

AGENDA

Main WSFS Business Meeting

At AUSSIECON 4

Saturday, Sept. 4th, 2010

1. Committee Reports

Committee reports may include motions. Motions made by committees consisting of more than one person need not be seconded.

1.1. Mark Protection Committee (Including Nominations for MPC)

The Mark Protection Committee will meet, normally sometime on Thursday evening of the convention. A formal report is unlikely to be available until the Saturday Business Meeting at the earliest.

Nominations for the WSFS Mark Protection Committee are in order at the Preliminary Business Meeting. Nominees must submit to the Secretary their written acceptance of their nomination and indicate their current residence zone within one hour of the end of the Preliminary Business Meeting.

The members whose terms of office expire at this Worldcon are: Ben Yalow (East), Kevin Standlee (West), Tim Illingworth (Previously elected from RotW; now living in Central). Due to zone residency restrictions, we can elect at most one person from the Western zone, two from the Central zone, one person from the Eastern zone, and three people from the Rest of the World, but not more than three people overall. Write-in votes are allowed, but write-in candidates must submit their consent to election by the close of balloting. (See the head table staff for a nomination acceptance form.)

Mark Protection Committee members are

Elected 2007, term ending in 2010: Ben Yalow (East), Kevin Standlee (West), Tim Illingworth (RotW);

Elected 2008, term ending in 2011: Stephen Boucher (RoTW), Mark Olson (East), Linda Deneroff (West).

Elected 2009, term ending in 2012: Scott Dennis (Central), Donald Eastlake III (East), Ruth Sachter (West);

Worldcon Representatives: Kent Bloom (Denvention 3), Adrienne Seal (Anticipation), Mark Linneman (Aussiecon 4), Dina Krause (ReConstruction), Ian Stockdale (Renovation).

The Hugo Awards Marketing Committee (HAMC) members are Kevin Standlee (Chair), Grant Kruger, Craig Miller, and Cheryl Morgan. As this is a sub-committee of the MPC their report is made to the MPC Committee.

1.2. Nitpicking & Flyspecking Committee <completed>

1.3. Worldcon Runners' Guide Editorial Committee <completed>

1.4. Hugo Eligibility Rest of the World (HEROW) Committee <completed>

1.5. Formalization of Long List Entries (FOLLE) Committee <completed>

2. Worldcon Reports

2.1 Past Conventions

2.1.1. The Millennium Philcon (2001 Worldcon) – <Received>

2.1.2. L.A. con IV (2006 Worldcon)

2.1.3. Nippon 2007 (2007 Worldcon)– <No Report; none required.>

2.1.4. Denvention 3 (2008 Worldcon) – <Received>

2.1.5. Anticipation (2009 Worldcon) – <Received>

2.2. Seated Conventions

2.2.1. ReConstruction (2010 NASFiC) – <Interim Report received>

2.2.2. Aussiecon 4 (2010 Worldcon) – <Received>

2.2.3. Renovation (2011 Worldcon) – <Received>

3. Business Passed On from Anticipation

No Constitutional Amendments were approved at Anticipation

4. New Business

4.1. Resolutions

None

4.2. Standing Rules Amendments

None

4.3. Constitutional Amendments

Items under this heading have not yet received first passage, and will become part of the constitution only if passed at Aussiecon 4 and ratified at Renovation.

4.3.1 Deleting the membership rate limitations (20 minutes debate time)

Moved,

1. To amend Section 1.5.5 by deleting the words “must not exceed two (2) times the site-selection fee and” in the last sentence as follows:

1.5.5: Voters have the right to convert to attending membership in the selected Worldcon within ninety (90) days of its selection, for an additional fee set by its committee. This fee ~~must not exceed two (2) times the site-selection fee and~~ must not exceed the difference between the site selection fee and the fee for new attending members.

2. To delete Section 1.5.6.

Commentary. The current rules limit the rates that voters can be charged to convert their supporting memberships to attending memberships. This has several difficulties. It means that the voting fees, and therefore the supporting memberships, are forced higher than needed to keep the initial voter attending rate from being too low. And the initial voter attending membership rate is still sufficiently below the required average membership rate that it forces conventions to have later attending rates being too high, which discourages people, particularly people who are becoming interested in Worldcons, and who might want to join.

Committees need the flexibility to tailor membership rates to accomplish those goals without being constrained by the low initial voter attending membership limitations.

Moved: Dave McCarty
Seconded: Ben Yalow

4.3.2 The World Science Fiction Society (20 minutes debate time)

Moved, to amend Article 6 of the WSFS Constitution for the purpose of clarifying the status of electronic voting on the Hugo Awards and Site Selection, by adding a new section after existing Section 6.2 as follows:

Section 6.x: Electronic Voting. Nothing in this constitution shall be interpreted to prohibit conducting Hugo Awards nominating and voting and Site Selection voting by electronic means. Valid paper ballots delivered by any means shall always be acceptable. This section shall not be interpreted to require that such elections be conducted electronically, nor shall it be interpreted to allow remote participation or proxy voting at the Business Meeting.

Commentary. The phrase "Voting shall be by written ballot cast either by mail or at the current Worldcon" in section 4.1.2 has been held to prohibit conducting any portion of Worldcon site selection electronically, such as through a web site in the same manner as most recent Hugo Award elections. The word "mail" and "written ballot" has been interpreted to only allow paper ballots delivered by postal mail, private delivery, fax machine, or personal delivery by the voter or an authorized representative. This proposal would broaden the existing interpretation to require that "mail" be interpreted to include "e-mail and other electronic means" such as voting through a web site. It does not specify a specific technology for e-voting. It says that the constitution should be interpreted to allow electronic voting for both the Hugo Awards and Site Selection, but it does not require that such elections be held electronically, and it specifically requires that such elections should always have a paper-ballot/by-mail (or other delivery method) option.

While Worldcons would be required to always include a paper-ballot option, the decision to implement e-voting on any given WSFS election would be in the hands of each individual Worldcon committee. Whether or not previous or future Worldcons implemented e-voting would not have a bearing on the decision. The makers of this motion assume that Worldcon committees would consult with those groups participating in site selection and cooperate with them to implement e-voting, but would leave the final decision as to whether to actually do so in the hands of the current Worldcon committee.

In addition, this proposal explicitly excludes electronic voting, proxy voting, or other forms of remote participation at the Business Meeting. Voting at the Business Meeting shall continue to be in person only, including any votes held there such as constitutional amendments and elections to the WSFS Mark Protection Committee.

Submitted by: Kevin Standlee, Johnny Carruthers, Steve Cooper, Linda Deneroff, John C. Fiala, Adrienne Foster, Glenn Glazer, Lisa Hayes, Jim Henry III, Lisa Hertel, Mary Kay Kare, Stacey Helton McConnell, Fred Moulton, Cheryl Morgan, Rita Medany, Cath Mullican, Kevin Roche, Jannie Shea, Stu Segal, Alison Scott, Randy Smith.

4.3.3 Allow Electronic Distribution of Rules (20 minutes debate time)

Moved, to amend Section 2.4 and Article 1 of the WSFS Constitution by striking out and adding words as shown, with the intention of requiring Worldcon committees to

publish copies of the WSFS rules without requiring that such publication be in the form of printed documents, except for distribution "at con":

1. Amend Section 2.4 as follows:

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

2. Amend Article 1 by adding a new section after existing section 1.5.2. as follows:

1.5.x: Electronic distribution of publications, if offered, shall be opt-in.

Commentary on the changes in Section 2.4:

This revision permits Worldcons to distribute copies of the documents on paper or electronically. "Distribute" does not mean merely placing copies of the documents on the convention web site, the convention must notify its members of the availability of these documents.

Commentary on the changes to Article 1:

This makes it clear that Worldcons may distribute publications electronically, provided that members receive them on paper unless they choose otherwise.

Commentary on both changes:

These changes allow for the Constitution and Standing Rules to be distributed electronically ahead of time, and requires them to be distributed on paper at the convention. This does not affect the inclusion of Article 3 and extensions as provided in section 3.7.2

Moved by Rene Walling.
Seconded by Kate Kilgman

4.3.4. Expand Hugo Nominations Eligibility (5 minutes debate time)

***Moved*, to amend section 3.7.1 of the WSFS Constitution as follows:**

3.7.1: The Worldcon Committee shall conduct a poll to select the nominees for the final Award voting. Each member of either the administering Worldcon, or the immediately preceding Worldcon, or the immediately following Worldcon as of January 31 of the current calendar year shall be allowed to make up to five (5) equally weighted nominations in every category.

Commentary. It is my belief that increasing the potential pool of people eligible to make Hugo Award nominations would be a good thing. It occurred to me that when Hugo nomination forms are distributed at the start of a calendar year, there is actually another standing Worldcon in existence -- the following Worldcon.

Moved by Michael Nelson
Seconded by Robert MacIntosh

4.3.5. Run-Off References (5 minutes debate time)

Moved, to amend portions of the WSFS Constitution by inserting text to clarify the relationship of “No Award” and “None of the Above” to the “Run-Off Candidate” rule, as follows:

1. Amend Section 3.11.3 as follows:

3.11.3: “No Award” shall be the run-off candidate for the purposes of Section 6.4.

2. Amend Section 4.5.3 as follows:

4.5.3: “None of the Above” shall be treated as a bid for tallying, and shall be the run-off candidate for the purposes of Section 6.4.

Commentary. This year’s Hugo Award Administrator, Vincent Docherty, approached the NPFSC questioning the way in which section 3.11 is worded, and we determined that previous constitutional revisions may have made it less than obvious that the wording at sections 3.11.3 and 4.5.3 refers to the “Run-Off Candidate” rule at section 6.4. We propose including an explicit cross-reference in both cases to make it more obvious that these sections are related to each other.

Proposed by the Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee.

4.3.6 Mark Notice Revision (5 minutes debate time)

Moved, to amend the standard service mark notice in section 2.2 of the WSFS Constitution by ~~striking out~~ and inserting words as shown:

Section 2.2: Marks. Every Worldcon and NASFIC Committee shall include the following notice in each of its publications:

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", and "Hugo Award", the Hugo Award Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Trophy Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Proposed by the Mark Protection Committee.

5. Site Selection Business

These items are scheduled for the Site Selection meeting on Sunday.

5.1. Report of the 2012 Site Selection & presentation by winners

5.2. Question time for the Seated Future Worldcon

5.2.1. Renovation (2011)

5.3. Presentations by future Worldcon bids

5.3.1. Presentation by bidders for 2013

5.3.2. Presentation by bidders for years after 2013

6. Adjournment

6.1. Adjournment *Sine Die*

AGENDA
Site Selection WSFS Business Meeting
At AUSSIECON 4
Sunday, Sept. 5th, 2010

5. Site Selection Business

5.1. Report of the 2012 Site Selection & presentation by winners

5.2. Question time for the Seated Future Worldcon

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5.3. Presentations by future Worldcon bids

5.3.1. Presentation by bidders for 2013

5.3.2. Presentation by bidders for years after 2013

1.6 (added) Report of the Worldcon Website Working Group

1.7 (added) Announcement of Committee Appointments

[1100 hours - NOTE: If the Business Meeting has not adjourned, there will be a hiatus for 15 minutes at 1100 hours in order to accommodate the taking of the annual Past Worldcon Chair photo.]

6. Adjournment

6.1. Adjournment *Sine Die*

******* *The Mark Protection Committee will meet in this room after adjournment (and photos).* *******