

Minutes of the NVPS Board Meeting on January 31, 2010

President, Sandi Croan, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at the Sully Government Center.

Present were: John Quigley, Marilyn Gaizband, Yulan Guo, Sam Schaen, Melanie Marts, Mary O'Neill, Fred Chitty, Georgette Grossman, Jeff Namadan, Tom Brett, Matt Schmidt, Gayle Dennis, Brian Payne, Gerry Abbott, Scott Musson, Bill Prosser, Bob Friedman, Willa Friedman, Sandi Croan, Ana Gomez and Andy Klein.

The minutes from the June 22, 2009 and September 22, 2009 meetings were passed as corrected.

Treasurer, Fred Chitty, reported that revenues are up due to the increase in membership. The bill from the firehouse has not been received yet. Since the use of PayPal for dues, people are paying sooner. Approximately one third of the dues payment has been through PayPal and almost two thirds by check.

Willa Friedman, recording secretary and historian, reported that attendance at meetings appears to be up approximately 15% (Note: attendance is actually up 30%)

Yulan Guo reported that Photo Expo (formerly known as Meadowlark Photo Expo) will choose a name and a logo at their February meeting. Bill Prosser, alternate delegate, added that they are working on a strategy for digital submissions of images for judging. NVPS will be responsible for advertising and marketing.

Melanie Marts reported that Josh Taylor is scheduled for the fifth Tuesday in March and May workshop will be portfolios. April workshop has not been finalized.

John Quigley reported that he will finalize details of the Huntley Meadows exhibition within the next few days. Twenty five people have expressed interest in exhibiting and there is space for about forty images. Also, the information for the Glennie digital competition is not available yet.

Marilyn reported that there were no changes to the field trip schedule. The New Mexico trip was a big success.

Sam reported that there were no problems with the Fotofax and that he and Marilyn could not lead the February field trip to Richmond.

Andy Klein reported that we now have storage space at the fire house and need to purchase a secure storage locker. It was decided that the End of Year Banquet will be held at the same location, but the date will be moved to the second Friday in June. Bob Friedman moved that Andy be authorized to purchase an appropriate, secure storage locker. Mary seconded the motion and it passed.

Ana Gomez reported that Forums are scheduled through March.

Bob Friedman reported that the database is functioning.

Mary O'Neill presented the survey form she had developed to obtain feedback on the program speakers. The form was approved and is attached. She also reported that Joseph Rossbach would be the February speaker; in April the speaker would talk about panoramas and in May she had scheduled a sports photographer. The March schedule was not firm yet.

Tom Brett, past president, had no report. He suggested that the new equipment manager take home the contents of the storage locker for the summer in order to do any necessary maintenance and training.

Georgette reported that the Members' Galleries were booked through the end of the year.

Matt reported that the "Tech Team" is working. Mary thanked Jeff Namadan, a member of the Tech Team, for saving Robert Creamer when the sound system failed at November program.

Membership coordinator, Gayle Dennis reported that we have over 250 members; 75% are individual members and there are three student members. Thirty percent of the members are new to the club this year.

Brian Payne reported that the Competition Committee needs to order ribbons.

Gerry Abbott, Competition Vice President, reported that all the monthly competition judges have been booked. He said that he still had a small supply of mugs that are being given to the judges. Mary said that she also has a supply of mugs for Program speakers. Ed Funk said that he was storing cartons of mugs from the last order. Because some of the speakers and judges are not enthusiastic about receiving yet another mug, it was suggested that the remaining mugs be offered for sale to the membership and the not given as gifts.

Webmaster, Scott Musson reported that he is satisfied with Dreamhost for the website.

The competition committee, Sam Schaen, Fred Chitty, Scott Musson, Bill Prosser, Gerry Abbott and Sandi Croan, presented their recommended revisions to the competition categories. Georgette edited the report to simplify and clarify it.

Sam presented the new categories and after some discussion and questions, Bob Friedman moved that we accept the changes to the competition rules with final edits to be included in the proposal presented to the membership. Marilyn Gaizband second and the motion was passed.

Tom Brett reported for the awards committee, composed of Ed Funk, Sherwin Kaplan and Tom. The committee was charged with the following:

- developing criteria for adding awards named after NVPS members and
- potential additional End of Year awards and
- to make recommendations about adding and deleting named awards for the 2009-10 club year based on the new criteria.
- In addition, they formalized criteria for the Joe Atchison award.

Ed Funk presented their recommendations as follow:

- The Ollie Fife award will remain, although it will not be for slides
- Abolish the Vallencourt and Seeman awards immediately (Moved by Marilyn Gaizband, second by John Quigley)
- Develop a new award in memory of Dave Carter
- Develop an award to honor Joe Miller

Fred Chitty moved that the board acknowledge the committee is on the right track with the Dave Carter education award and that final approval be tabled to the transition board meeting. This was second by Scott Musson and passed unanimously.

Sandi Croan discussed with the board a need for a new position – Vice President of Operations to coordinate the functions of the equipment, technical and facilities. Sam Schaen moved to propose an amendment to the by-laws to establish a position of Vice President of Operations to coordinate the Equipment, Technical and Facilities responsibilities. Matt Schmidt offered to assume these duties as an interim coordinator and to develop the job description and recruit a nominee for next year. Jeff Namadan and Sam Schaen offered to be on his committee.

Mary O'Neill offered to chair a committee to study resizing and/or restructuring the board positions. John Quigley, Bill Prosser and Fred Chitty offered to serve on a committee to assist her. It was noted that these committees have a very short time to accomplish their goals because the slate of officers must be presented in the April Fotofax. Therefore, the slate needs to be finalized before the end of March. The slate is dependent upon the conclusions of the restructuring committee and job description for the new position of Operations V.P.

The time line established is as follows:

- Results of committees dealing with changes to the board-early March
- Slate due Mid-March
- Slate to be published in April Fotofax or in an email blast if necessary
- Additional nominees-April
- Election-first meeting in May

The nominating Committee has been convened and consists of Tom Brett, chair and Fred Chitty and another member to be chosen.

The competition themes committee, consisting of Gerry Abbott, Brian Payne and Bill Prosser is working on themes for the 2011-12 year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55.