

Minutes of meeting 4547

Call to order by president Cathy Johnson at 8:04 pm

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings

Birth anniversaries celebrated were:

Charles Middleton, who played The Emperor Ming

Ray F. Nelson, who popularized fannish propeller beanies

Katherine Kerr, who turned from her game hobby to becoming a successful fantasy author

Clive Owen, who somehow went from playing King Arthur to driving cars in long commercials

Jessica Parker Kennedy, whose career so far has involved playing superheroes, pirates and Christmas elves.

Media anniversary: Somewhere in Time, the 1980 film with Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour.

Passings noted included actress Dame Maggie Smith; singer, songwriter and actor Kris Kristofferson; actor Ken Page; actor Drake Hogestyn; actor John Amos and producer Robert Watts.

Reading of the previous minutes of meeting 4546

Bid to name the minutes: \$10 to Susie to name them "I thought you weren't gonna fact check me!"

Approval of minutes happened at 8:21

Patron Saint:

Steve Bilan, brother of the late Greg Bilan. Cathy mentioned that she had met him and he was a nice guy. Greg was moving north to be with him when his health problems arose.

Committee Reports

Honor Guard: CLJ's Halloween Facebook page is in the place of honor, and it has fun Halloween stuff.

Welcoming of guests, if any: none

Treasurer: new month, pay your dues

Board of Directors meeting this coming Sunday on Zoom at 11 am, a week earlier than usual.

Loscon: Eylat listed guests and some of the programming for the con, reminding people about the auction for the American Cancer Society. Debra, Joyce and Heidi are already knitting hats for the donation at the con. Maker's Room, cosplay contest and other things.

Programming:

Next week, hybrid at the Denny's, maybe an auction

Oct. 17 Orty Ortwein will read from his book The First Geeks

Oct. 24 Craig Miller will read from his new book

Fannish wellness:

George is improving, and is no longer in the ICU. The hospital thinks he will be moving back to a rehab facility.

Selina fell last week and suffered a concussion, but is getting better.

Old Business

New Business

Timebound announcements

UCLA Film and Television Archive is running a film series on weekends through December called Science Fiction Against the Margins. It's at the Billy Wilder theater at the Hammer Museum on Wilshire.

Upcoming screenings at American Cinematheque, New Beverly Theater and Vidiots were noted.

Program, if any

Science report:

Lynn mentioned the reevaluation of Easter Island. For years we thought that it had gone bad due to overpopulation, but the DNA analysis showed otherwise. It looks like until 1853 it was doing fine, and that the collapse was man-made. Also, Viking tattoos were not really a thing. The only real source for such a thing is from a single Arabic source, who described "Rus" as being heavily tattooed. There are no Viking names that mention tattoos in distinctive names.

Tomatoes came from the new world and had a huge impact on world cooking, but Polynesian foods had a smaller but similar effect. Coconuts and sweet potatoes are examples of this, and the common name in the Pacific languages is "kamala".

Lee mentioned that in physics, people are learning more about static electricity. There is now a hypothesis about the electron swap that suggests it comes from an imbalance in the interaction, which is not a complete answer. Also questions of tweaking electron orbits.

Regular announcements

Eylat has added a disability studies minor to her degree, which means graduating in 2026, and she is now planning to go to grad school.

Reviews

CLJ II reviewed the Haunted Mansion holiday edition at Disneyland. He and Elayne got sort of a preview. The normal opening date is October 1st, but it wasn't ready.

Lee reviewed short videos by PBS: Eons, which is about evolution and the environment and the other called Story, which includes literature and folklore related to things like werewolves. 10-18 minutes each, very well done.

Nick reviewed Substance and Megalopolis. Most of Substance was really good, except for a truly awful ending. Megalopolis was a labor of love for Coppola, and it's marvelous cinema but the story will not appeal to everyone.

Victor reviewed Wasteland, sort of an immersive live RPG in the desert. He went with the “arts and culture caravan,” which puts on Mad Max puppet shows. If you’re good with desert camping, which is hot and rugged, you may enjoy it, but it is hot out there.

CLJ II mentioned Curt Siodmak’s contribution to the lore of werewolves, and a movie that was too long for its own good. Also, reviewed the first episode of “Witches: Behind the Truth”

Chris reviewed Beetlejuice Beetlejuice, and it was good enough to not be disappointing. George had wanted him to look for Batman references as running gags, but he saw none.

Miscellaneous

CLJ II had trouble renewing his driver’s license, and he had trouble with the written test, when suddenly the written test was cancelled.

Nick mentioned pumpkin spice chardonnay wine cooler at Trader Joe’s and chocolate hummus at Amazon Fresh

Christine mentioned that you still have to do the physical exam to get the senior driver’s license.

Julie mentioned an ad for pumpkin spice beer. There was a stunned silence, followed by adjournment.