

August 2020 NASFA Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The August meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, August 15, 2020 on Zoom at 6:04:08 PM by President Mary Lampert and the crickets.

OLD BUSINESS

Nada.

NEW BUSINESS

The Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Baptist Church where NASFA usually meets has lifted its ban on children in the building during meetings. That means we can go back to in-person meetings that include members' children such as Thane. According to the rules, we still cannot enter the child rooms or use the play area, we will have to take out our own trash (which we already do), and we will have to sanitize the areas we use with our own cleaning products before we leave.

We were planning to hold the NASFA auction next month if we can meet in person.

Does someone want to move to return to in-person meetings or stick with Zoom? "It ain't over" was the gist of the follow-on discussion. It would probably be safer not to hold After the Meeting Meetings with food at the church.

Mike S. moved to keep NASFA meetings on Zoom until we're very sure the danger is passed (or minimized). Sam seconded and the motion passed many to 2.

What can we do instead of the auction? Can we leave it all on Judy's porch? (A resounding "NO".) Judy will try to get a program together.

NOT-A-CON BUSINESS

Can we do a Zoom thing? We can take a few minutes during the After the Meeting Meeting time tonight to play with Zoom breakout rooms. Other conventions held over Zoom have come up with clever ways to get around the difficulties of non-host users changing breakout rooms, such as users changing their on-screen names to include the room number they want to switch to. That approach requires a host to pay careful attention to moving people between rooms.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Officer nominations will be held in November. Be there or be nominated.

Sam paid up the web site for another year.

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:20:40 PM.

For the August program, Sean Owen gave a presentation on "First Generation Starships". The After the Meeting Meeting was held over Zoom, where we performed a successful test run of a simple Zoom breakout room.