

NVPS Board Meeting Minutes—Tuesday, March 13, 2013

President Willa Friedman called the Board meeting to order at 9:20 PM after our regular Tuesday NVPS meeting. 71 members and visitors attended the meeting featuring speaker, Scott Musson, "Photography Fundamentals—Capture Basics".

Board members in attendance were:

- Willa Friedman
- Dale Nelson
- Jim Norman
- Mike Whalen
- Mike Kane
- Tom Brett
- Georgette Grossman
- Bob Friedman
- Dan Ward
- Roger Lancaster
- Dennis Govoni
- Bill Vanderpool
- Claire Carroll
- John Quigley
- Willa Siegel
- Beth Morris
- Sandi Croan
- Ginger Werz-Petricka

Minutes from the last meeting were approved over the summer by e-mail.

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Membership Coordinator: Beth Morris

Beth reported that there has been a downward trend in membership over the last 2 years (current number of members for 2013 = 205). Board members discussed possible strategies for increasing the visibility of NVPS.

- Jim Norman suggested we publicize our events, speakers on WTOP and in local papers.
- Provide NVPS brochures to Penn Camera, to instructors who are NVPS members and to non-members who have lectured/judged at NVPS and advertise in FOTOFAK.

Board members asked how many visitors actually become members. Data was not available. Georgette Grossman (Secretary) agreed to count the number of new members who raised their hands and introduced themselves at future weekly meetings.

Mike Kane asked if membership data was available for the past three years and if so, could membership renewal email reminders be sent to everyone on the lists. Yes it was available. The Membership Coordinator would be responsible for pulling the data from the NVPS membership database and sending those reminder emails. Currently that would be Curtis Gibbens who is helping Beth Morris.

Beth asked about a policy of putting out business cards at the greeting table. Instead Dale Nelson suggested they should be put on a side table. Such table could be designated with a bright red tablecloth to draw attention.

2. VP Operations: Jim Norman

Jim said things were fine. He and Paul Uhler were working it along with help from Jeff Hancock

3. VP Programs: Bob Friedman

Bob and Mary O'Neill took Tom Burden's place in this office. The speaker for April = Alex Mody and for May = David Luria.

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4. Education & Training: Dennis Govoni

Dennis said that their next 2 sessions would include an anonymous critique (by Matthew Schmidt) and a presentation about printing (by Mike Kane). On May 14th the Portfolio Project will hold its final critique.

5. Nomination for Dave Carter Education Award: Willa Friedman

Willa asked for a volunteer to nominate worthy candidates for this award. Sandi Croan volunteered to head the committee. The award is designed to reward an experienced photographer for exceptional achievement in the training and development of the photographic skills of beginning and intermediate photographers. The specific criteria and process for making this award follow:

- Emphasis should be for conducting workshops and critiques, leading field trips which provide an educational component, mentoring, (either formal or informal) publishing articles in Fotofax, on the web site, etc.
- Need not require holding formal leadership posts in the club
- Should have a subjective element in that simply conducting 10 critiques will not do it; the person also must have excellent teaching ability
- By the last board meeting before the banquet, a committee chaired by an appointee of the president and including the director of workshops and field trips will report to the Board on possible candidates
- The Board will vote on any recommendations made. There may be more than one award in a year, but in most years, there will likely be none or one
- The emphasis should be on club efforts to help people new to photography learn both technical and artistic aspects of the subject so that they become better photographers

6. VP of Competition: Mike Whalen and Mike Kane

Mike Whalen presented and discussed the 4 recommendations that the Competition Committee (Whalen, Kane, Sandy Croan, Bob Friedman, Beth Morris, and Georgette Grossman) proposed for the coming year (2013-14). The full February 2013 NVPS Competition Committee Findings & Recommendations report will be posted on the NVPS site for the membership to read.

❶ Include a third competition Class:

The addition of a third class will distribute members of the existing “advanced” class among classes “2” and “3”. This will solve the problem of the large advanced class size and it will also distribute the advance class talent pool among 2 classes. The survey shows 84% acceptance among the membership for a third class. Three-class photo clubs also exist in other clubs in our area and in other states.

❷ Change the names of the Classes to Class 1 (current novice class), Class 2, and Class 3

There are various connotations and interpretations to possible class titles such as: "Master"; "Advanced", "Intermediate", "Beginner" and "Novice". The use of class labels "1 - 2 - 3" is an attempt to neutralize any implications that other class titles might have brought by their use. "1 - 2 - 3" has no implication of skill or photographic aptitude which makes it a safe choice. We offer the following class definitions:

- Class 1: Any Club member new to photography and is in the process of learning the basic photographic skills, principles and concepts such as manual camera controls; composition; exposure; metering; depth-of-field, etc.

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- Class 2: Any Club member that has demonstrated basic photographic skills and principles and has a sound understanding of the craft.
- Class 3: Any Club member who has demonstrated photographic skills at levels of consistently high quality and creativity or is a working professional photographer.

Division of Members into 3 Classes

Members in the “novice” class this year would be relabeled “Class 1” next year. Novices who are at the top 15% of their class this year would move to “Class 2” in September. There would be no division of the novice class.

The advanced class would be divided into “Class 2” and “Class 3”. Members would be allowed to pick either Class 2 or Class 3 with the following exceptions:

1. It is recommended that you compete in Class 2 if you:
 - a. Moved up from Novice class within the last 3 years
 - b. Compete often but rarely win an award in the advanced class
 - c. Do not meet any of the exceptions below (in # 2)
2. It is recommended that you compete in Class 3 if you:
 - a. Ever won any “Advanced Photographer of the Year” award.
 - b. Ever won “Print of the Year” award in an advanced or monochrome category
 - c. Earn a significant portion of your income as a “photographer”
 - d. Worked full time as a professional photographer
 - e. Taught photography courses at a college, university or art school
 - f. Suggested to do so by the VP’s of Competition

- ⑤ Except for Class 1, limit the number of entries per category from two to one.

This change would restrict the number of entries per category from “two” to “one” except for Class 1 (novice) which would still allow “two” entries. Allowing only a single entry per category (digital, print, monochrome) will address two issues: It will reduce the large number of monthly competition entries from about 148 to 108 or 27% which will make competitions more manageable, allow more time for critiques, and/or avoid late competition nights. About 64% of those surveyed were in favor of, or didn’t care if the number of entries allowed was reduced from 2 to 1.

- ④ Eliminate the “participation point” given to submissions when no award is given.

We currently give “one” point to 75% of our monthly competitors who submit entries but don’t win awards. This seems unfair to those who win awards. For example, a member can submit 27 images, and receive 27 points and never win an award and still have more points than someone who submits 3 images and wins first, second and third place awards. The recommendation proposes to eliminate this “participation” point.

A vote was taken on all 4 proposed recommendations and the Board passed all of them. Tentatively Mike Whalen will send a blast email to all members outlining these recommendations. The full report will be posted on our website.

7. New Speaker/Judge Gifts: Willa Friedman

Three possible options were presented and discussed:

- Laser pointers: Sandi Croan pointed out that judges already got these from other clubs.
- Tote bags: Bob Friedman brought samples. Georgette Grossman pointed out that these may not be used by male speakers/judges.

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- Sputz micro cloth cleaners: Jim Norman suggested these. Dan Ward said we could get our name put on these. Bob Friedman volunteered to do more research and a vote would be taken among Board members via e-mail.

8. Suggestion that the President be invited to speaker/judge dinners: Willa Siegel

The topic was discussed. Not all Presidents want their dinner paid for.

Georgette Grossman moved: *The President does not have to attend all dinners. The President's dinner does not have to be paid for by NVPS. However, if a President goes to a dinner and wants to have the club pay for said dinner, NVPS will pay.*

Jim Norman seconded.

Vote was taken and passed.

9. Meeting Facilities and EOY Banquet: Andy Klein not present

Dale Nelson is taking Andy's place as he has relocated.

10. Treasurer's Report: Tom Brett

Tom Brett presented the Treasurer's Report based on calculations as of March 11, 2013

NVPS Treasurer's Report—Year 2012–2013					
Category	Oct 2011 Actual	Nov 2012 Budget	Nov 2012 Actual 2	Dec 2012 Budget	Dec 2013 Actual
Facility (DLFD)	4,875	4,875	5,265	5,265	[5,265]
Equip Replacement*	536	0	3,695*	0	0
Competitions					
Honorarium	500	550	550	550	300
Meals	296	350	431	350	245
EOY Ribbons, Awards	821	1,000	601	1,000	455***
Programs					
Honorarium	400	450	400	450	350
Meals	329	350	294	350	326
Insurance	200	200	250	250	250
PSA Membership	0	45	0	45	45
Gifts (thumb drives)	550	0	0	0	0
EOY Banquet	554	600	844	600	0
Exhibits	20	250	0	250	0
Treasurer Checks			61	0	0
Education & Training	100	250	31	250	100
Field Trips	unknown	unknown	163	150	0
WEB & host server	180	200	215**	200	0
Fotofax	0	40	0	40	0
Membership & Misc.	261	250	181	250	241
TOTAL	\$9,622	\$9,410	\$12,981	\$10,000	\$2,312
INCOME Member Dues	\$11,009	\$9,500	\$9,806	\$9,500	\$8,283
*funded by Capital Reserve **2 years WEB coverage ***3 years Monthly Ribbons					

The income from member dues is lower due to decrease membership numbers: 2011 = 254; 2012 = 236; 2013 (so far) = 205.

Beginning Bank Balance: June 25, 2012 = \$8,245

Current Bank Balance: March 11, 2013 = \$14,216 [minus \$5,265 we owe for facility rental= **\$8,951**]

Dues stay the same: Individual dues = \$45.00 and Family dues = \$65.00

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11. EOY Banquet Costs: Tom Brett

History

Year	NVPS charged	NVPS Subsidy per person
2009	\$38.00	\$5.00
2010	\$40.00	\$5.00
2011	\$40.00	\$5.00
2012	in advance = \$35.00 at door = \$40.00	\$8.50 total = \$844.00

2013 Meal cost per person based on 100 people = \$44.65

food	\$31.95
20% service charge & 1% tax	\$ 6.77
Bartender, A/V, hors d' oeuvres	\$3.80
5% tax	\$2.13
TOTAL	\$44.65

Tom recommended

- a. Based on financial stability of NVPS use the same price and subsidy—\$35.00—as last year (2012) for this year (2013).
- b. Request that members pay with cash or checks to eliminate the PayPal fee of \$1.07 on \$35.00.

Tom moved we accept his recommendations.

Roger Lancaster seconded.

Board passed.

Bob Friedman moved to adjourn and Dan Ward seconded. Willa Friedman adjourned the meeting at 10:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Georgette Grossman
NVPS Secretary/Historian

Approved April 1, 2013