



Essex Photo Club

Board Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2008

Attendance:

Nath Kaplan*, **
Todd Boressoff*
Bart Costello*
Stacey Lindley*
Howard Knauer
Caroline Ades*
Eric Pasarin
Ruthie Hager
Scott Smith (un-excused late arrival of 8:25)
Bob McMurtrie
Nancy McMurtrie*
Rachel Barish
Joe Thomas
Michael Mund
Frank Ingram
Margaret Moriarty
Janet Markman
Jill Booth*

*Denotes Board Member- Quorum met as 7/9 voting board members were present
(Board Members not in attendance: Ira Rosen, JoAnn Tucker**)

** Denotes a Board Member that is both on the board as an elected officer and as
a chairman of a committee with an automatic board seat.

Agenda: None officially compiled or distributed prior to meeting.

Announcements:

B&H: Howard announced that in the past 14 months our club/family/friends
have purchased \$24,000 resulting in a dividend to the club of \$510 in
commission.

Banquet: Per Bart, no additional monies had to be paid by EPC to cover the cost
of the banquet.

Unique Photo: Is offering a discount of print services. EPC members will receive web pricing for walk-in printing services. Nath used the services, said the quality was very good (better than Costco) but is not as quick as some locations. An 11x14 print is \$3.99. Just mention you are an EPC member to receive discount.

Horizon Photography Workshops is offering a 10% discount for EPC members. Must utilize a discount code, please contact Nath for code. For information go to horizonworkshops.com, or call 410-885-2433.

Old Business:

Digital Projector: Nath and Eric are working towards a goal of mid-July to have a projector decision. They are looking at Epson and Canon models. Nath is going to solicit bids from multiple sources. See also new business.

Rules: The Rules Committee has been working on updating the rules to accommodate the new digital division and make other changes. See also new business

Survey: The member survey of February resulted in 26 responses. There were many good suggestions that will be incorporated into EPC. A copy of the results was given to Stacey to assist Weekend Warrior Planning. In response to the survey a mentoring program has been suggested. Howard further suggested in place of an assigned mentor, to make a mentoring panel. This way, if a Mentor was unavailable anyone on the panel could assist the member.

Projector Budget Vs. Operational Budget: An update was asked for, but Scott was not present at this point in the meeting to present a Treasurers report or to answer specific questions. Bart did not have access to this information.

New Business:

Board Members as committee chairpersons. Howard raised the concern that we do not presently have the full 11 voting board members as outlined in the constitution. The number of voting Board members is decreased due to two (2) elected officers, chairing committees. These would otherwise be board seats. Currently Nath is president and Chair of Programs, and JoAnn is an officer as Past President and Chair of Competition. Per the Constitution there should be 11 voting members of the board. Because of the dual roles, there are only 9 current voting members. After much discussion, Todd suggested we strategically take steps to involve more members. It was suggested we utilize a mentoring of sorts to help members learn more of the "ropes" in the running of the club. Caroline stated experience is a problem, especially on the competition committee. No motions or resolution. Board is aware of this situation and will work to resolve it.

Digital Projector:

Nath wants to have a decision/purchase by mid-July. A total combined budget of \$2,000 was approved for the projector, external hard drive, calibration software, competition software, and competition web hosting space. Nath and Eric will be further researching models. Nath has met with Unique Photo, who will work on an aggressive pricing for the bid on the projector.

Digital Competition: Specific digital competition rules will not be written until we purchase the projector and software, and have a working knowledge of them established. The goal is to have rules will be in place prior to September competition. The first meeting in September will include an in depth explanation of the Digital Competition process. In addition JoAnn has reserved the church for a 3rd Thursday in September to allow us to practice and conduct a live test run for digital prior to a competition. Between our meeting, the test run and our competition we will be meeting three (3) Thursdays in a row to start the year. Details regarding the test night will follow when available.

Rules: The board approved new rules for 2008/2009. The new rules are based on the draft presented by the rules committee on June 16th. Some changes were made in the board meeting. The most notable changes are in the area of digital, slides, divisions, classes, definitions.

The new definitions will be used:

Class A is now the name of advanced group, formerly known as Salon.

Class B will now designate the beginner's class, previously known as Class A.

Traditional will represent an image that can only have minimal global post processing adjustments applied to it. Additionally, the use of filters that would change the scene as it is seen with the naked eye (i.e. Star Filters) is prohibited in Traditional.

Traditional will include Trade Prints.

Freestyle will designate any image (print, digital, or slide) that any and all editing is allowed.

Digital images and slides will be combined into one division, called Digital/Slide. Slide makers who previously competed in the slide division will now compete in Class A (previously Salon) in Digital/Slide, *however* the board agreed that the Competition Chairperson reserves the right to allow certain slide makers to compete in Class B. Otherwise they will be penalized because of the previous set-up of the slides division only having a Salon designation. Joe, Ruthie, and Jill were in attendance and spoke on behalf of slide makers, and felt it to be more competitive to be included in a larger competition pool.

Weekend Warriors: Will be restarted in officially in September. Once the official Warriors starts back up, it will alternate between Saturday and Sunday (and Friday night when appropriate) to try to accommodate as many members

schedules as possible. Nath supplied the results of the survey to Stacey to incorporate member's suggestions into the trips. Stacey and Barbara are accepting ideas from the membership. Please contact Stacey at StaceyLindley@Comcast.net, or Barbara at Barbar4033@aol.com.

Website: Nath and Eric will be working on updating the website. They will be adding a documents section that will have an online version of the competition rules, the constitution, minutes, and weekend warrior documents.

2009 Banquet: JoAnn has already booked the dinner for 2009. We have a choice of a plated dinner or a buffet. There was mixed opinion on which way to go. This was not put to a formal vote, but the overall sentiment was to go with a plated meal.

Print Box: Nath stated the box used to display prints during competition needs some work. Bob volunteered to make repairs.

Club Calendar: Due to the way the calendar falls in 2009, the first Thursday is on New Years Day. Due to this holiday, we plan to holding our meetings on January 8th in place, so we will meet the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays in place of the typical 1st and 3rd. JoAnn is awaiting confirmation from the church as their 2009 calendar is not out.

Additionally due to the Ridgewood presentation, we will have back to back competitions at the end of January and beginning of February.

Intra-Club Competition: Howard is in discussion with the Livingston Camera Club to start an Intra-club competition. This would replace a program night NOT a traditional competition night. There would be a small cost involved as 3 judges would be used. Per Howard and Joe (speaking as judges) Livingston is similar in activity and size to our club. Howard is waiting to speak to their President and will keep the Competition Committee updated.

Constitution: Nath would like to have the constitution evaluated and updated this year. A committee will be formed at a later date. Currently the Board is reviewing the Constitution for typos, as it has been put into an electronic format for distribution and for web usage.

Treasurers Report: Scott did not prepare a formal treasurer's report. He stated the balance to be "about \$2,200". There was no breakdown as to operating and projector funds. When asked if there were enough funds to cover the \$2,000 budget for projector, he said he thought so, but hadn't checked balances in "a while", and was unsure of the amounts or status of two blank checks given to JoAnn. Concerns were raised as to our financial standing and balances. Bart has not yet received all records from Scott. Transition is in process.

Motions:

- 1) \$2,000 budget for digital projector, calibration software, external hard-drive, web hosting, and competition software. Motioned by: Nancy. Vote Status Passed.
- 2) To merge digital images and slides into one category. Motioned by Todd; Seconded by Joe; Status passed.
- 3) To have both nature and pictorial Digital/Slide competition monthly, in place of alternating months as previously proposed by rules committee. Motioned by Nancy, seconded by Jill. Vote status passed.
- 4) Motion to approve rules as reviewed, edited and changed during the Board Meeting, Motioned by Nath, Status passed.
- 5) Motion to adjourn by Jill, status passed

Adjournment: 10:04pm

Prepared by: Stacey Lindley, June 2008

Submitted to Board for Editing: June 25, 2008

Submitted to Board for Approval: July 15, 2008

Accepted by Board: July 22, 2008. Accepted by majority vote, as I write this 6/9 voting Board Members accepted the minutes. A majority of five (5) voting Board Members was needed.

Distribution: To be distributed via email with hard copies made available to members without email.