

GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB

Minutes of the Board Meeting, Wendy Cherba Residence
November 4, 2009

PRESENT: Diane Durand, Wendy Cherba, Mike Mitchell, Greg Ferguson, Jim Shearer, Danford Richmond, Susan Vitunskas, Dori Vitunskas, Dorothy Squair, Jeanne Quillan, Bob Quillan

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes for August were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Diane Durand brought the meeting to order at approximately 7:15PM

Archives: Diane brought up for discussion the issue of the GRCC archives. She stated that the Mueller's have agreed to have a board meeting at their home to decide what to do with all of the files and materials. Since Steve is, at present, the archivist for the GRCC, the majority of the archives are at their home. It was agreed by the board that we would go ahead and have the board meeting at Mueller's in March. Anyone with anything for the archives should bring it to this meeting.

Seminar: Diane Durand brought to the attention of the board that Steve Gettle, a photographer from Brighton, Michigan, is interested in working with the GRCC to conduct a seminar. The idea is to have a day long event on a Saturday this coming spring. Diane ask the board whether they thought that the GRCC should get involved in another seminar. It was discussed by the board and some of the pros and cons were mentioned, including the poor attendance from last year's seminar. However, the board generally seemed to favor the idea. Diane will have more details for us at the next board meeting.

Café Press Issues: Wendy Cherba will discuss the issues with Steve Scherbinski.

Speaker Purchase: Diane brought to the board's attention that Jim Shearer has purchased an improved speaker for use during our presentations. The cost of the speaker was \$120.74. Dorothy Squair made a motion to approve the purchase. Bob Quillan seconded the motion. The motion passed. Wendy Cherba will reimburse Jim for the \$120.74.

Offers for Training: Diane brought up for discussion the issue of what information she should be forwarding to the membership. As president of our club, she receives many e-mails regarding seminars or offers of training. She has been screening out certain offers and information that she feels should not be sent out to the membership in general. The board agreed that she is doing a good job of screening and should continue to do so.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Wendy Cherba announced that we now have 112 members. She also submitted the following income-expenditure statement:

Beginning Balance: \$ 3,081.78

Income: \$ 314.00

Expenditures: \$ 600.95

Ending Balance: \$ 2,794.83

New Insurance Premium: Wendy announced that the insurance premium is now \$775.95. This is for the new amount of liability of 2 million that we now have to cover. The premium has been paid. Wendy will bring the policy statement to the next meeting so that the board can see what the policy covers.

Monthly Rental of Boy Scout Headquarters: Diane announced that the Boy Scouts have accepted our offer of \$45.00 per month for rental of the space for our GRCC meetings. The amount of \$675.00 has now been paid and includes rental fees through June 2010.

VP OF PROGRAMS: Mike Mitchell confirmed that our program for November will be by Gert Wallis of the West Shore Camera Club. His program is entitled "How to Work a Subject." He will look at how universally accepted design principles can be used to explore and capture striking photographs of a subject. Our program for December will be by member Steve Scherbinski on how to display your work in the 21st century.

Mike also mentioned several ideas that he has for our 4 workshops that we have scheduled for the rest of the year. In January he is working on scheduling Larry Heibel for a portrait workshop. Other ideas were for workshops on macro photography, how to shoot manually, and judging. He would also like to schedule John Dykstra for a presentation on composition.

VP OF EQUIPMENT: Bob and Jeanne Quillan brought up a couple of issues regarding equipment. They may not be able to haul all of the equipment to the meetings in the future as they may not have a suitable vehicle. The board should be looking for someone else to take the responsibility for the GRCC equipment. They also presented an inventory of all of the equipment that they have that is currently in use by the club. Also included is a list of all the equipment that they have that is owned by the club and is no longer used. There were several suggestions for what to do with the old equipment. Among these were to sell it on e-bay, donate to Goodwill, or donate to a local high school.

Dorothy Squair offered to call Goodwill to see if they would be interested in any of the items.

Future Exhibit: Bob and Jeanne Quillan also announced that they have arranged for a photography exhibit at the Biggby Coffee Shop at Bryon Center and M6. There is room for about 20 prints. Details to follow.

COMPETITION: Competition Chairperson, Jeanne Quillan, announced to the board that the GRCC is having a “judging” crisis. At present, we have only about half the judges that we need for a year. We need 27 judges throughout the year and we have only about 14 members that qualify to judge who have actually agreed to judge. This means that everyone who has agreed to judge must do so twice during the year. The board discussed the situation and everyone more or less agreed that if a person qualifies to judge and wants to compete then that person should be required to judge. Diane agreed to announce at the next meeting that we have a shortage of judges and will ask for those members who qualify and haven’t been judging to volunteer to do so at this time. If this fails, then the board will consider further measures.

Year-End Competition: It was announced that the year end competition will be held January 30, 2010. Diane ask Danford Richmond if the Pennelwood Church would be available again. Danford agreed to check to be sure it can be used for our competition.

DIGITAL COORDINATOR: Jim Shearer announced that all of the GRCC members galleries are now in the new format. Jim also suggested that we possibly do an “image of the month” selected from the monthly competition. A discussion followed with most agreeing it was a good idea. It was suggested that it should be done so that it would give everyone a fair shot at being chosen rather than it appear that the board or any one person is doing the selecting and favoring certain individuals. Some board members suggested that the image could be chosen from the ones that received an honor in the category of “subject” of the month. Furthermore, it was suggested that the image could be selected from the images that received honors but chosen randomly rather than by a member or members of the board. It was also suggested that the image of the month be selected by the entire membership by voting on-line for their favorite. This would be similar to our discontinued “People’s Choice Award.” Also discussed was the fact that some members may not want their image presented or selected because of “over-exposure.” The subject was tabled for further discussion at a later date.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS: Dori Vitunskas announced that she will no longer put the scores in the Lights and Shadows as they are available on the website. As there are those who do not have access to a computer, Dori will print up the scores and have them available at the monthly meetings.

SWMCCC: Jeanne Quillan announced that the fall competition went very well. However, she stated that there were very few prints. Jeanne also informed the board that SWMCCC is moving forward on plans to have a seminar in June in Traverse City. More details will follow.

OTHER BUSINESS: Diane Durand announced that the year-end banquet will be February 17, 2010. Plans are going forward to have the pizza party at the B.S.H.Q. as previously agreed upon by the board.

Diane also announced that she is working on updating the constitution and by-laws as well as the competition guidelines.

Wendy Cherba made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. It was seconded by Greg Ferguson. The meeting adjourned at 9:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Squair
Board Secretary

11-12-09

