

Photography West Camera Club

Minutes of Board Meeting

September 14, 2023

OFFICERS PRESENT: Ella Schreiber, President
Ken Kvam, Treasurer
Sally Hilding, Secretary
Greg Swinney, Vice President of Operations

OFFICERS ABSENT: Doug Culliton, Vice President Education & Communications

GUESTS: Jim Keane, ExOfficio; Eileen Arps, Mark McKinney, Gene Mitofsky, David Pickles, John Frelich, Becky Pachek, Nap O'Young, Mykee Cornelison, Candy Worley, Marcella Jones, David Fudge, Rony Voorhees, Bill Lane, Jane Burke, Nick Gruin. Sandra Forsey.

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by our President, Ella Schreiber.

Secretary's Report: Sally Hilding

The minutes to the May 11, 2023, were approved.

Witch's Ride: Sandra Forsey is helping to facilitate this year's **Witch's Ride** which will be on October 24th and will again benefit Buena Villa. It will begin at Beardsley at 2:30 though the parade itself will not start until 3:30. It will be the same route as last year and go approximately 1 ½ miles. Different this year is that they are inviting everyone and there will be food trucks and a live band. They loved what the club did last year with the pictures and videos and would like to have the club do it again this year.

Ambassador Program: Marcella Jones would like to restart the **Ambassador program**. This program will match new members with existing members with similar photography interests to help with their transition into the club. It consists of a phone call to the new member and then follow up and/or the new member checking with the contact member with questions.

Marcella also mentioned that our **club calendar** is only as good as the information that she gets so she requested that each of us who has something for the calendar make sure she gets it in time and that it includes all the relevant information.

Education Programs: David Pickles: Coming up October 30th through November 3rd is **the Photoshop Virtual Summit**. Members can register for free but what David would like to do is what we did last year which is to show some of the sessions in our classroom. If you register for free, on each day they release some sessions and you have 48 hours to watch them. For David to provide them in the classroom, he will need a couple of members to help facilitate.

Lightroom User Group: David mentioned that the group topics cover more than just Lightroom, maybe needing a new name. He will be starting up the sessions for this year soon.

New Member in charge of Tech: Nick Gruin is now taking over for Larry Tannenbaum. Nick has actually been working with Larry on the computers since last fall.

Happy Camp: Jane Burke (co-chair with John Obradovich) said the Rec Center will send out information in November for Happy Camp that will happen in the last two weeks of March. That is when our members can sign up to join. Each member will spend 15/20 minutes at each group taking maybe 10 pictures to submit. We will need more committee members as time goes on. There will be a tech person to give information on how/where to send pictures.

Programs 2023-24 season: Mark McKinney said that the program calendar is filling up. Also, some of the newer members are participating which is good news. He is also in the process of contacting a speaker. Bill Lane suggested we send out a notification for each upcoming program; he is willing to do 2 movie style posters for each program.

Web site updates & Projected Image “Exhibition”: Gene Mitofsky reminded everyone that any additions or changes on the website need to go through him. The digital display has been started and is showing right now. Anyone who wishes to have their pictures displayed can put 30 pictures on a thumb drive and put it in a box on the monitor desk. Each display will be 20 to 30 pictures and run for 2 weeks. Size doesn’t matter. Ella commended the wonderful work Gene has done with the web site.

AI Presentation & Discussion: David Fudge explained that there are different levels of AI regarding source material, for example Adobe Firefly vs Mid Journey. David said that currently one cannot copyright anything done with AI. Competition both professionally and locally are currently in a state of flux as the issues are being worked out. David gave examples of different ways to have categories that could include AI photos. He stated that AI is coming so we better start embracing it at this point. A lengthy discussion of various aspects of AI followed.

Ethics Chairman: David Fudge was elected Ethics Chairman for our club. He will be alert to what is AI and what is not and to allow AI it’s own area.

Mentor/Mentee Program: Ella Schreiber mentioned that Becky Pachek was very brave and helpful in laying out all the issues and problems with the program. As a result, Ella got some club members together over the summer to really work with the issues. John Frelich will head the effort. A flyer was developed that explains the program, as well as a 2-page application and a schedule of activities. The cost of the flyer will be approximately \$90. This was all done by collaborative effort in the committee. John presented details of how it will work.

Critique Program: Ken Kvam said someone can send in 2 images for critique, either before or after a competition, and they will be critiqued in a double blind. Ken will send the submitted images to someone who is good with the given subject.

Treasurer Report: Ken Kvam reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. The new method of displaying photos in the club room came to \$983 and is being paid by an anonymous donor. Jane Burke mentioned that the **badges** will increase to \$6 for the magnetic badge and \$5 for the pin badge, gold or silver. Checks should be written to Roy Cunningham.

Operations: Greg Swinney gave an update on Larry Tannenbaum. He said that Nick Gruin will be taking over the **tech position** for Larry but will need an additional person to do the job. Greg said Mark McKinney has taken care of getting all our **printing supplies** for the year. The **print display** is up. The details of how to display are still being worked out. We can now be flexible. Gene Mitofsky will be doing the **photo exhibits**. Mykee Cornelison has the **monthly competition** already in place. The print **competition** is starting sooner than the projected image for the semiannual fall contest. The dates are set. The chairpersons went over the rules and established a few things to help define what “nature” is, for example.

Competitions: Jim Keane said the **dates for the competitions** are on both the monthly calendar and the competition calendar. There was a lengthy discussion on the pluses and minuses of **coordinating subjects with ACCC** (with a 6-month lead). There is a check box on the competition entry that indicates the **entrant has read the rules**.

Our **judges** are all set for our upcoming competition.

The names for the categories on the website have been updated. The points given for slides have been removed. Jim was wondering if we should discuss **creating a new "super" class** because we have people who have more points, 200 to 450, that maybe should be in a new, higher class thereby giving more opportunities for the master class participants. It was decided to give it some thought and discuss it at the next meeting.

Social: A **social chairman** is also needed. Ella Schreiber mentioned that she has seen the same problem in other clubs. Sally Hilding suggested that we ask again at the Friday meeting and if no one volunteers, we will need to cancel the October party. Jim Keane said that if we don't have the event, we need to cancel the reservation or we will be charged for the room.

Misc.

Rondy Voorhees suggested that we have a **photo equipment "garage" sale** in the clubroom. We have members who have equipment that they don't use anymore, and we have mentees and others who would love to obtain the equipment. This activity would be a good opportunity for them to connect and a good way for the "sellers" to explain the equipment to the "buyers". No money would go through the club; it would be direct between the parties involved. Rondy agreed to organize it.

Eileen Arps asked about the **workshops/education**. Greg Swinney asked who was going to organize them as there are no classes scheduled at present. We need an Education Chair.

David showed how to get the **AC** to go on: you press the center of the control for about 10 seconds and it will turn on.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Submitted by

Sally Hilding, Secretary