

Minutes of meeting 4577

Call to order by president Cathy Johnson

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings

Birthdays of actresses Joy Harmon and Joanna Lumley, author and archeologist Jennifer Pournelle [Jerry's daughter] and cartoonist Phil Foglio were celebrated. Media anniversary was the 1925 release of the first chapter of silent serial *The Power God*, directed by John Ford's older brother Francis. Passings were those of two older actresses, Cora Sue Collins at age 98 and Priscilla Pointer at 100. Also, Michelle mentioned that we lost Theresa MacWillie, the artist whose work was sold at the Hornsmith booth at conventions for many years. She was also a guest of honor at a LosCon some years ago.

Reading of the previous minutes

Bid to name the minutes Dr. Susie bid \$10 to name the minutes "Mayday, mayday, America at risk!"

Approval of minutes at 8:25 pm

Patron Saints:

James De Tarr;

Eylat said that he's a fairly new member and a fairly new saint. Nice guy at our Zoom meetings. Three cheers!

Larry Niven:

Eylat said that Larry was an awesome guest of honor at Loscon 50. She played Scrabble at Larry's house, and it was a lot of fun. Chris Marble mentioned that Larry had donated things like Tuckerizations to raise money for fannish charities. Matthew first encountered Larry's fiction in summer camp. He was the first pro Matthew met at a science fiction convention, in 1968. Nick mentioned his fannish activities, like going to filk conventions. Susan Fox mentioned him quoting filk songs in his books. Marc said that Larry is very much the reason why Marc is here tonight. He has trouble remembering Zoom passwords, but the Niven-related password for the LASFS Zoom makes it easy for him to remember. Eylat mentioned Larry's accessibility to one of her college instructors, who thought that was wonderful.

Committee Reports

Honor Guard: CLJ II reported that the spot of honor is held by SciFi.Radio for the month of May.

Welcoming of guests: Our registrar is back from his travels, but we don't have any guests for him to welcome.

Treasurer: Elayne says that everyone is paid up, but donations are welcome.

Board of Directors: Board meeting is June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 am on this Zoom channel.

Loscon: Loscon 51 and 52 are moving ahead on schedule.

## Programming:

Hybrid meeting May 8<sup>th</sup> with small auction

June, first week will be nominations for president, second week procedural elections at Denny's.

Fannish wellness: Chris Marble reports that Heide Nichols is maintaining status quo, which unfortunately means she is still in pain. Surgery scheduled for this week was postponed, because she is probably allergic to the anesthesia they were planning to use. George is still not able to regain mobility. Questions arose about Lee and Barry Gold, and Barry's Facebook account got hacked, and he's having trouble getting it fixed. Matt is going into the cardiologist to be fitted for a heart monitor to measure him for the next two weeks. John Searight is in cardio rehab, and that seems to be a good thing.

## Old Business

### New Business

### Timebound announcements

Nick announced fannish movie screenings at several theaters, some in tribute to the late Val Kilmer.

Marc reported that there's a fan-adjacent concert on May 31<sup>st</sup> at CSUN. This is a community musical project with students from schools around the San Fernando Valley performing Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Program, if any

### Science report:

Easter Island report from Lee Grixit: There are lots of symbols that have turned up on Easter Island, and now work is being done on identifying them as possible forms of writing.

Nick reported that the announcements of T-Rex leather are a bit premature, since they have to work backwards from DNA from bones to create the stuff to turn into skin in a laboratory. Skin collagen and bone collagen are not quite the same thing, so it's possible, but may not be easy, contrary to what they told you in Jurassic Park...

### Regular announcements

The L.A. County Fair opens tomorrow, per Chris Marble. Nick will be doing storytelling there on May 11<sup>th</sup>, in the afternoon. Other storytellers will be there on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Eylat mentioned the new exhibit at the Skirball, about comic book artist Jack Kirby. Also, they are having classes in how to play Mah Jongg...

### Reviews

Cathy reviewed The Last of Us, Season 2, and really enjoys it so far.

Nick reviewed The Ballad of Wallis Island. He liked it, including the sound track. It's an odd comedy romance drama musical, sort of. Also, the movie taught him that a gathering of puffins is called a circus.

### Miscellaneous

Marc Silver sent Matt a message in chat, about heart monitors. Matt thinks that this one is a bit more intrusive.

Nick reported on at least one game company going under because of the tariffs, and how it's affecting Kickstarter game projects.