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## Sun City Photography Club Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes August 7, 2023

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**Call to order:** 10:00 AM

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

**Board members absent:** Barbara Friedman

**Club members present:** Pat Maher, Tony Kawashima, Jaan Goad, Cathy O'Connor, Rich Lovaas

**Guests:** None

**Approval of minutes:**

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

**Treasurer's Report:**

Randy reported that the club presently has 288 members and there is \$7262 in the treasury.

Allen had asked Randy to produce a report showing the club's income and expenses for the year, including budgeted amounts and actuals. Total revenue for the year has been \$5610 and total expenses \$3164. This is a deviation from budget of about \$7000 with net of about \$2500. Allen stated that the CA sets a limit on profits so the club will need to spend some of the excess funds. Randy was asked to send copies of the report to the board members.

**Guest Issues:**

None

**Officer Report, VP – Administration:**

Marsha announced that registration is complete for the St. David's Hospital Healing Arts Gallery exhibit which will run from August 25 to October 20. Rob Neff will handle "outside" publicity (Wilco Sun, Impact etc.) and Marsha will handle the CA Communicator, NRO Bulletin and inner-club publicity. Drop-off instruction for exhibitors has been sent.

Marsha will probably send out the official "call for photos" in mid-October for the Georgetown Library exhibit called "Sun City Photography Club: A World Without Color" that will run from January 3 through February 11, 2024.

The new North Point Fitness Center exhibit venue has been well-received. The change out dates have not been set because we are waiting for the hanging rail to be installed.

The Annual Competition & Exhibit Committee has completed the Official Call for Photos which will be emailed to the membership on August 15. Cathy will also post it to the website that day. The registration and Dropbox links will not be "live" until registration opens on October 2. There will be a slightly new format from last year to incorporate the three experience levels. The drop-off and judging day is November 11 which is Veterans Day so parking may be an issue in the later morning because of the celebration across the street.

Marsha brought up the need for 15 additional hanging rods and their attachments. At least 12 of the longer 5-foot versions are needed at North Point which has a very high ceiling. The extras can be used in the Atrium for the Annual Competition. The total cost for the hangers and rods plus shipping and tax comes to \$460.67.

MOTION (Larrabee/Smith) "that the Board approve the expenditure of no more than \$475 for 15 additional photo display hanging rods and attachments." Motion passed. Marsha will place the order.

### **Officer Report, VP – Programs & Events:**

Tracey reported that upcoming general meeting speakers include Essdras Suarez via Zoom in August, speaking on "Essence of Place" which Tracey would like to have recorded. Austin photographer John Langmore will speak on "Black and White" in September, Cheri Freeman will speak on "Nature" in October, and Linda Nickell will speak on "the Beauty on the Back Road" in November.

On August 14 there will be a discussion group on Artificial Intelligence which will be a way to determine members' interest and whether an AI SIG might be warranted in the future.

The former Competition SIG is changing to the Photo Discussion SIG as of September 1. Photos will be submitted to PSA judges for comments and then the group will discuss those comments.

Field Trip report: Tony Kawashima reported that the Jarrell rodeo field trips and the "pop-up" field trip to the Leander Fire Administration Training Ground were very successful. Tracey suggested that we consider setting up a field trip to Canyon Lake or somewhere within the viewing range of the annular eclipse on October 14. In discussing this it was suggested that perhaps rather than making it an official field trip, we start a list of "photo ops" of upcoming events or "hidden gems" that people could visit on their own. This could be an ongoing feature in the newsletter which Cathy said she'd be happy to include.

There have been 142 photos submitted to the Summer Challenge so far. Tracey would like to have this promoted in another email before the end of August.

Tracey brought up an alternative idea to the usual club holiday party, which was to have a Happy Hour rather than a dinner. It would cost less (maybe even be subsidized by the club) and would likely get more attendees than past dinners. We have the Florence/Georgetown rooms at the Cowan Center reserved starting at 4 PM on Wednesday, December 6. No decision was made but people expressed interest in having a Happy Hour for our holiday event.

## Old Business:

**Summer Challenge Photo Releases** – Tracey looked into the question of whether photo releases are required for Sun City residents who appear in photos that could be used in marketing materials and possibly on the Sun City website. She found that there is a photo release that everyone signs as a part of their new resident paperwork, which would cover our submissions to the Summer Challenge. It was agreed that as a general practice, it's polite to ask permission before taking photos of people.

**Editing of Bylaws** – Marsha, Tracey and Jaan met after the last board meeting to correct mistakes and inconsistencies in the existing bylaws. These were not substantive changes that would require amending the bylaws but were merely editorial corrections. Marsha suggested that the board approve the corrections. Allen asked that the board be provided with a copy of the corrected version of the bylaws in order to view the changes before signing off on them. Pat suggested that both the old and new versions be posted on the website so that all members can view them for a period of time before archiving the old version.

**Bylaws Amendments** – Marsha asked whether the board wants to appoint a committee to look into changing the composition of the board (i.e. expanding it), which would require amending the bylaws. Tracey said that it was too late to make board changes for the coming year because voting happens in October. Allen reminded everyone how difficult it is to find people to fill the positions we already have, and he felt it would be even harder to fill more board positions. Marsha agreed that we should not increase the number of board members but that there could still be some reorganization of board and non-board positions and duties. It was suggested that it might be appropriate for a committee to be formed early in the coming year to address and advise about potential changes to the organizational structure.

**Table for Mat Cutter** – Allen asked Rich Lovaas to provide input on a table to hold a new, not yet purchased, mat cutter. Rich handed out drawings of a table with surface dimensions of 48"x42" to support a 45"x35" cutter mounted on the table and mats up to 32"x40". Rich had gotten a quote for around \$500 from the wood shop for constructing such a table. He felt this was high and thought he might find something more reasonable online or find a way to get the cost down for the wood shop to make a custom table. Prior to the last meeting Allen had gotten approval from the CA for a table up to 48"x30" but since the size Rich is recommending is 12" wider, Allen will speak to Chrissy Smith again and see if she will approve the larger size. It was also suggested that the table might be able to fold up against the wall with a piano hinge, which would save space when not in use. Rich said that a new mat cutter of the appropriate size would cost around \$325-\$340.

**Officer Nominations** – To Allen's knowledge there are no new candidates for club offices. By next month we need to have a slate of candidates to be voted on in October. Allen would like current board members to confirm whether or not they are willing to stay on through the next term. If any positions remain with no candidates we will solicit nominations from the floor. If no one is willing to serve in certain positions we would have a board with empty slots. The board could appoint someone to serve in a temporary capacity if necessary. Allen's article in the club newsletter has not elicited any volunteers to serve on the board as yet.

## **New Business:**

**August Field Trip- Living Grace Canine Ranch** – Tony reported that the liability release required of visitors to the Living Grace Canine Ranch (LGCR) contains language that some might not be comfortable signing. Allen explained what is contained in a standard “hold harmless” agreement but said that LGCR’s goes beyond that. It includes a statement waiving any claims and damages for personal injury, death or property damage sustained as a result of visiting LGCR and resulting from the negligence or misconduct of LGCR. Allen took issue with the “misconduct” inclusion in particular, which could refer to intentional or non-intentional actions. Tony said that he would be sure the people who have signed up for the August 17 field trip to LGCR are notified ahead of time what the release entails so that they can make their own decision about signing it and attending.

**New Resident Orientation** – Allen reported that Sun City’s New Resident Orientation & Club Expo will take place in the Ballroom on Thursday, August 17 with the Club Expo from 8:30 to 9:15 AM followed by a CA staff presentation from 9:15 to 10AM. Since the club expo will last less than an hour, it was decided that our table would only use the pop-up banner and not the metal display racks. Tracey, Randy and Marsha volunteered to staff the table.

**New Member Orientation** – Marsha requested that an orientation be scheduled for new club members. Dates and times were discussed and it was agreed that the orientation will be held on Friday, September 8 at 1:00 in the studio.

**CA Budget** – Allen received a form from the CA which is to be filled out for next year’s club budget. Allen doesn’t know the due date yet. He asked Randy to prepare a budget that will satisfy the CA requirements and bring it to the next meeting. It does not have to be an exact copy of the internal club budget which is more detailed.

## **Adjournment:**

MOTION to adjourn (Smith/McCabe), passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM.

Jane McCabe, Secretary

Date of Approval: October 9, 2023