

MESA General Membership Meeting 2/9/2025

Attendance:

D2O
Dexter
Heros
Hillbilly Hound
Ilari
Izzy Kat
Kara Yeen
Kit-Coon
Muriel
Oda
Onudi
Panda Squirrel
Tamara
Travis
Zola

Meeting Opened: 12:08pm

Previous Meeting Minutes posted in text chat.

Our pre-registration numbers are concerningly low, compared to previous years. We normally have 3 times this many people pre-registered, by now. We've heard a few anecdotal reasons, most of which are outside of our control, such as personal life issues, and state politics. A large hotel con, Furry Fiesta, is also 2 weeks before us, this year, when, normally, it's in February or March. We will send out a poll to try to get more solid information.

Our current break-even attendance is around 100. We had a little over 140, last year. We can bring the break-even point down, some, by cutting expenses. We may not be able to afford Shasta's A/V gear, this year. One of our biggest fixed expenses is the storage unit, which has doubled in price over the past decade. We might be able to get by with a smaller unit, but we'd have to pare down supplies.

The possibility of taking a year off discussed. We would lose momentum, but we don't seem to have any. We would also still have to pay for the storage unit. Furry Retreat, another event at the same campsite, but in October, struggled, last year. We might talk to them about taking their slot, to give us more time to spread the word, and not be back-to-back with Furry Fiesta. Retreat has not heard back from the park, yet, about their application, and would like to still happen, if possible.

Motion to cancel the con for 2024

Seconded

Worst case, we would only lose the \$275 deposit

Motion to table

Seconded

Motion tabled

Motion to resolve to hold a survey and discuss the results at the next meeting.

Seconded

Suggestion that the survey include an option for “I can’t pre-register, yet, but intend to pre-reg later or register on-site.”

Motion passes

We don’t have t-shirt art, or sponsor art yet. This has been a recurring problem. Apart from communication, asking our artist GoH’s for what is essentially free art on a deadline may be too much of an ask.

Our Vice-President is an amazing resource for badges and t-shirts, as long as we can get the art in advance.

Our staff page is out of date

Suggestion of giving our Event Director a larger budget, specifically for artwork.

The typical cost for badge art, these days, is barely within the current discretionary budget.

For slightly more we could get a clip-art subscription

This could work for filler art

Next meeting March 16th at noon

Meeting Closed: 1:39pm