

September 2020 NASFA Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The September meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, September 19, 2020 on Zoom at 6:09:14 PM by President Mary Lampert and the crickets.

OLD BUSINESS

Nada.

NEW BUSINESS

It's time to start officer nominations for 2021. Doug nominated Gary for all offices, and Jim seconded. Judy nominated the same slate from 2020 except her, but there were no seconds. Sam moved to close nominations, and the motion passed.

The Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Baptist Church where NASFA usually meets said we can come back, children are allowed, and we will just have to clean the meeting space using our own cleaning supplies after we're done. Sam can let the church know when we're ready to come back.

NOT-A-CON BUSINESS

Mary still hadn't heard back from the usual Not-a-Con hotel, so we may need another location. If Not-a-Con does not happen this year, Stephanie Osborn wants to do a reading for the October NASFA program.

We could hold a Not-a-Con at the church all Saturday afternoon until the usual closing time for NASFA meetings. Maybe we could Zoom with the people who still want to stay home? Unfortunately, the internet connection is spotty at the church.

Sam suggested that we could do a Discord event with audio and video.

Mike K. noted that Zoom can spotlight specific people like a panel. The next Zoom release due in two days will let people move in and out of breakout rooms without making the host do it. We could set up Zoom rooms ahead of time. Everyone would have to update their Zoom clients to take advantage of the new features. Mike K. would like to practice that capability some time before Not-a-Con.

Mary said we need a Not-a-Committee meeting. It's probably too late to worry about t-shirts this year. We will need a vote about whether to hold Not-a-Con in person or over Zoom. Mary will send out a general email asking for people's opinions. She is assuming we will hold this year's Not-a-Con on the regular NASFA meeting date.

Stephanie can do a reading at Not-a-Con next month.

Do we still want to host Deep South Con 60? San had done nothing recently but he was still planning to bid for the con. Mary suggested that he should talk to Toni Weisskopf, since she was co-con chair on the last DSC held in Huntsville. Sam will email her for her thoughts about Embassy Suites hotel and DSC 60.

Mary asked what people want at Not-a-Con this year.

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:43:50 PM.

For the September program, Judy asked the club forty trivia questions from an event held at Worldcon. The categories were SF and Fantasy Food, Fictional Lands Surrounded by Water, Spacecraft, and Taglines. The original Worldcon event had theme music and picture categories as well, but they would have been harder to manage over Zoom. The After the Meeting Meeting was held over Zoom.