

Business Meeting Agenda of Westercon 72

A. Call to Order

The meeting of the 72nd West Coast Science Fantasy Conference (Westercon) was called to order at 11:36 a.m. on Saturday, July 6, 2019, in the Zephyr Room of the Davis Convention Center, Layton, Utah, with a quorum present. The meeting officers were Kevin Standlee, Chairperson; Seth Breidbart, Deputy Chair; Linda Deneroff, Secretary; Lisa Hayes, Videographer; and Dave Mazzola, Emergency Deputy Videographer.

Inasmuch as Mr. Standlee was the chair of one of the Westercon 74 bids, he recused himself from presiding over the site selection portion of the business meeting in favor of deputy chair Seth Breidbart.

B. Site Selection Results

Ben Yalow requested permission of the assembly to announce the winner of the NASFiC vote and allow them to make a short presentation. There was no objection, and permission was granted. Mr. Yalow then announced the NASFiC results first because that convention will be held next year, while Westercon 74 is two years hence.

B.1 NASFiC 2020

Mr. Yalow announced that 100 votes were cast. Under Worldcon rules, invalid votes do not count in the same way they would under Westercon rules, so only 96 votes counted.

Candidate	Mail	Thu	Fri	Total
Columbus, OH	7	46	34	87
Grantville, WV	1	1		2
Tonopah, NV			2	2
OVFF	1			1
Arcosanti	1			1
Minneapolis in '73		1		1
Peggy Rae's House		1		1
None of the Above			1	1
Total With Preference	10	49	37	96
No preference		1	1	2
Invalid	2			2
Total votes cast				100

With 87 votes, Mr. Yalow declared that Columbus had won the 2020 NASFiC. Mr. Breidbart made a motion that the ballots be destroyed, and the assembly agreed by acclamation.¹

¹ Because Westercon has no jurisdiction over NASFiC, this motion was only a courtesy. Under the WSFS rules that govern NASFiC, the administering NASFiC, through its site selection administrator, decides when the election is final and when the ballots can be destroyed.

Lisa Garrison made a short presentation and handed out ribbons and PR0. For now, the name of the convention will remain NASFiC 2020, and there may be a “catch phrase” to go with it, but neither of these things were definite at the time of the meeting. Guests will be Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson (writers), Stephanie Law (artist), Mark Millis (science), Christopher J. Garcia (editor), Marc Millis (science), Eric Flint (1632 Minicon), and Steve and Sue Francis (fans). Hotel rooms will be \$129 a night. When rooms are available for booking it will be announced on social media and the NASFiC 2020 website: (<http://columbus2020nasfic.org/>).

B.2 Westercon 74

Mr. Yalow next presented the results of the Site Selection for Westercon 74. With 140 votes cast, 68 votes were required to declare a winner.

Candidate	Mail	Thu	Fri	Total
Phoenix, AZ	3	11	37	51
Tonopah, NV	9	32	41	82
Both			1	1
None of the Above				0
Total With Preference				134
Needed to Elect (Majority)				68
No preference			6	6
Total votes cast				140

With 82 votes, Tonopah was declared the winner of the 2021 Westercon. Mr. Yalow then moved to destroy the ballots. By unanimous consent, the chair ordered the tellers to do so.

Kevin Standlee, the chair of Westercon 74, ran a short video announcing the convention’s theme: The Wild Wild Westercon. Committee members are Lisa Hayes, Mike Willmoth, Bruce Farr, Sandra Childress, Kate Hatcher, Cheryl Morgan, and Kuma Bear. Mr. Standlee noted: 1) the town of Tonopah is already ecstatic about holding an event that will increase the size of their town by 20%, and 2) there will be no guests of honor. Membership money will be spent directly on the membership, mostly in hospitality. The dates are July 2-5, 2021 (Friday to Monday). The website is Westercon74.org. Sandra Childress will be the Travel Coordinator. She will be working to coordinate travel plans with those who want to travel together and explore the possibility of renting small buses to transport people from both airports, each of which is about 200 miles away.

Hal Astell, the chair of the Phoenix bid, offered his congratulations. Mr. Standlee thanked the Phoenix bid for its friendly rivalry and noted that each bid was not bidding *against* the other, but *for* themselves.

The conversion rate for voters to attend will be \$10; new memberships will start at \$40 and will not go up until at least the end of the year. Voters were already supporting members.

Mr. Standlee also announced there would be a Westercon 2021 party that evening at the Home2 Suites in room 129, and Lisa Garrison announced a NASFiC party in room 215 of the same hotel.

Helen Montgomery announced that the Chicago in 2022 bid would be offering Chicago-style hotdogs in the con suite immediately after the conclusion of the business meeting.

By acclamation, Deputy Chair Seth Breidbart thanked everyone involved in both bids and returned the gavel to Mr. Standlee.

C. Pending Bylaw Amendments

There was only one item of business on the agenda It received first passage last year and was now up for re-ratification.

C.1 Short Title: Bidders at Site Selection Table

Moved, to amend Section 3.13 of the Westercon Bylaws by [inserting](#) wording to clarify that bidders are expected to provide observers for the Site Selection table for at-convention voting.

Site-selection shall be open for at least six (6) hours between the hours of 11 a.m. and Midnight on the day before the business meeting at which site-selection business is scheduled. All on-site balloting shall be from one central location, under the supervision of the administering Westercon. [Each eligible bid committee shall provide at least one \(1\) observer for on-site balloting.](#) If no site-selection business meeting is scheduled, then site-selection shall be open for at least six (6) hours between the hours of 11 a.m. and Midnight on the next-to-last day of the administering Westercon.

Moved by: Billy Van Ark, Nikki Ebright

Commentary: It is traditional and expected that the site-selection table at a Westercon should have both the site selection administrator and a representative of each bidding committee present. That way they can watch over the voting process, but also watch over each other. However, the bylaws only suggest a bid committee representative be present at the Verification of Ballots (for mail-in ballots) and Counting of Ballots. This proposal codifies the existing practice of having bidders help staff the at-convention Site Selection table.

Discussion: Mr. Yalow noted that, despite the fact that while there was no constitutional requirement up until now, both bidders were extremely cooperative this year and provided observers, and he commended them. There was no debate against the proposal. Rick Kovalcik thought the point of this was that some of the bidders did not know this was a requirement, so by putting it in the bylaws they will now know, and it really can't hurt. By a show of hands, the amendment was ratified and takes affect at the conclusion of Westercon 72.

Gary Blog wanted to acknowledge that several guests of honor were currently attending the business meeting (not to mention running it). On behalf of all the guests of honor, the chair thanked Mr. Blog. He also pointed out that being a guest of honor at a convention and bidding another at the same time was a lot of work.

D. Adjournment

With no further business, the Westercon 72 business meeting adjourned *sine die* at 11:57 a.m.

Linda Deneroff
Business Meeting Secretary