3.18: Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book.** The Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book is given for a book published for young adult readers in the field of science fiction or fantasy appearing for the first time during the previous calendar year, with such exceptions as are listed in Section 3.4.

Provided that unless this amendment is re-ratified by the 2021 Business Meeting, Section 3.3.18 shall be repealed and the modifications to 3.7.3 and 3.11.2 reversed; and

Provided further that the question of re-ratification shall automatically be placed on the agenda of the 2021 Business Meeting.

**Proposed by:** Members of the YA Award Committee

See the [2017 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on pages 47-52 and pages 57-63, and additional commentary in the [2018 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) at pages 11-12.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Eva Whitley spoke against re-ratifying the Lodestar Award. She felt the award has historically been a low-vote getter and felt there was no need for it and therefore should be eliminated.

Katie Rask (she/her) noted that in 2020 the Lodestar Award had 1,023 nominations. In comparison, the *Astounding* Award received 907 nominations, Graphic Story received 998 nominations, Editor Short Form received 877 nominations, Editor Long Form received 744 nominations, and Fanzine received only 653 nominations. These numbers show that the Lodestar Award received almost twice the number of Fanzine nominations. If these categories deserve to exist, then so does Lonestar. This is proof that people do want to vote for this award.

Lew Wolkoff, in favor of re-ratification and as a member of the YA Committee, noted that young adult fiction is the gateway by which we all discovered science fiction and fantasy, and it deserves to be recognized, even if it's not a Hugo Award.

Debra Baker (she/her) added that the Lodestar Award is a large and growing field and needs to be recognized.

Martin Pyne (he/him) looked up the 2019 nominating statistics and said the Lodestar category received about as many nominations as the Semiprozine category.

Being moved and seconded to call the question, debate was closed by a two-thirds vote in a show of hands.

Again, by a show of hands, the Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book was re-ratified and will remain in the Constitution.

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The following items were initially passed at Dublin 2019, an Irish Worldcon, and ordinarily would have been ratified by CoNZealand in 2020 in order to become part of the WSFS Constitution.

At CoNZealand, due to COVID-19, all items of business pending ratification were defeated without prejudice. The rules were then suspended and motions made to readopt the pending proposals, all of which now required ratification at DisCon III.

### **E.3 Short Title: Clarification of Worldcon Powers**

Moved, to amend Section 3.2.12 by ~~deleting~~ and adding words as follows:

**3.2.12:** The Worldcon Committee is responsible for all matters concerning ~~the~~ their Awards.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary on page 17.

**Discussion: Thursday:** The chair recommended a time limit of 4 minutes, but an objection was made and the time was defeated. Six minutes was then proposed and accepted without objection.

**Friday:** Without discussion or objection, and by unanimous consent, the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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#### **E.4 Short Title: Disposition of NASFiC Ballot**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by [adding](#) the following clause before Section 4.8.5 and renumbering subsequent clauses accordingly:

[4.8.5: In the case where the administering convention is a NASFiC, it shall hold a Business Meeting to receive the results of the site selection voting and to handle any other business pertaining directly, and only, to the selection of the future NASFiC convention. This meeting shall have no other powers or duties.](#)

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on pages 18-19.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 4 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Under the current rules, there are circumstances in which a NASFiC administers the selection of another NASFiC. There is currently no provision for a business meeting at a NASFiC, and this motion calls for a business meeting at a NASFiC solely for that purpose.

Without discussion or objection, and by unanimous consent, the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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#### **E.5 Short Title: A Problem of Numbers**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by revising Sections 4.4.1 and as follows:

**3.11.1:** Final Award voting shall be by balloting in advance of the Worldcon. Postal mail shall always be acceptable. Only WSFS members may vote. Final Award ballots shall include name, signature, address, and membership-number spaces to be filled in by the voter; [however, if the voter does not have their membership number, it may be supplied by the Hugo Administrator or their designated staff member.](#)

**4.4.1:** Site-selection ballots shall include designated spaces for name, signature, address, and membership-number ~~to~~. [The ballot should be filled in by the voter; however, if the voter does not have their membership number, it may be supplied by the Site Selection Administrator or their designated staff member.](#) Each site-selection ballot shall list the options "None of the Above" and "No Preference" and provide for

write-in votes, after the bidders and with equal prominence. The supporting membership rate shall be listed on all site-selection ballots.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on pages 20-21.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Without discussion or objection, and by unanimous consent, the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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### **E.6 Short Title: The Needs of the One**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by revising Section 3.8.7 as follows:

**3.8.7:** The Committee shall move a nomination [on an individual ballot](#) from another category to the work's default category only if the member has made fewer than five (5) nominations in the default category.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 21.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Judy Bemis noted that usually if something is moved to a different category it's usually because either the item is not the correct length for the proposed category, or because the administrator believes, for example, that someone is a fan artist, not a professional artist. Ms. Bemis wasn't sure if this clarification was needed.

As a multiple times former Hugo Award administrator, Dave McCarty said categorically that the language in the motion is what currently takes place, and that this just codifies it in the rules. For example, if 100 people put something in the wrong category, only the 50 that have space left on their nominations ballot in the proper category would have their nominations modified.

Being moved and seconded to call the question, debate was closed by a two-thirds vote by a show of hands.

Then, again by a show of hands, the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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### **E.7 Short Title: That Ticket Has Been Punched**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by revising Section 3.4.2 to add the following subsection:

**3.4.2:** Works originally published outside the United States of America and first published in the United States of America in the previous calendar year shall also be eligible for Hugo Awards.

**3.4.2.1:** For finalists in the Series category that<sup>7</sup> have previously appeared on the ballot for Best Series, any installments published in a year prior to that previous appearance, regardless of country of publication, shall be considered to be part of the Series' previous eligibility, and will not count toward the re-eligibility requirements for the current year.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on pages 23-25.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 8 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Joni Dashoff asked if this amendment was meant that no series that had won before was eligible or that only works published since the last suggestion for eligibility meant it had to be absolutely new in the current year.

Todd Dashoff clarified that currently if a work not in English was eligible to be nominated and was then translated into English, it would become eligible for nomination. This amendment would change it so that if a work was eligible in another language and then translated, that translation would not count as an additional work and therefore would not be eligible to be nominated.

Martin Pyne spoke in favor of the motion. This motion refers to works published outside the United States eligibility section and is relevant to how we interpret eligibility for works first published in another country and published in the U.S. in the following year. This came up with the *Rivers of London* series, which was published in England. This amendment would make it ineligible for re-nomination when published in the U.S.

Alan Tipper felt this amendment was not very clear and felt it should go back to a committee to be clarified.

Being moved and seconded to call the question, debate was closed by a serpentine vote with 39 in favor, and 14 opposed.

By a show of hands, the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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## **E.8 Short Title: [Keeping Five and Six](#)**

Moved, to amend Section 3.8.1 by ~~deleting~~ material as follows:

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<sup>7</sup> The Secretary made an editorial change from the original submission, from “which” to “that”.

**3.8.1:** Except as provided below, the final Award ballots shall list in each category the six eligible nominees receiving the most nominations as determined by the process described in Section 3.9.

~~*Provided that unless this amendment is re-ratified by the 2022 Business Meeting, the changes to Section 3.8.1 shall be repealed, and*~~

~~*Provided that the question of re-ratification shall be automatically be placed on the agenda of the 2022 Business Meeting with any constitutional amendments awaiting ratification; and*~~

~~*Provided further that any business meeting prior to 2022 may move to suspend the changes introduced by 5 and 6 for the following year's Hugo Award nominations (only).*~~

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 26-29.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed and rejected by a show of hands. Both 10 minute and 8 minute limits were then proposed, and by a serpentine vote, with 30 in favor and 18 opposed, a 10-minute limit was adopted.

**Friday:** Rafe Richards said this is re-ratification a year early because it was created to stop attempts to slate the Hugo Awards and has been successful. He noted that we should not build defenses, see them succeed, and then start dismantling them until we find the point at which they fail. Since WSFS does not make changes quickly, we cannot pivot on the spot. Mr. Richards noted that we have built something, it works, and we should keep it, and we should keep "Five and Six".

Joshua Kronengold disagreed and felt 5 and 6 has been generally irrelevant in preventing slating. Mr. Kronengold believed that the only question was whether we prefer 6 Hugo Award finalists, or 5. It won't affect slating at all, as long as we have EPH. Therefore he moved to call the question, which was seconded. With two-thirds in favor by a show of hands, debate was closed.

By a show of hands, the amendment was ratified and the sunset clause will be stricken from the Constitution.

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## **E.9 Short Title: Deadline for Nominations Eligibility**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by revising Section 3.7.1 as follows:

**3.7.1:** The Worldcon Committee shall conduct a poll to select the finalists for the Award voting. Each member of the administering Worldcon or the immediately preceding Worldcon ~~as of the end of the previous calendar year~~ [as of January 31 of the current calendar year](#) shall be allowed to make up to five (5) equally weighted nominations in every category.

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 29-33.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 10 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Terry Neill noted that if this amendment were to pass and we move the date to January 31, nominations cannot open in January.

Perianne Lurie felt that given the hectic nature of the end of the calendar year, it's easy for people to forget to send in their membership fees in time to become a member and be eligible to nominate. She believed nominations could open in January, and more people would become eligible in that month.

Elsbeth Kovar said her family had a rule: you can give a book as a gift, and you were not allowed to read it before giving it as a gift. So someone might not have time to read a work before the end of the calendar year to nominate it.

Linda Deneroff noted that the longer we allow people to buy memberships so that they can nominate, the shorter the period from the time nominations open until the deadline for Hugo Awards voting. We need to give people as much time to read and vote on the items that have been nominated. We need to be fair to both timelines.

Kevin Standlee spoke in favor and said that this deadline change has nothing to do with when one can nominate something. It only extends the time by which one has to be a member of the current Worldcon (or prior Worldcon) in order to be eligible to nominate when nominations begin. It does not affect when the work was published or when one can cast one's ballot.

With no one else wishing to speak, by a show of hands the amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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## **E.10 Short Title: Preserving Supporting Membership Sales for Site Selection**

Moved, to add the following clause to the WSFS Constitution:

**[1.5.10: No convention shall terminate the sale of supporting memberships prior to the close of site selection.](#)**

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 37-38.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 8 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Cliff Dunn, the maker of the motion, noted that this issue came up due to Dublin hitting their sellout point in the weeks leading up to the convention. They ceased selling attending memberships, which is not an issue from the point of view of site selection. However, there was some concern that they were also going to cut off supporting memberships, which would constrain

the ability of people to vote in site selection. This amendment would make sure, in the event of attending sales being terminated, that supporting sales would not be cut off until the close of voting.

Kevin Standlee also spoke in favor of ratification. He noted that we need to codify this because many Worldcon committees are unaware of how cutting off the sale of supporting memberships would affect site selection.

By unanimous consent this amendment was ratified and will be added to the Constitution.

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### **E.11 Short Title: Clear Up the Definition of Public in the Artist Categories Forever**

Moved, to amend the WSFS constitution by [adding](#) words as follows:

**3.3.17: Best Fan Artist.** An artist or cartoonist whose work has appeared through publication in semiprozines or fanzines or through other public, non-professional, display (including at a convention or conventions, [posting on the internet, in online or print-on-demand shops, or in another setting not requiring a fee to see the image in full-resolution](#)), during the previous calendar year.

See the [2019 WSFS Business Meeting Minutes](#) for the makers' commentary and discussion on page 38-40.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 8 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Friday:** Terri Ash (she/her), the maker of the motion, reiterated that the current wording of the Constitution is ambiguous and leaves the definition of "public" up to any site selection administrator. The purpose of the amendment is to limit ambiguity and provide a more expansive definition of "public." Ms. Ash added that not ratifying this motion would delay it and will create a problem for several more years.

Todd Dashoff, the timekeeper, made a parliamentary enquiry: If someone believed to be a fan artist were to donate work to a con committee or a bid committee, and that committee required membership to receive those publications, would that defeat the purpose of this amendment? The chair ruled that this amendment merely expands the conditions under which someone can be considered a fan artist.

Geri Sullivan spoke against re-ratification. She felt that "in online or print-on-demand shops" means art that is for sale. She felt that just because you can see it for free doesn't make it fan art. Saying that art that is for sale is eligible for the fan art Hugo Award went against the spirit of what fan art is.

Jon Lennox (he/him) noted that fan art has always appeared in convention art shows, where it has always been for sale. You could see it at a convention, but if you wanted to keep it you had to pay. He felt the same rule for art on the internet was fine and keeping with the spirit of fan art.

Dave McCarty argued that the traditional definition of fan art is art that is made available for fannish activities, such as fanzines and conventions. All art is professional. It's making it available for use for fannish activity that makes it fan art and, thus, a fan artist.

Terry Neill spoke in favor of the amendment. Fan art online, which is made by fans for fans to celebrate fannish things, needs to be celebrated with the Fan Artist Hugo Award.

Being moved and seconded to call the question, debate was closed and passed with a show of hands by a two-thirds vote.

Then, by another show of hands, the amendment was ratified, and the text will be added to the Constitution.

## F. NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Items under this heading have not yet received first passage and will become part of the Constitution only if passed at DisCon III and ratified in 2022. The Preliminary Business Meeting may amend items under this heading, set debate time limits, refer them to committee, and take other action as permitted under the Standing Rules.

### F.1 Short Title: One Episode Per Series

Moved, to replace Section 3.8.6 of the Constitution with the intention of reducing the amount of episodes of the same dramatic presentation series that can be finalists from two to one and to retain the existing restriction of not more than two works by the same author in each “story” category, as follows.

**3.8.6: Finalist Diversity.** (1) If there are more than two works in the same [story](#) category ([3.3.1-3.3.5 and 3.3.7<sup>8</sup>](#)) ~~that are episodes of the same dramatic presentation series or that are written works that have an author that have the same~~ author for single author works, or two or more [common](#) authors for co-authored works, ~~in common~~, only the two works in each category that have the most nominations shall appear on the final ballot.

[\(2\) If there are multiple works in the Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form category that are episodes of the same series, only the work that has the most nominations shall appear on the final ballot.](#)

[\(3\) The Worldcon Committee shall make reasonable efforts to notify those who would have been finalists in the absence of this section to provide them an opportunity to withdraw. For the purpose of this exclusion, works withdrawn shall be ignored.](#)

**Proposed by:** Nana Amuah, Olav Rokne, Cora Buhlert and Terry Neill

**Commentary:** This proposal does not alter the rule for stories, as we believe it is fine as it stands. Rather we are focusing on episodes of the same dramatic presentation series as they pertain to the Short Form category. Per the current Section 3.8.6, they are listed under a shared limit of two per category. This is acceptable, if we assume that episodes of television, fiction podcasts or web series function in the same way as written works or audiobooks. However, give or take a Fritz Leiber or a Martha Wells (who both had multiple stories of theirs make a ballot and who both opted for only one work from that year to be in contention), the frequency of stories by the same author/co-authors both appearing as finalists in a given year is lower compared to that of episodes from the same show.

A standard season of television releases multiple episodes in a calendar year, more so in the era of streaming, where all episodes can be released at once in a binge format. Historically—going back to

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<sup>8</sup> Since Item D.5 (The Story Block) passed, Constitution Sections 3.3.1-3.3.5 and 3.3.7 will be renumbered as Sections 3.3.1-3.3.6.

the Hugo ceremony of 1967 when one episode of *Star Trek* (TOS) won out of three total on the ballot, and the year after when every nominee was a Star Trek episode—the more episodes from a single show that are nominated, the higher the chance that show will receive a win is over shows with fewer episodes nominated. The current limit of two episodes was established to compensate for this, but in practice it has still limited the amount of shows represented on the final ballot. In 2019, both *Doctor Who* and *The Good Place* had two episodes nominated; four of the six nominations were occupied by only two TV shows. In 2020, *Watchmen* filled up two spots. Theoretically, there could one day be a ballot with only three shows on it. In a time of increased content, where not only quality genre TV is airing/streaming but also genre fiction podcasts, web series, short films and online video are available, a system like this that allows for a single show to fill two nomination slots feels both reductive and exclusionary in the larger landscape of current genre media. A greater diversity of dramatic presentations in the Short Form category can only serve to ensure that there is a greater diversity of people being honored as Hugo finalists.

Our proposal makes it so that a single episode will act as a representative of the series for that year. While fans will always disagree as to what episode of a series was better, one look at a given year's shortlist shows that one episode will always get more votes. Plus, there are more avenues now online where fans can discuss what episode of a given series they wish/plan to nominate, creating the opportunity of coalescing votes behind a single episode.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 12 minutes was proposed and, by a show of hands, was accepted.

**Saturday:** Olav Rokne said this motion was an attempt to diversify what we see on the ballot. There are some series that are perennially recognized with multiple nominations, and other worthy series fall by the wayside. He felt a wider range of nominees would also advantage marginalized populations and creators.

Perianne Lurie did not believe this was a problem. What gets nominated is what the nominators think is worthy. There are also anthology series, such as *Love, Death and Robots*, where one episode has nothing to do with another.

The question was called and seconded, though others wished to speak, and on a show of hands motion to close debate achieved the two-thirds necessary to approve it.

Mr. Rokne said that if there were multiple episodes of the same narrative, it might be more appropriate for the entire series to be nominated in the Long Form category and that an exception could be carved out for anthology series and that it might be appropriate to refer this amendment to the Hugo Award Study Committee (“HASC”) for further discussion.

The motion to refer this amendment to the HASC was seconded.

Speaking against the motion to refer, Kevin Standlee felt this was a pretty straightforward amendment, and that if there was a desire to carve out an exception for anthology series, it could be taken up by the HASC without referring this amendment to them.

By a show of hands, the motion to refer to the HASC failed.

Dave Wallace spoke against the main motion. He addressed notion that series with multiple episode nominations are more likely to win. He felt the reverse to be true: that multiple episode nominations for a show make it more challenging for all of them to get on the ballot, and those series that get such episodes on the ballot are more than marginal. He also provided prior years' results: in 2020, *Good Omens* was nominated in the Long Form category, but *The Watchman* had two nominations in Short Form (originally as numbers 2 and 4 that became numbers 1 and 3 after elimination; *The Good Place* had positions 3 and 8, which became 2 and 7). In 2019, *The Good Place* had positions 3 and 5 in total votes. *Doctor Who* had three episodes nominated in positions 2, 4, and 7, and two made the ballot. In 2018, *The Good Place* had the number 1 and number 3 positions, and number 3 was in fact the winner. *Doctor Who* had one episode on the final list, but three in the long list in positions 4, 9 and 12. *The Expanse* is the one case where it might have been on the ballot if this amendment were in effect. They were in positions 7 and 8 and eliminated each other under the elimination (EPH) rules.

The question was again called, was seconded, and debate was closed by a show of hands. By another show of hands, the amendment was defeated.

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## **F.2 Short Title: 30 Days Hath New Business**

Moved to amend the WSFS Constitution by [adding](#) text as follows:

**5.1.6. Deadline for Submission of New Business.** The deadline for submission of non-privileged new business and committee reports to the Business Meeting shall be thirty (30) days before the first Preliminary Meeting. Proposed agenda items may be withdrawn by the consent of all proposing members at any time up to two weeks before the published deadline for submitting new business. A list of such withdrawn business must be made available to the membership. The Presiding Officer may accept otherwise qualified motions and reports submitted after the deadline, but all such motions shall be placed at the end of the agenda.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

**Commentary:** This motion would codify what is already a Standing Rule related to non-privileged new business and explicitly extend the deadline for submission to committee reports, including those of committees created by the Business Meeting. This both aids the membership in having these items to review sooner and assists the Meeting staff in preparing the materials.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 8 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Saturday:** Jerry Lohr suggested, per the Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee's amendment earlier, that 2 weeks be changed to 14 days in the above amendment. There was no objection, so the amendment, if passed, will read:

**5.1.6. Deadline for Submission of New Business.** The deadline for submission of non-privileged new business and committee reports to the Business Meeting shall be thirty (30) days before the first Preliminary Meeting. Proposed agenda items may be withdrawn by the consent of all proposing members at any time up to fourteen (14) days before the published deadline for submitting new business. A list of such withdrawn business must be made available to the membership. The Presiding Officer may accept otherwise qualified motions and reports submitted after the deadline, but all such motions shall be placed at the end of the agenda.

Paul Layman said why, if this was covered by the Standing Rules, what was the impetus for making this change.

Linda Deneroff noted that there had a problem where a motion was made and withdrawn She believed the standing rule was created after that, but felt it needed to be codified because not everyone reads the Standing Rules.

The presiding officer noted that adding it to the Constitution makes it harder to change and more binding. Standing Rules can easily be suspended, but constitutional amendments require two years to change.

Martin Pyne added that this amendment also refers to committee reports. We do not want references to committees in the Standing Rules because some committees are created by the Constitution, and we want something there that has a similar level of precedence. Mr. Pyne then asked if it were the intention of the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee (“NP&FSC”) to bring a corresponding Standing Rules change at Chicon 8.

The presiding officer, who is also chair of the NP&FSC, noted that perhaps he should have recused himself, but added that he assumed the NP&FSC would recommend the removal of the parallel language in the Standing Rules after ratification. But the NP&FSC had not discussed this.

Cliff Dunn asked what happens if new business is added at the end of the agenda? Would including this amendment in the Constitution prevent the business meeting from bringing up such an agenda item earlier in the meeting since the Constitution cannot be suspended? It was the presiding officer’s opinion that it would not prevent it from being brought up earlier, but he could understand the possible confusion. He added that he believed there are provisions in *Robert’s Rules of Order* that says something in a constitution which is in the nature of a standing rule can be suspended in the same way a standing rule can, even if it is in the constitution. In other words, the nature of the rule should be taken into account.

Jim Leinweber made a motion to amend by placing the word “initially” between “shall” and “be placed at the end of the agenda.” By unanimous consent the change was accepted.

**5.1.6. Deadline for Submission of New Business.** The deadline for submission of non-privileged new business and committee reports to the Business Meeting shall be thirty (30) days before the first Preliminary Meeting. Proposed agenda items may be

withdrawn by the consent of all proposing members at any time up to fourteen (14) days before the published deadline for submitting new business. A list of such withdrawn business must be made available to the membership. The Presiding Officer may accept otherwise qualified motions and reports submitted after the deadline, but all such motions shall initially be placed at the end of the agenda.

Being moved and seconded to call the question, debate was closed and passed by a two-thirds vote in a show of hands.

By a serpentine vote with 34 in favor, and 15 opposed, the amendment was adopted and will be passed on to Chicon 8 for ratification.

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### **F.3 Short Title: The Statue of Liberty Play**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by adding and ~~deleting~~ text as follows:

**Section 2.7: Membership Pass-along.** Within ninety (90) days after a Worldcon, the administering Committee shall, except where prohibited by local law, forward to the Committee of the next Worldcon its best information as to the names and contact information ~~postal addresses~~ of all its Worldcon members who have given permission for that data transfer and only for the purposes for which permission to use that data was given. ~~to the Committee of the next Worldcon.~~

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

**Commentary:** A similar motion was first proposed to the Dublin 2019 Business Meeting as part of “The Forward Pass,” and, after debate, that motion was referred to the NP&FSC for review and editing. The committee believes the motion has been reworked to allow for a member to opt-in to having the administering Committee forward their name and contact information to the succeeding administering Committee for distinct purposes, such as providing information for and enabling Hugo nominations by said member. This opt-in procedure is necessary for WSFS and Worldcon committees to comply with General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) and any other local laws for members to give permission for their information to be passed on to the subsequent Worldcon. This disclosure should include the caveat that if the member does not opt in, they will not receive any communications from the subsequent Worldcon regarding their membership or Hugo Award nominating or voting. The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee suggests this change to make it clear that pass-along of member information must comply with all applicable data information laws.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 8 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Saturday:** Linda Deneroff spoke on behalf of the NP&FSC. Since there is an interpretation that each Worldcon committee is a distinct entity, the requirements of GDPR make it necessary for members of a current Worldcon to opt in to having their contact information passed along to the next Worldcon in order to receive information from the latter Worldcon. Why would anyone buy a

membership in order to vote in the Hugo Awards or site selection in the current convention and then forfeit the right to nominate for the Hugo Awards in the following year's convention?

Jerry Lohr proposed a motion to substitute the word "applicable" for "local" so the phrase will read "except where prohibited by applicable law". Mr. Lohr felt "local" was an inappropriately restrictive term. The motion was seconded. By a show of hands, the motion to replace "local" with "applicable." passed and now read:

**Section 2.7: Membership Pass-along.** Within ninety (90) days after a Worldcon, the administering Committee shall, except where prohibited by ~~local~~ applicable law, forward to the Committee of the next Worldcon its best information as to the names and contact information ~~postal addresses~~ of all its Worldcon members who have given permission for that data transfer and only for the purposes for which permission to use that data was given. ~~to the Committee of the next Worldcon.~~

Kent Bloom spoke against the constitutional amendment. He felt it was an attempt to lawyer a number of very complicated issues, including conflicts of laws, and he had no idea how "applicable law" could be determined or defined in multi-national or multi-state privacy issues. Thus, while he was generally opposed on the grounds that we should not be writing these things into the Constitution, he was specifically opposed to trying to anticipate what the law will be or what is appropriate for privacy purposes. He said GDPR does not require any of the things that a lot of people think it does because the existing Worldcon is acting as an agent/partner for the next Worldcon.

On the other hand, Lisa Hayes felt, applicable laws aside, this amendment empowers individuals to grant permission to pass along membership information.

The question was then called, and debate was closed by a show of hands. Also by a show of hands, the amendment passed and will be passed on to Chicon 8 for ratification.

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#### **F.4 Short Title: Shut Up and Take My Money**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by adding and ~~deleting~~ text as follows:

**4.1.3:** The current Worldcon Committee shall administer the voting, collect the advance membership fees, and turn over those funds and the names and contact information of all of the Site Selection voters who have given permission for that data transfer to the winning Committee before the end of the current Worldcon.

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

**Commentary:** The committee has decided to divide this motion from "The Statue of Liberty Play" as it became apparent during debate at Dublin 2019 that members wished to debate data transfers for Hugo nominations and Site Selection separately.

While the committee recognizes that there is an inherent tie between purchasing an Advanced Supporting Membership (Voting Fee) and becoming a member of the convention selected as part of Site Selection, there is also the possibility that a member chooses to vote in an attempt to keep a given bid from winning the right to hold the convention without wanting to become a member of, or have their data provided to, the convention that is selected. Therefore, and to comply with GDPR and local laws, all Worldcons should now be including, an opt-in procedure to allow for the transfer of name and contact information to the winning convention as part of the process of voting in Site Selection. The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee suggests this change to make it clear that pass-along of member information must comply with all applicable data information laws.

The Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee, as directed, prepared the above proposed change to the Constitution. The committee understands the concern about conforming to laws such as the GDPR. However, after discussion, the committee has concluded that it is firmly opposed to site selection voters concealing their identity. To resolve this, the committee proposed the alternative below as an amendment by substitution for the above.

**F.4.1** Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by [adding](#) the following text to the end of Section 4.4.1:

**4.1.3:** The current Worldcon Committee shall administer the voting, collect the advance membership fees, and turn over those funds to the winning Committee before the end of the current Worldcon.

[Every site-selection ballot shall include the following statement: “By casting a site-selection ballot I agree to the communication of my name and address provided hereon as directed by the WSFS Constitution.”](#)

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 12 minutes was proposed for F.4, and 6 minutes for F.4.1, the amendment by substitution. (The six minutes comes out of the 12 minutes.) Ben Yalow asked if it were in the purview of the business meeting to choose between F4 and F4.1.

Because he was to speak for the NP&FSC, Donald E. Eastlake III recused himself from the business meeting, and Kent Bloom presided.

Mr. Eastlake noted that F.4 was referred to the NP&FSC, but that committee felt that anonymous site selection votes are a bad thing. The winning committee needs the name and address information because the voters are members of the selected Worldcon. The substituted amendment, F.4.1, says that by voting one is agreeing that their contact information will be transferred to the winning convention.

Joni Dashoff spoke against the amendment by substitution. As a former site selection administrator, she felt there is a clear difference between collecting site selection voter information to confirm someone is eligible to vote and what information can be passed to the winning bid in fulfillment of the European privacy laws. Therefore, she was in favor of the original motion.

Mr. Eastlake understood the difference, but the amendment by substitution applies only to the name and address provided on the site selection ballot. No other records are required to be transferred. Essentially you pay to join the winning committee, and you write down your name and address on the ballot for the winning committee.

Ms. Dashoff rebutted that currently, without the permission added to the site selection ballot, one is normally assuming that this is information for the administering committee. The proposed original amendment restricts what is passed on to the new Worldcon committee, and it is up to the individual to pass along the rest of the information.

Ben Yalow felt there was a fundamental misunderstanding of what one is purchasing when one votes in site selection. One is not buying anything from the current convention. One is buying a supporting membership in the winning Worldcon, and the administering convention is acting only as an agent. They have no control over anyone's data. Mr. Yalow thought it was unconscionable to say "you are buying something, but we're not going to tell you who bought it from you."

Cliff Dunn noted that under the European laws, he wondered what would happen if someone crossed out the GDPR information. While he understood Mr. Yalow's concern, if someone wants to throw away their \$50, let them.

Dave Wallace raised two points. In terms of argument that the voter is a qualified member, all the administering committee needs is the name and the member number. The address is useful only to the winning convention. If we pass this and have to have an opt-in for membership, there will be dozens of people every year who will buy their supporting memberships and not get them. Therefore he was in favor of the amendment by substitution.

Elsbeth Kovar was against the amendment by substitution because the original amendment has an opt-in clause.

Joshua Kronengold (he/him) agreed with Mr. Yalow that this is not a transfer at all. The GDPR specifically allows a group to hold, process, and transfer information expressly for the purpose of providing a service that someone has purchased. That is not required to be opt-in. It is implicit to buying a service; it's permission to process your information for the purpose of dealing with the service. Therefore we don't need a GDPR in order to deal with this data.

William Lawler asked for clarification: He noted that in the original amendment, there is no restriction on how one gives permission. The presiding officer responded that they can go beyond what is required of them.

Ms. Lurie made a motion to extend debate by 4 minutes, but in a show of hands failed to reach the required two-thirds in favor.

Then by a serpentine vote, with 33 in favor and 20 opposed, the amendment by substitution passed and would be discussed at the main meeting. At the conclusion of the vote, Mr. Eastlake resumed his role as presiding officer.

**Saturday:** At the preliminary meeting, item F.4.1 was adopted as an amendment by substitution, and that was the constitutional amendment discussed on Saturday. The presiding officer noted that while similar to item F.3, this amendment is about information that is specifically written on a site selection ballot.

Perianne Lurie noted that the amended motion says “as directed by the WSFS Constitution,” but no instructions are given in the Constitution.

Jared Dashoff (he/him), the maker of the original motion, said there were two issues at point. The first was that the Constitution currently does not direct the administering committee to transfer voter information or addresses to the winning bid. That is the norm, and we do it, but it is not in the Constitution. That was why the phrase “and the names and contact information of all of the Site Selection voters who have given permission for that data transfer” was added in the original motion. As currently constituted, both sections would have to change.

A motion was then made and seconded to add back the phrase “and the names and contact information of all of the Site Selection voters who have given permission for that data transfer” along with the additional new paragraph. With that change, the constitutional amendment, as read by the presiding officer, was:

**4.1.3:** The current Worldcon Committee shall administer the voting, collect the advance membership fees, and turn over those funds [and the names and contact information of all of the Site Selection voters](#) to the winning Committee before the end of the current Worldcon.

[Every site-selection ballot shall include the following statement: “By casting a site-selection ballot I agree to the communication of my name and address provided hereon as directed by the WSFS Constitution.”](#)

Ben Yalow raised a point of order: that having amended the text in the first paragraph out of the proposal, it could be brought back only by a motion to reconsider. The presiding officer explained that the Standing Rules provide that second order amendments are not allowed, except when there is a motion to amend by replacement, which was done in this case. Therefore, the presiding officer ruled that the second order amendment was permissible in this instance.

Mr. Dashoff moved to refer this entire amendment back to the Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee (“NP&FSC”) to report back at the Chicon 8 business meeting, and the motion was seconded.

Rafe Richards spoke against referral to committee because, having passed the previous amendment, passing this amendment to committee would create a disconnect in how the two sets of information are handled, and he felt this needed to be resolved now.

Mr. Yalow, however, noted we were in a tangled parliamentary situation, and even he was a bit confused. He felt sending this off to committee and letting them clean it up was the best way to get out of this mess.

Perianne Lurie was not opposed to referring the amendment to committee, but she didn't think the NP&FSC was the correct committee to which to refer it. She felt there were substantive issues beyond the scope of the NP&FSC. Thus, she made a motion to amend the motion to refer to send the amendment to a new committee, and her motion was seconded. By serpentine vote, with 26 in favor and 21 against, the motion passed to make the referral be to a new committee.

Then, without discussion and with unanimous consent, the motion to refer, as amended to make the referral be to a new committee, was passed.<sup>9</sup>

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## F.5 Short Title: A Matter of Days

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution to ~~strike-out~~ and insert text to replace references to months with the approximate equivalent number of days in certain specified deadlines, as follows:

**Section 2.4: Distribution of Rules.** The current Worldcon Committee shall publish the WSFS Constitution and Standing Rules, together with an explanation of proposed changes approved but not yet ratified. The Committee shall distribute these documents to all WSFS members at a point between ~~nine and three months~~ two hundred seventy (270) and ninety (90) days prior to the Worldcon, and shall also distribute them on paper to all WSFS members in attendance at the Worldcon upon registration.

**Section 5.3: Constitutional Pass-along.** Within ~~two (2) months~~ sixty (60) days after the end of each Worldcon, the Business Meeting staff shall send a copy of all changes to the Constitution and Standing Rules, and all items awaiting ratification, to the next Worldcon Committee

**Proposed by:** The Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee

**Commentary:** The Constitution and the Standing Rules have several places where there are time deadlines in reference to the dates of the Worldcon. Most are in terms of days (90, 30, 7, etc.) but two refer to months. It would reduce ambiguity and make it easier for future Worldcon committees to find all deadline references if all necessary deadlines were stated in the same units.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 6 minutes was proposed without objection.

**Saturday:** Without discussion and by unanimous consent, the motion passed and will be sent to Chicon 8 for ratification.

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<sup>9</sup> At the conclusion of the meeting, the presiding chair appointed Jared Dashoff (chair), Perianne Lurie, Elspeth Kovar, Todd Dashoff, Warren Buff, Ben Yalow, Patrick Molloy, Saul Jaffe, Joni Brill Dashoff, Gary Feldbaum, Lew Wolkoff, and Kat Jones to the committee, to be called the Site Selection Pass-Along Committee. Steve Cooper volunteered later, and Jared added him to the committee.

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## F.6 Short Title: Non-transferability of Voting Rights

Moved, to amend Article 1 by ~~striking out~~ and inserting text as follows:

**1.5.1:** Each Worldcon shall offer ~~supporting~~ WSFS memberships and attending ~~memberships~~ supplements.

**1.5.2:** The rights of ~~supporting~~ WSFS members of a Worldcon include the right to receive all of its generally distributed publications. WSFS memberships held by natural persons may not be transferred, except that, in case of death of a natural person holding a WSFS membership, it may be transferred to the estate of the decedent.

**1.5.3:** The rights of ~~attending members~~ WSFS members who have an attending supplement of a Worldcon include the rights of ~~supporting~~ WSFS members plus the right of general attendance at said Worldcon and at the WSFS Business Meeting held thereat.

**1.5.5:** Voters have the right to ~~convert to attending membership~~ purchase an attending supplement in the selected Worldcon within ninety (90) days of its selection, for an additional fee set by its committee. This fee must not exceed four (4) times the site-selection fee and must not exceed the ~~difference between the site-selection fee and the fee~~ price of an attending supplement for new attending members.

**Proposed by:** The Nontransferability Committee

**Commentary:** In the past, we've had both supporting and attending memberships, each with a full set of WSFS rights. And, while it's been very rare to transfer supporting memberships, attending memberships are frequently transferred, with an administrative nightmare of ensuring that each membership, and each person, can vote only once.

This motion divides the membership in the Society (and the right to vote on the Hugo Awards/site selection) from the right to attend the annual meeting of the Society. And it says that a person joins the Society irrevocably—once a (supporting) membership is associated with a natural person, then it stays with that person throughout, and cannot be transferred, which also means that the voting rights stay with that person permanently. You join the Society to participate in its affairs, and support its goals, and that support isn't something you can freely resell.

However, the right to attend the annual meeting of the Society is something that can be freely transferred. If a person buys an attending supplement, that supplement can be transferred to anyone who is already a member of the Society (which means someone who has a supporting membership already). So the large investment in attending the meeting is one that a person can make, but it's not irrevocable—that supplement can be sold to anyone who wants it.

This also doesn't prevent the Worldcon from selling "admissions", which allow people to attend the meeting, without being members of the Society. And those admissions therefore don't require a supporting membership, and don't carry any voting rights for the Hugo Awards or site selection (since those are associated with membership in the Society, not with the admission to the meeting). This also follows the practices of other professional societies, many of which allow non-members to attend their annual meetings, although often at a higher price.

We also change the terminology to rename the old "supporting" membership to a "WSFS" membership, just to make it clearer that you're buying a membership in the Society.

We do continue the practice of allowing things like clubs to buy a supporting membership, just for purposes of supporting the Society. However, the Constitution already restricts the voting rights of entities other than natural persons (see Sections 4.3 and 6.2 of the Constitution). And, in the case of death of a member of the Society, which would automatically transfer the membership via the estate, we do permit that transfer.

Administratively, it also makes life much easier for Hugo Award and site selection administrators. They will no longer need to keep track, through a chain of transfers, which voting rights have been exercised (and different committees have had different rules for how those cases are to be handled, since the Constitution doesn't explicitly cover those cases, except with the general rule that you only get to vote once). The proposers of this motion have been administrators for both of those votes, in the past, and find that making administrators lives easier, without impairing the rights of the members to vote, is very much a feature.

It also provides uniformity by eliminating transfers of WSFS rights.

Some registration systems keep a unique membership number—others don't.

Furthermore, with the existing systems, you get different results for Hugo Award voting and site selection voting. For site selection, usually, the first vote encountered is the one that counts. For Hugo Award voting, the last vote counts. So if a person votes in the Hugo Awards, and Site Selection, and then transfers the membership, the new person can replace the original person's votes for the Hugo Awards, but not for site selection. Which always causes confusion.

Which is the administrative reason to fix things.

But, while administrative ease is really a nice benefit, the philosophical underlying basis is the primary reason for this motion—it makes it clear that joining the Society is a decision that each person makes, and they continue to hold that position, and its accompanying rights, until they terminate due to the end of the convention. People can decide to attend the meeting, or not—and that can be transferred—but joining the Society is a philosophical decision that a person makes once for each Worldcon, and is held on to.

If you're joining a Society, and not just buying a vote, then you're doing so because you are interested in the society, and that doesn't go away. If you're just buying a vote then transferring is

philosophically reasonable—but we don't believe people should be in the business of vote buying, and the rules shouldn't be set up to make vote buying easier.

And note that attending the annual meeting of the society (which the Worldcon is), for many societies/professional organizations, is usually accompanied by an additional fee, which is what this does.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A time limit of 14 minutes was proposed, but an objection was made. By a show of hands, however, the time limit was accepted.

**Saturday:** Ben Yalow explained that this was basically technical language changing “Supporting membership” to “WSFS membership” in order to clarify what one is purchasing. One joins the society and gets various voting rights that would not be transferrable. As with other professional societies, one would also get to attend the business meeting by paying an additional fee (“attending supplement”). The choice to join the society is irrevocable.

However, a decision to attend the business meeting/convention may be affected by outside forces. Therefore, the attending supplement is resalable, though the voting rights remain with the original purchaser no matter what. Mr. Yalow explained that administratively this makes things simple: One keeps the voting rights, but attendance may be given away (or resold) at any time. Many administrators have said keeping track of the chain of custody of voting rights is a nightmare. Currently, for example, the first site selection ballot one casts is the one that counts; however, the last Hugo Award vote one casts is the one that counts. So it's possible that the site selection vote of the original member counts, while the Hugo Award ballot of the resold membership overrides any vote of the original member.

John Lorentz argued against the motion. For years we have been trying to make things more open and easier to understand for new members. While this motion might make things simpler for administrators, as someone who has done pre-registration he felt it would be confusing to attendees. They believe themselves to be members of Worldcon, not WSFS, and won't understand what this means.

Kevin Standlee spoke in favor of the motion. While he understood Mr. Lorentz's position, he felt that attendees should be more interested in WSFS. Mr. Standlee said he resents the ongoing attempt to commoditize membership in our society in the form of a ticket and emphasized that we should not be selling tickets. If that's what we want, then we should create a board of directors to run WSFS Inc. that can run a convention to have to have a big show and sell tickets to it, but he did not think this was a good idea. Instead, he said, we should emphasize to everyone that they are joining a club as well as a convention, and therefore he supported the motion.

Rafe Richards made a motion to remove the word “attending” (the penultimate word of Section 1.5.5) because this amendment removes the concept of an attending membership. The motion was seconded. There was an objection, but no discussion. The motion to remove the word “attending” passed in a show of hands, and that section then read:

**1.5.5:** Voters have the right to ~~convert to attending membership~~ purchase an attending supplement in the selected Worldcon within ninety (90) days of its selection, for an additional fee set by its committee. This fee must not exceed four (4) times the site-selection fee and must not exceed the ~~difference between the site-selection fee and the fee~~ price of an attending supplement for new ~~attending~~ members.

Perianne Lurie was recognized to speak against the motion, but an unidentified member objected on the grounds that a motion to amend is a speech against and therefore a speech in favor was in order. The presiding officer ruled that a motion to amend was not a speech against, and Mr. Bloom appealed the ruling, and the appeal was seconded.

The presiding officer then spoke in favor of his ruling: amendments come in a wide variety, and we have not traditionally treated them as speeches against. They can range from changing a grammatical error with no real effect or inserting the word “not” to make a motion have the opposite effect. The presentation of an amendment is generally considered to be neutral, with pro and con debate divided equally on both sides, which is what the business meeting has traditionally done. There can be amendments by people who are very much in favor of a main motion and believe their amendment will further the accomplishments of that motion. So to claim that amendments must be opposed to the main motion is fallacious.

Lisa Padol (she/her) disagreed. Over the course of many business meetings, she said, we have been told that intent does not matter and that by definition amendment is hostile to the original motion.

It was then moved and seconded to call the question, and by a show of hands debate was closed. By a second show of hands, the ruling of the chair was sustained as the judgement by the assembly.

Debate on the constitutional amendment then resumed: Perianne Lurie spoke against it because she felt it decreased the value of a re-sold membership. If someone died, their heirs would not know what to do with the membership. In addition, the amendment does not speak to what would happen if someone were permanently incapacitated. Finally, she has never been in a club where she was not allowed to quit. If someone is so fed up with WSFS that they want to quit and sell their membership to someone else, they should be allowed to do it.

Helen Montgomery noted that our current structure is confusing. Bids sell pre-supports, and potential members don't understand that a support is not really a supporting membership. Presupports support the bid but do not support the convention. She believed that this amendment would make things very much simpler for people selling memberships. Additionally, Ms. Montgomery said that she has belonged to numerous professional associations and doesn't know of any that would give a refund or permit her to transfer her membership if she quit.

Dave Wallace made a parliamentary enquiry, asking if the proposed amendment prohibits purchasing an attending supplement after 90 days. The presiding officer noted that his amendment does not change the time frame for purchasing either an attending supplement or attending membership. If there is a flaw, it is in the Constitution.

Kendall Bullen found this amendment confusing and unlike any other convention. He was also confused by the effect of the amendment: If someone buys an attending supplement from a former member and voting rights stay with the latter, does that mean the new purchaser cannot attend the business meeting and vote?

Jared Dashoff: noted if someone buys an attending supplement from a member, they will give this information to the convention committee. The committee will then inform the person that they don't have a WSFS membership, and they must purchase one. He felt this was easy on the back end and makes things cleaner for people handling site selection, Hugo Awards, and everything else.

Elsbeth Kovar spoke against the amendment. Voters have the right to purchase an attending membership within 90 days. This appears to say that one cannot purchase an attending membership [sic] after that time. The presiding officer noted that this amendment does not require that the selected convention sell attending supplements after 90 days, just as selected conventions right now are not required to sell attending memberships after 90 days. That hasn't changed. This is merely a minimum amount of time in which to sell memberships, and they may continue to be sold after that.

Kevin Standlee moved to call the question, which was seconded. By a show of hands, with more than two-thirds in favor, debate was closed.

By a serpentine vote with 35 in favor, and 22 opposed, the amendment was adopted and will be passed on to Chicon 8 for ratification.

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## **F.7 Short Title: Best Audiobook**

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution for the purpose of creating a new Hugo Award category for Best Audiobook, by inserting a new subsection after existing Section 3.3.7 (and renumbering subsequent subsections as required):

**3.3.8: Best Audiobook. A science fiction or fantasy story in audiobook format that was published for the first time within the previous calendar year.**

**Proposed by:** Michele Cobb (Attending Member), Nicole Morano (Supporting Member)

**Commentary:** Audiobooks are their own art form. Year over year, the double-digit growth of the audiobook industry and increase in listenership is evidence of an exciting audio renaissance. More and more literary enthusiasts are turning to audiobooks to listen to Science Fiction and Fantasy; in fact, 53% of audiobook listeners surveyed by the Audio Publishers Association in 2021 said they like to listen to audiobooks in this genre.

It is not unusual for Science Fiction and Fantasy audiobooks to run to lengths of 30 or 40 hours or more, taking hundreds of hours to produce. Many feature multi-cast narration with exceptional voice talent, and some have added sound effects to create an immersive experience. The world-building, rich history, and intricate plots of the Science Fiction and Fantasy stories that we love best

are brought to life most wonderfully in the audiobook format. After all, the oral tradition of storytelling is how tales of bravery, magic and adventure were first passed down; they still resonate with us most profoundly in spoken word.

And the audience has followed: The Science Fiction and Fantasy genre grosses the most revenue for audiobook publishers aside from general fiction, with just shy of 14% of the market share in 2020. That global market was valued at \$2.67 billion in 2019 and is expected to reach \$13.45 billion by 2027, growing at a CAGR of 22.4% (according to The “Audiobooks – Global Market Outlook (2019-2027)” report). In short: the power of audiobooks and readers’ love for them should not be ignored.

Although several Hugo Award categories allow audiobook entries by being agnostic of the publication medium per section **3.2.6**, audiobooks cannot simply be viewed as interchangeable with the print and ebook experience and are deserving of their own award category. Since we honor **Best Graphic Story or Comic** and **Best Dramatic Presentation, Long and Short Form** because the experience of the story is distinctive in that medium, it only follows that we acknowledge audiobooks as a category all their own.

**Discussion: Thursday:** A motion was made to postpone indefinitely and was seconded. Under WSFS rules, this triggered 4 minutes of debate.

Michele Cobb, the maker of the proposal and representing audio books, said audio books bring together the written word and spoken word performance. Audio books have been growing, with over 71,000 titles in 2020 and nine years of double-digit growth in the U.S. market. Audio books allow for people with learning differences and visual disabilities to experience beautiful written work.

Kevin Hewitt had serious concerns about the proposal. A lot of times audio books come out in the same calendar year as written work. He objected to the possibility that the same book could possibly win two separate Hugo Awards in the same year.

Cliff Dunn opposed the motion because he felt it should come before the Hugo Award Study Committee (“HASC”) to rework it, rather than reject it out of hand. And he explicitly invited the movers of the amendment to join the HASC.

Terry Neill (she/her) argued in favor of postponing indefinitely because the business meeting had already had this debate in 2014 regarding giving two Hugo Awards to the same work in a given year. Postponing indefinitely does not preclude sending the item to the HUSC.

Anji Cornett, representing an audio book company, said her company does both thousands of straight narrations and dramatic presentations. It’s an art form, different from the written word. It’s performed, like a movie, and she asked for consideration.

Perianne Lurie argued that however wonderful audio books are, there are already categories in which they are eligible. If it's a performance, it's eligible under Best Dramatic Presentation; if it's a straight reading, it's eligible as a book. She did not believe the HASC can fix that.

Martin Pyne (he/him) thought audio books should be combined with the Best Dramatic Presentation Hugo Awards in a consistent way.

Terri Ash (she/her) felt we were having the debate we should be having on Saturday, and we should either have the debate now or proceed to a vote.

The chair said it would require a two-thirds vote to postpone the motion indefinitely. By a show of hands, the motion to postpone indefinitely failed.

The chair then proposed a time limit of 12 minutes. By a show of hands, the proposed time limit failed. Both 20 minute and 16 minute limits were then proposed, and by a serpentine vote, with 28 in favor and 30 opposed, the 20-minute limit failed. By a show of hands, the time limit of 16 minutes was adopted.

**Saturday:** Michele Cobb spoke in favor. The audio book follows in the footsteps of the storytelling tradition. It is the "performative voice-telling of stories". There are performers every day who are reading words and creating performances to give people a chance to hear them, whether it's from a printed text, an original work that is not in print, or a dramatization of an existing text. While these audiobooks might fit into other categories, they don't make the ballot because they may not have the budget of a movie or TV show. She argued that audiobooks are a separate format, performed by voices such as Scott Brick, Ray Porter or Wil Wheaton, and they have the right to be recognized for their performances. She asked that they be considered, much as the graphic novel has been recognized.

Cliff Dunn reiterated his motion to refer this amendment to the HASC. He felt steps are needed to ensure that an audiobook is not nominated in two categories in the same year. And by referring this amendment to the HASC, it would not have to be reported at another session of the business meeting this year.

Ms. Cobb counter-argued that the assembly should pass this amendment to show that it recognizes the audiobooks as a category. Referring the amendment to the HASC pushes this off for another year.

Kevin Hewitt spoke in favor of referring to committee because we need to have a way to prevent every single sliver of fandom from having its own Hugo Award. Audiobooks are eligible under the Best Dramatic Presentation categories. He felt it was a worthwhile endeavor to send the proposal to committee. He was also concerned that having too many Hugo Awards would lead to having a ceremony only for the top categories and just an announcement for the others. He held no malice toward audiobooks, but felt that not everything deserves its own specific category.

The question of referring the audiobook amendment to committee was then called and seconded. By a show of hands and with more than two-thirds in favor, debate was closed. Then, by another show of hands and with a majority in favor, the motion to refer the amendment to the HASC passed.

## G. ELECTION RESULTS

### G.1 Worldcon 2023

The results of the voting for the 2023 Worldcon were provided by Site Selection Administrator, Tim Szczesuil, as follows:

Site	Mail In	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total <sup>10</sup>	
<b>Chengdu in 2023</b>	1,950	7	19	30	<b>2006</b>	<b>WINNER</b>
Winnipeg in 2023	332	97	197	181	807	
Memphis in 2023 (withdrawn)	2	1	3	1	7	
None of the Above	2	3	1	0	6	
Free Hong Kong	0	0	3	0	3	
Taipei	0	0	2	0	2	
Anywhere	1	0	0	0	1	
Berlin	1	0	0	0	1	
Boston in 2020	1	0	0	0	1	
Fandom	0	0	0	1	1	
Free Tibet	0	0	0	1	1	
House of the Rising Sun	0	0	1	0	1	
Peggy Rae's House	1	0	0	0	1	
Schkeuditz	1	0	0	0	1	
Slapout, Oklahoma	1	0	0	0	1	
Your Mom's House	0	0	0	1	1	
<b>Total With Preference</b>	2292	108	226	215	<b>2841</b>	
<b>Needed to Elect (Majority)</b>					<b>1421</b>	
<b>No Preference</b>	60	2	4	9	<b>75</b>	
<b>Total Valid Votes</b>	2352	110	230	224	<b>2916</b>	
<b>Invalid Ballots</b>	2	0	0	5	<b>7</b>	

Chengdu won on the first ballot with a total of 2916 valid votes cast, of which 2841 expressed a preference. A further 917 tokens were sold for which no matching ballots were received. Included in the Pre-Con totals were 1591 ballots from China missing a street address, but otherwise valid. These ballots consisted of 1586 for Chengdu and 5 with no preference. Thanks to the counters: Robbie Bourget, Ann Broomhead, Warren Buff, Dave Cantor, Raistlin Chen, Linda Deneroff, Gay Ellen Dennett, Carl Fink, Terry Fong, Steve Francis, Eric He, Saul Jaffe, Robert MacIntosh, Pat

<sup>10</sup> These are corrected figures. The final column was incorrect as recited at the meeting and listed the following: total with preferences, 2838; needed to elect, 1420; and total valid votes, 2915. The correct figures are in the chart above.

Molloy, Linda Ross-Mansfield, Ann Marie Rudolph, Sharon Sbarsky, Jannie Shea, Jason Song, Jennifer Steinhurst, Scott Zrubek. Many thanks for your 6-hour counting

Kevin Standlee asked unanimous consent to thank the site selection administrators for their work and to instruct them to destroy the ballots. Without objection, such consent was granted<sup>11</sup>.

A Mark Protection Committee member had not yet been appointed by Chengdu.

Robbie Bourget (she/her) from the Winnipeg bid spoke first. She said there were a lot of complications with this vote, and everyone suffered through it. But Chengdu did a wonderful job getting out the votes, and she wanted everyone to realize that at no point did the Winnipeg bid say that Chengdu was cheating. On the other hand, they would like future Worldcons to look at how site selection is managed to avoid this kind of confusion and learn positive things from the experience that will move Worldcon forward in a good way.

Raistlin Chen Shi from the Chengdu bid gave a short acceptance speech. It had been four years since Chengdu started its bid for the Worldcon, and this journey has carried the enthusiasm and hope of countless Chinese fans and for them this is a once-in-a-decade opportunity, and he welcomed everyone to China. He said theirs will be a different kind of Worldcon, but it will still be recognizable as part of the tradition that started in 1939, when the world was a very different place.

He saluted the efforts of the teams supporting Winnipeg and Memphis. Through them Chengdu learned how to run a good fan table, how to attract membership, how to make a good presentation, and so on.

While they would prefer everyone come in person, for those who can't a full stream of virtual programming will be part of the convention. A virtual convention can expand our idea of what a Worldcon can be and give us even greater chances to build a global community of science fiction fans.

Next year, Chengdu will send a team to Chicon 8 to learn more about how to run a Worldcon and its traditions.

Chengdu's guests of honor will be Robert Sawyer, the author of *Flash Forward*; Sergey Lukianenko, the author of the *Night Watch* series; Liu Cain, the author of *The Three Body Problem*, and they will continue to update the list of guests of honor.

For supporting voters, the supporting rate will be \$0, the virtual rate will be \$25, and the conversion to attending rate will be \$50. For non-voters, the supporting rate will be \$50, the virtual rate will be \$70, and the rate of attending will be \$100.

Chengdu is also looking at a range of discounts, including household discounts, young adult discounts, long-journey discounts, etc. More information should be on their website in the spring.

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<sup>11</sup> The instruction to "destroy the ballots" only refers to the portion of the ballot with the voters' preferences.

In the meantime, they are setting up an executive team with experienced foreign staff and domestic staff, including co-chair, vice-chair, senior advisor, Hugo Award administrator, media manager, site selection administrator, sponsor and so on. There are many job vacancies, and we will gradually post them online.

Chengdu plans to hold the Worldcon August 23-29, 2023 with the joint efforts of the above-mentioned teams. The scale of the convention will be 10,000 members offline and 90,000 members online.

Mr. Chen said Chengdu is a welcoming city. Among other things, it is rated as the most LGBT-friendly city in China, and he hoped that everyone will come with open minds and bring the whole world to Worldcon next year.

## **H. REPORTS FROM WORLDCONS AND BIDS**

### **H.1 Seated Worldcon: Chicon 8 (2022)**

Helen Montgomery, the chair of Chicon 8, answered questions.

Kevin Standlee asked if Chicon 8 will return to the tradition of breaking down membership numbers by country, and Ms. Montgomery noted that that information is already on their website. They have been doing that since they won the bid.

Joni Dashoff noted that while the volunteer form is on the website, the positions already filled are not listed, so new people wouldn't know what to volunteer for. Ms. Montgomery responded Alice Lawson, the Volunteers Head, is meeting with potential volunteers to coach and encourage them if they're uncertain about what to volunteer for. The volunteer page lists open positions, and they are working to list more. In addition, the About tab on the website lists the committee and shows who is currently on it. Open positions are not listed there. Chicon believes a volunteer should say what they are interested in, and Chicon will try to match them with an open position. This is a hobby, and people should be having fun, so they should take on something they're excited about and interested in doing. There will, of course, eventually be speed bumps, but being excited about something makes it easier to get over those bumps.

Linda Deneroff asked what plans Chicon 8 is making if Covid still exists? Chicon 8 will definitely have a virtual component, but they want feedback from DisCon III. Virtual Chicon 8 is also looking for volunteers. Chicon is also waiting to see what happens with Covid and will look more closely at trends in the spring because science and circumstances can change quickly. Illinois and Chicago have been very good about following CDC guidelines.

Bill Lawhorn asked if the rumor that George R. R. Martin would not be welcome on programming was true. At this time, no one has been chosen to be on the program. The program application and survey have not yet gone out. The goal for programming is to make sure that those who have been marginalized have a voice at Chicon 8, but not at the expense of other people who have been active in fandom for a long time. The goal is to find a balance.

Cliff Dunn asked when hotel reservations will open. They will open in mid-January 2022, and anyone who needs an ADA room should email [access@chicon8.org](mailto:access@chicon8.org) to get on the list. Reservations for everyone else will open in mid-February.

### **H.2 2024 Bid: Glasgow**

Marguerite Smith (she/her), vice chair of the Glasgow 2024 bid, noted that the proposed date of the convention is 8-12 August 2024. Their website is [Glasgow2024.org](http://Glasgow2024.org) and contains all the bid information.

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## I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thursday's Announcements:** 1) Terry Neill asked if anyone had found her eyeglasses; 2) Bill Lawhorn thanked the business meeting staff for all their hard work and taking on this duty in face of all the trials and tribulations; 3) Lew Wolkoff formally asked that the doors be closed at the back of the room be closed at the start of the meeting to cut down on the noise in the corridor.

**Friday's Announcements:** Today would have been Jack Chalker's 75th birthday. He was the inventor of the word "SMOF" [secret master of fandom]. Today is also Ruth Sachter's birthday.

**Saturday's Announcements:** 1) Kevin Standlee announced that the Mark Protection Committee would be held immediately after the all-Worldcon-chairs photo session, which was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. He also thanked the CART operator (Claire). 2) Martin Pyne reminded newer members that if they wish to join the Hugo Award Study Committee, they should speak to Cliff Dunn. 3) Jared Dashoff thanked the members of the head table for their service and noted that some of them stepped in at the last minute. 4) Joshua Kronengold thanked Lisa Hayes, the videographer. 5) And Elspeth Kovar thanked everyone who attended the business meeting.

## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix A – Report of the Mark Protection Committee August 2020 – December 2021**

#### **Membership and Structure**

The terms for John Coxon, Linda Deneroff, and Dave McCarty originally expired in 2020. As the 2020 Business Meeting did not elect new members, the MPC used its authority to make interim appointments and appointed them to serve through the close of the 2021 WSFS Business Meeting. The terms for Judy Bemis, Stephen Boucher, and Donald E. Eastlake III also expire in 2021. With six positions expiring this year, the first three people elected will fill the 3-year terms, and the next three people elected will fill the 2-year terms.

Members of the Mark Protection Committee (“MPC”) from August 2020 through December 2021 were as follows, with the expiration of membership listed in parentheses after their name: Judy Bemis (elected until 2021), Stephen Boucher (elected until 2021), John Coxon (interim appointment until 2021), Linda Deneroff (Secretary, interim appointment until 2021), Paul Dormer (appointed by Dublin 2019 an Irish Worldcon until 2021), Cliff Dunn (appointed by DisCon III until 2023), Donald E. Eastlake III (elected until 2021), Dave McCarty (interim appointment until 2021), Helen Montgomery (appointed by Chicon 8 until 2024), Ron Oakes (appointed by NASFiC 2020 until 2022), Daniel Spector (appointed by CoNZeland until 2022), Kevin Standlee (Vice Chair, elected until 2022), Jo Van Ekeren (Chair, elected until 2022), Mike Willmoth (appointed by NASFiC 2019 until 2021), and Ben Yalow (elected until 2022). Bruce Farr was appointed Treasurer by Board Resolution until 2021. Bruce was also re-appointed as a non-voting member of Worldcon Intellectual Property (“WIP”) (see below), inasmuch as WIP requires at least one California resident as a director.

Worldcon Intellectual Property is a California public benefit/non-profit corporation (also recognized as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service) controlled by the MPC that holds the MPC’s bank account and WSFS’s service marks in the EU. The WIP Financial Report is appended at the end of this document. A report from the Hugo Awards Marketing Committee (“HAMC”) is included as an appendix to this report. The HAMC is responsible for managing the TheHugoAwards.org, Worldcon.org, NASFiC.org, and WSFS.org websites and social media accounts on Twitter and Facebook.

#### **REPORT**

In August 2020, the Hugo Awards Marketing Committee requested authorization to spend an additional \$50 USD per annum to raise the hosting services up one level. This was in response to a notification that there would be an overage charge from our ISP for the month of August 2020 due to unusually-high traffic to its websites. That authorization was granted.

In September 2020, Daniel Spector informed the MPC that CoNZealand deliberately allowed the registrations of Worldcon2020.org and worldcon78.org to lapse. They originally registered these in advance of winning the bid to avoid them being squatted, and they maintained the registrations but did not use them as live domains.

In December 2020, our British attorneys informed us that, due to Brexit beginning January 1, 2021, they had concluded an agreement with a German law firm to act as our agents on EU matters. UK “clones” would automatically be created for all our EU marks, and our British attorneys would appoint themselves as the representatives for those marks. However, they were still able to file EU trademarks as using the Madrid international trademark system and would do so if this is the best route for us. In June 2021, Jo Van Ekeren followed up with an enquiry, asking for verification that the UK is maintaining our existing IPO registrations after Brexit and that our registrations are still valid. We are covered through 2025.

In March 2021, Steven Silver informed us that he had a dormant twitter account that he wanted to turn into an “in memoriam” account for notices over the course of the year related to WSFS/Worldcon. He noted that DC was doing an explicit twitter this year, but he felt that rather than each convention handling this individually, this would be something that Worldcons could point to and re-tweet if they wished and not put that load on them to make happen. Since Steven wanted to say that it was WSFS-associated, he asked if we were okay with that. There was no objection to him doing this.

In March 2021 we received notice of yet another convention in India using the term “Worldcon.” Don Eastlake did some research, but the MPC did not decide to follow up on this.

In April 2021, Kevin Standlee noted that there was sufficient traffic driven to the WSFS web sites (mostly TheHugoAwards.org) due to the Hugo Finalist announcements to generate over-usage charges with our hosting service. The overage was about \$8. He set up a reminder for December to increase our usage plan to a higher level for that month, then to turn it back down to the minimum level since that would be cheaper than the over-use charges.

For years, Don has been maintaining the registration for some WSFS-y domain names to stop someone else from grabbing them. He let a couple of them lapse but have still been maintaining registrations for [wsfs.us](http://wsfs.us), [wsfs.info](http://wsfs.info), [worldcon.us](http://worldcon.us), and [worldcon.info](http://worldcon.info) at GoDaddy, usually doing 2 or 3 years at a time, since they seemed reasonably cheap. He wanted these to be CNAMEed to the appropriate .org name. GoDaddy now has a web forwarding service that can be set up without having to interact with a human being, so he set the wsfs.\* names he was maintaining to do a permanent web forward to [wsfs.org](http://wsfs.org) and ditto for worldcon.\* forwarding to [worldcon.org](http://worldcon.org). So, if someone browses any of these, they now get to the real web sites. Don’s domains have been added to the list below.

Don also noted that there are an absurdly large number of second and third level domain names of possible interest. We obviously can't register them all but since “Worldcon” is the mark with which

we have the most problems (followed by Hugo Award), he felt that registering a few more worldcon.\* domain names seemed like a reasonable thing to do. He also noted that [worldcon.org.uk](http://worldcon.org.uk) forwards to [worldcon.org](http://worldcon.org) and [worldcon.uk](http://worldcon.uk) is registered with the Gandhi registrar, which is the one we use for the official domain names, but they do not get you anything useful if you browse it.

In May 2021, Jo Van asked if we felt the need to register the term “Lodestar”. John Coxon felt it might be better to wait until our marks come up for renewal so there would be fewer dates to remember for whoever is on the MPC in the future. Kevin noted that the constitutional amendment creating the Lodestar Award comes up for re-ratification this year and, assuming it is ratified, we should register the mark.

In October 2021, the MPC was asked to license the translation of several Hugo Award winning works into Arabic. The publisher asked if we would approve the use of the Hugo Award logo on the cover or inner cover of the translated works. Gray Anderson felt we should ask for a (relative) token license fee so there would be an agreement in place tying them into the Hugo Boss agreement to use “Hugo Award” not “Hugos”. Jo Van noted that such an agreement would also provide us legal precedence and backup if someone less conscientious were to take advantage of the Hugo Award brand. She also said we should request that they send us the final artwork for the front and back covers because 1) it would be cool to see it, and 2) it would give us proof of the strength of the Hugo Award branding in the Arabic world. Ben felt we would not need a license fee since the consideration from them is that they print an acknowledgement of our mark in all copies of the book, but he also felt there should be an explicit licensing contract between the MPC and the publisher and that they need to use “Hugo Award,” not “Hugo.”

Also in October, we received notice of cryptocurrency scams using “worldcoin,” but a lot of sites misspelling it as “Worldcon.” The MPC believes we should keep an eye on this but take no action at this time.

## Domain Names

Domain	Domain Agent	Handle to Renew	Renewal Date
Worldcon.org	World Science Fiction Society	KS2182-GANDI	2028-08-02
Worldcon.co.uk Worldcon.org.uk Worldcon.com Worldcon.uk	Mike Scott, Kevin Standlee, Bruce Farr on behalf of the World Science Fiction Society	KS2182 – Gandi.net Gandi.net	2028-10-17 2028-10-17 2028-10-09 2022-06-17
Nasfic.org wsfs.org hugo.org	Mike Scott, Kevin Standlee, Bruce Farr on behalf of the World Science Fiction Society	Gandi.net	2029-05-09 2028-06-14 2028-08-31
Worldcon78.org Worldcon2020.org	Andrew Adams purchased both on behalf of NZ in 2020	<b>LAPSED</b>	
Worldcon.ie	Dublin in 2019		
wsfs.us	Donald Eastlake	godaddy.com	June 19, 2022
wsfs.info	Donald Eastlake	godaddy.com	July 25, 2023
worldcon.us	Donald Eastlake	godaddy.com	August 11, 2023
worldcon.info	Donald Eastlake	godaddy.com	July 5, 2022

## U.S. Marks

Mark	Owner	Action	Renewal Dates
World Science Fiction Convention	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	6/26/23-6/25/24
Worldcon	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	6/26/23-6/25/24
World Science Fiction Society	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	7/3/23-7/3/24
WSFS	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	7/17/23-7/16/24
The Hugo Award Reg. No. 1287322	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	7/24/23-7/23/24
3D Rocket Mark Reg. No. 4620505	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	10/14/23-10/13/24
Rocket Mark Reg. No. 4320959	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	4/16/28-4/15/29
NASFiC Reg. No. 3647140	World Science Fiction Society	Section 8, Section 9	6/30/28-6/29/29

## EU Marks

Mark	Owner	Class	Expiry Dates	Trademark No.
Worldcon	Worldcon Intellectual Prop.	Class 16, 35, 41	2025/06/18	<a href="#">014277016</a>
Hugo Award	Worldcon Intellectual Prop.	Class 9, 16, 41	2025/06/18	<a href="#">014278519</a>
The Hugo Award Logo	Worldcon Intellectual Prop.	Class 16, 35, 41	2025/06/22	<a href="#">014270748</a>

**Mark Protection Committee/WIP Financial Report**  
**All U.S. Dollars**  
**Year Ending November 30, 2021**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Account Balance</b>
<b>Bank Balance July 1, 2020 at U S Bank</b>				<b>\$8,749.85</b>
Check 1108 Esther Horwich Attorney Fees	6/25/2020		\$225.00	8,749.85
Pair Networks	7/1/2020		78.62	8,671.23
Pair Networks	10/2/2020		11.03	8,660.20
California Secretary of State Filing	11/15/2020		20.00	8,640.00
Franchise Tax Board (filing)	1/5/2021		50.00	8,590.00
Pair Networks	5/3/2021		66.68	8,523.52
Donation from Dublin Worldcon	7/20/2021	\$3,906.00		12,429.52
Donation from CoNZealand	11/30/2021	2,000.00		
<b>Bank Balance November 30, 2021 (at U S Bank and in transit)</b>	11/30/2021			<b>\$12,429.52</b>

—Bruce Farr

## **WSFS Hugo Awards Marketing Committee July 2020 – November 2021**

The Hugo Awards Marketing Committee (HAMC) members this year were Dave McCarty (Chair), Linda Deneroff, Craig Miller, Cheryl Morgan, Mark Olson, Kevin Standlee, and Jo Van Ekeren. The HAMC was established by the WSFS Mark Protection Committee, and its chair and members are appointed by the MPC annually.

The HAMC continued to work with Worldcon committees to support the marketing of the Hugo Awards, to handle inquiries from the press regarding the Awards as needed, and to maintain [TheHugoAwards.org](http://TheHugoAwards.org), including the list of past finalists and winners, and archiving the “Section 3.11.4” reports of nomination and voting information issued by Hugo Award administrators. Due to the 2020 Worldcon being held almost entirely online without an in-person ceremony planned, the HAMC did not do the live text-based coverage that we have done in the past few years, and we have decided to discontinue doing this coverage inasmuch as Worldcons have now made it standard practice to both live-stream their Hugo Awards ceremony and to make the results available through Twitter and other social media in real time. The HAMC will continue to cooperate with Worldcon committees so that we can update the Hugo Awards web site at the first opportunity after the awards are announced as well as to use the @TheHugoAwards Twitter feed to publicize the announcements of the winners in each category.

We would like to gather all the recordings of past Hugo Awards ceremonies (including any made before online posting of such things was possible or common) and to put copies of them in a single place, probably the Worldcon Events YouTube channel set up by Kevin Standlee for this purpose. The various recordings were made by many different groups, and we will need to get the owners’ permissions to do so. We have made no progress on this project in the past year.

The HAMC also manages the WSFS-owned websites Worldcon.org, NASFiC.org, and WSFS.org. All sites are hosted through commercial hosting on Pair.com using WordPress, in same way we manage TheHugoAwards.org. We manage these sites, including the list of seated, future, and past Worldcons, and the lists of bids for future convention to the best of our knowledge. Multiple members of the committee have the credentials for the web sites.

Bandwidth and disk space usage for the web sites we manage were within the allowances for our account. We may see peak loads around the time of the winner announcements, and will work with our hosting provider to minimize extra charges, which are borne by the Mark Protection Committee.

We continue to field inquiries directed to Worldcon.org and TheHugoAwards.org, forwarding them to the current Worldcon or the Mark Protection Committee as necessary.

## Appendix B – Results of the Mark Protection Committee Election

### Seat 1

Candidate	1st seat	2nd round	3rd round	4th round	5th round	6th round
Nicholas Whyte	9	9	10	10	10	e
Donald E. Eastlake III	9	9	10	13	15	19
Dave McCarty	7	7	7	e		
Linda Deneroff	17	19	19	23	29	35
Joni Brill Dashoff	10	10	11	11	11	11
Mike Willmoth	4	4	e			
Judith C. Bemis	7	7	8	8	e	
John Coxon	1	e				
Stephen Boucher	1	e				
<b>total with preference</b>	65	65	65	65	65	65
<b>needed for majority</b>	33	33	33	33	33	33
<b>No Preference</b>	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	67	67	67

### Seat 2

Candidate	2nd seat	2nd round	3rd round	4th round	5th round
Nicholas Whyte	10	10	11	e	
Donald E. Eastlake III	12	13	15	22	44
Dave McCarty	11	12	12	14	e
Linda Deneroff					
Joni Brill Dashoff	14	14	15	15	19
Mike Willmoth	5	5	e		
Judith C. Bemis	10	11	12	14	e
John Coxon	1	e			
Stephen Boucher	2	e			
<b>total with preference</b>	65	65	65	65	63
<b>needed for majority</b>	33	33	33	33	32
<b>No Preference</b>	2	2	2	2	4
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	67	67

### Seat 3

Candidate	3rd seat	2nd round	3rd round	4th round	5th round
Nicholas Whyte	10	10	12	e	
<del>Donald E. Eastlake III</del>					
Dave McCarty	16	18	19	25	34
<del>Linda Deneroff</del>					
Joni Brill Dashoff	18	18	20	22	28
Mike Willmoth	7	7	e		
Judith C. Bemis	11	12	13	17	e
John Coxon	1	e			
Stephen Boucher	2	e			
<b>total with preference</b>	65	65	64	64	62
<b>needed for majority</b>	33	33	33	33	32
<b>No Preference</b>	2	2	3	3	5
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	67	67

### Seat 4

Candidate	4th seat	2nd round	3rd round	4th round	5th round
Nicholas Whyte	11	11	13	15	e
<del>Donald E. Eastlake III</del>					
<del>Dave McCarty</del>					
<del>Linda Deneroff</del>					
Joni Brill Dashoff	23	23	23	26	31
Mike Willmoth	10	11	12	e	
Judith C. Bemis	12	12	16	21	30
John Coxon	4	e			
Stephen Boucher	5	7	e		
<b>total with preference</b>	65	64	64	62	61
<b>needed for majority</b>	33	33	33	32	31
<b>No Preference</b>	2	3	3	5	6
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	67	67

### Seat 5

Candidate	5th seat	2nd round	3rd round	4th round
Nicholas Whyte	12	12	14	E
Donald E. Eastlake III				
Dave McCarty				
Linda Deneroff				
Joni Brill Dashoff				
Mike Willmoth	17	18	19	22
Judith C. Bemis	26	26	31	40
John Coxon	4 e			
Stephen Boucher	6	8 e		
<b>total with preference</b>	65	64	64	62
<b>needed for majority</b>	33	33	33	32
<b>No Preference</b>	2	3	3	5
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	67

### Seat 6

Candidate	1st ballot	2nd round	3rd round	# of original 1st place votes
Nicholas Whyte	16	16 e		
Donald E. Eastlake III				
Dave McCarty				
Linda Deneroff				
Joni Brill Dashoff				
Mike Willmoth	22	23	28	4
Judith C. Bemis				
John Coxon	7 e			
Stephen Boucher	14	19	28	1
<b>total with preference</b>	59	58	56	
<b>needed for majority</b>	30	30	29	
<b>No Preference</b>	8	9	11	
<b>total ballots</b>	67	67	67	