

2026-08-04 FUSE Board Meeting Notes

Notes by Heather. I am not an AI bot. You can pry my em-dashes from my cold, dead hands. ;P

Attendees: Damarra, Heather, Amanda ("Rico"), Daniel, Sherilyn B

Call to order 8:12 PM

Treasurer Report (Daniel)

Balance as of 7/31: \$5,913.03. We had \$307.63 in income from CVG and a Finney restitution payment. Daniel aims to follow up with the county to find out how many payments we can expect. We are still paying \$5/month for extra storage on FreeConferenceCall for meeting recordings but we might not need that anymore. We are still on track to finish the year with \$2000+ after regular expenses.

Insurance updates are still pending; Daniel has been unable to connect with anyone. He will provide Rico with office location information to make an in-person visit. Quote from potential new insurer TCG-IP is in progress. Damarra asks that Daniel send a follow-up tomorrow and call TCG-IP on Friday if no response by then. Our insurance payment is coming up soon and will cost us more than it should if we can't update our coverage.

Daniel is still working on updating our company information with our various business accounts, including some web accounts. Heather reported that some of those have already been updated; the discussion about this was in a Slack thread Daniel hadn't seen. Heather recommends we all make an effort to limit thread replies to comments directly related to the original post. Unrelated discussions have been happening in long threads that are easier to miss.

The annual report has been submitted and paid for. There was an incorrect mailing address on our tax returns, which Daniel is submitting a correction for. Our bank account has been updated with the new business name. Our existing credit cards should continue working as none of the numbers have changed.

BMI has still not formally confirmed our cancellation.

Completed Items

Newsletter link and social media icons have been added to the FUSE website, along with the updated logo and government documents. Icons still need to be re-added to the Anime Fusion website.

Former staff have been emailed asking for volunteers to help with various roadshow activities. Damarra also reached out to those people asking specifically for volunteers for our presence at 2D Con.

Our social media accounts have been changed over to FUSE, except for the Anime Fusion Facebook page, where there is some kind of issue preventing us from changing the page name. Rico has been trying to reach Facebook support but it's been AI agents or unavailable. Announcement posts about the name change have been made everywhere except Bluesky.

The changeover of the Anime Fusion site to a static page with basic information has been completed.

In-Progress Tasks

Recent meeting recordings and notes need to be added to the FUSE website.

Need to add a more obvious pointer to the FUSE website on the Anime Fusion page.

Still need to schedule a follow-up meeting of the Board to work on the FUSE website redesign.

Event Planning

Ice skating - no updates

Roller skating (Heather) - Still need to connect with Hopkins and Oval locations, otherwise Heather has a proposal ready that does not include those. She was able to get the remaining details from Twin Cities Skaters. Skate rental is included in their fee, but the facility rental is extra. We would only need to rent the bare floor at the ROC as Twin Cities Skaters would provide the skates. This plan would be \$750 for two hours, which is cheaper than Skateville's quote, or \$825 for three hours, which is longer than is available at the other venues. Heather's recommendation is to partner with Twin Cities Skaters and rent the ROC as the location. It is transit accessible and has plenty of bleacher seating. The target would be 100 attendees. If we do charge admission, Heather would prefer it to be a suggested donation, of \$15. With 100 attendees we would make a profit and wouldn't need to turn away anyone who couldn't pay. There is an option to hire a DJ for an extra fee and to have food trucks. The ask for this proposal would be a \$1000 budget to cover the event fees and marketing.

Damarra asks that Heather get the details for the Hopkins and Oval locations and we will make a decision about this later in the week.

Picnic (Rico) - Scheduled for September 5th. General activities planned should be OK under the permit. Rico will be visiting the location to check in person if there are power outlets and a grill. The event is planned as a potluck but will also take donations for FUSE. Damarra asks that we have promotional materials ready and posted by the end of this week.

Cosplay dance (all) - no updates. Heather voices the opinion that with time growing short and resources being limited we should table this idea until next year. Rico agrees. Board will discuss more later.

Communal resource event (Damarra) - no outreach done for this as of yet. Targeted for December.

Garage sales (Damarra) - with time growing short, there will be only one this year. Targeted for late September/early October, or possibly November. Currently researching locations. Heather mentions that the ROC can also be used for events like this.

Lab coats (Damarra) - got a shirt sample with the atom printed; the fade effect makes it difficult to print. The received sample appears acceptable. Waiting on a sample from another printer.

Movie meet-ups (Rico) - Your Name's rerelease in theaters is coming up next Friday. Some theaters have times and tickets available but they are in the outer suburbs that are not transit accessible. The Rosedale AMC says it will have showings but there are no times available yet. Consensus is to announce the meetup, say it will be at Rosedale, but that the time will be announced when available.

Damarra notes that we should try to target events at central locations but events further away should not be discarded out of hand. Heather notes that her own rule of thumb is to keep things within the 694/494 loops. Amanda adds that the movie meetup being our first event, a central location is preferable. Damarra advises that the parking lot at Rosedale and surrounding area is currently under construction. They ask that Rico be available to socialize with people after the movie; unfortunately the rest of the Board is unavailable that evening.

Roadshow Targets

TC WMAF - missed

Big Minneapolis Anime - missed

2D Con - confirmed for an outdoor spot in an activity area. Tent is lined up, tables in progress, new tablecloth and handouts are now on hand.

Excalibur Con - missed

Furry Migration - applied and confirmed

Fall Con - application process inquiry in progress

Twin Cities Con - application submitted

Akeome Con - application submitted

Heather mentions that going forward the FUSE marketing email address can be used for roadshow communications.

New Items

Need to research security service options for events.

Should we create some basic FUSE merchandise? Inexpensive items such as stickers or bracelets, etc. Heather suggests buttons with the logo but cautions that some venues don't allow stickers. Stickers would be a popular item, however. Damarra to put together a list of cheap options to consider.

Items to consider for purchase: New table (the grilled cheese table is very warped and needs replacing), a wagon for transport of supplies, canopy tent for outdoor activities. Damarra's preferred tent option is \$180, with sturdy construction, easy to assemble. We also need storage bins to replace the rest of the cardboard boxes still in use in the storage locker. Wagon and bins are the top priority. Damarra to put together price estimates for these items.

Follow-Up Meetings

Board executive sessions for website redesign, dance discussion, and storage locker planning scheduled for this Thursday the 6th at 7:00pm and next Thursday the 13th at 7:00pm. By the end of the second meeting, these items should be completed or have a solid plan decided. It is critical that we move on these items ASAP.

Open Floor

No current items.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 1st, 8:00 PM on FCC. Reminders to be sent 10 days prior.

Damarra motions to adjourn. Amanda seconds. Passes unanimously.

Adjourned 9:57 PM.