



Sun City Photography Club Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes May 8, 2023

Call to order: 12:30 PM

Board members present: Allen Utzig, Marsha Larrabee, Barbara Friedman, Tracey Smith, Randy Freeman, Jane McCabe, Jim Newkirk

Board members absent: None

Club members present: Rita Johnston, Cathy O'Connor, Dick Barbour

Guests: None

Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting (April 10, 2023) which were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting were approved. (MOTION and second: Larrabee/Freeman)

Treasurer's Report:

Randy reported that the club presently has 269 members and there is \$6688 in the treasury.

Guest Issues:

Cathy O'Conner was present and had agreed to serve as the Director of Communications if appointed. She will be responsible for maintaining the website and club newsletter, calendars and email. Dick Barbour was also present and had agreed to be the next Director of Exhibits following appointment.

MOTION (Larrabee/McCabe) "that the Board approve Dick Barbour as the Director of Exhibits." Motion passed.

MOTION (Larrabee/Smith) "that the Board approve Cathy O'Connor as the Director of Communications." Motion passed.

Allen will announce these new Director appointments at the general meeting and an email announcement will also be sent out.

Officer Report, VP – Administration:

Marsha reported that a "sneak peek" of the annual exhibit guidelines has been sent out to the membership to give everyone plenty of time to plan their entry photos. The official notice will probably be sent around the middle or end of June and will also be posted on the website.

Marsha plans to stay on the Exhibits Committee and work on the offsite exhibits. As Director of Exhibits, Dick Barbour will manage the onsite exhibit coordinators, the annual exhibit, and offsite exhibit coordinators.

Marsha has submitted the proposal to the Georgetown Library for the club to exhibit there in 2024. We should hear the results around June 1st. The exhibit will be called "A World Without

Color” and all photos will be monochrome. Marsha requested that we have the downstairs café gallery, which should hold 20 to 25 photos. The exhibit dates are not set yet.

Marsha reported that Mark Nissen submitted a separate proposal to the Georgetown Library for an exhibit by the Framed Print SIG. He asked for the upstairs hallway with 20 to 30 photos and a theme related to “People of the Worlds.”

The upcoming photo club exhibit at St. David’s Hospital Healing Arts Gallery is set to go. The call for photos will go out around the middle of May. Registration is June to July and the show is in August. The theme will be “Georgetown and the Hill Country: the Places, People, Flora and Fauna that Make This a Unique Part of Central Texas.”

Marsha stated that we are still looking for a Director of Publicity and a Director of IT. Presently, Marsha is doing some publicity duties and Tracey has taken on submitting club information to the Sun Rays but those tasks will fall under Publicity once someone fills that slot.

Officer Report, VP – Education:

Barbara reported that fall classes are being planned. She looked at class records from the past year and counted that we had 19 classes, approximately 150 enrollments and 85 unique attendees. Goals for the coming 2023-2024 year include holding 25 classes with 200 enrollments and 100 unique attendees. Some of the classes are already committed and on the schedule.

Barbara raised the question of whether the club will still charge a fee for the classes whose instructor does not want to be paid. Pros and cons were discussed and the matter was brought to a vote.

MOTION (Larrabee/Smith) “that the club will charge a minimum fee of \$10 per class, to be paid by the start of the first class.” Motion passed.

When instructors want to be paid for the classes they teach, they will receive 80% of the fee charged by the club (fee based on the amount requested by the instructor).

Officer Report, VP – Programs & Events:

Tracey gave a follow-up about the plan for a field trip that would include models from a local dance studio. The dance studio has not responded to the request. Instead, the next field trip has been planned for Friday, May 19 as an outing to the old German town of Walburg. The meetup will start around 5:00 and after shooting some photos, the group will have dinner around 6:30 at the Walburg German restaurant where a band will perform starting at 7:00. This outing will encompass several genres of photography including food, architecture, people, street photography and music.

Tracey brought the club’s new banner to show the Board. It was designed by Dave Werner using photos taken by club members. The cost to have it printed was less than \$150.

Upcoming general meeting speakers include Martin Byhower on May 10 speaking on “Nature in Your Back Yard” and Earl Nottingham in June speaking on “The Wild Focus of Texas.”

Tracey reported that a new event has been planned for the Studio. On Monday May 15, the Studio monitors will have it set up for still life photos to be shot or people just to practice their still life photography. Club members can register online for a time slot. Barbara added that there will be a class in still life photography offered in the fall.

Tracey stated that the “Ask Me Anything” sessions regarding specific camera formats have begun and the first one on Nikons was well attended. The next one on Sony cameras will be held on May 19 and a Cannon session will be held in June.

Tracey, Barbara, Marsha and Rita visited the VAC art show to see how it was presented with the idea that the photography club might consider having a similar show in the spring. This would provide a way for members who might want to exhibit and/or sell their works to do so in a non-competition venue. It could take place over a one- or two-day period and include a reception. This idea will be discussed more in future meetings.

Old Business:

Topics on the Agenda under Old Business were covered in the Officer Reports.

New Business:

Club’s Room Reservations for 2024 – Allen reported that we just got approval for room reservations for next year. We will have the Studio (Game Rooms 1 & 2) all day Monday and Friday, and Wednesday mornings. Our general meetings will remain in the Cowan Creek Georgetown/Florence room but the schedule will vary, some months on the 3rd Wednesday and some months on the 4th Wednesday. Marsha will enter the dates on the club calendar. The Board will need to decide if they want to keep a consistent meeting schedule or if it will vary to correspond with the weeks of the general meeting.

Artificial Intelligence – Allen referred to a PSA Journal article that had been forwarded by Wes Odell about the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in photography. Allen proposed that the club formulate a policy statement to delineate what uses of AI will be allowed in club competitions. Photo editing programs utilize AI technology but the controversy revolves around AI-generated imagery. The Board discussed this and in general agreed that individual object components of images should be the photographer’s original work even if the final image is a composite. This topic was tabled for further discussion and development of a policy statement.

Member Survey – Tracey reported that the last member survey was done in 2021 and the Education Committee proposed that a new survey be taken, possibly to be sent out in August. One purpose of a survey would be to gauge member interest in various topics to assist in planning classes. Board members agreed on developing a new survey.

Adjournment:

MOTION to adjourn (Larrabee/Smith), passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:44 PM.

Jane McCabe, Secretary

Date of Approval: June 12, 2023