

Grand Rapids Camera Club
Board Meeting
March 8, 2023

Members in Attendance: Christine Mooney, Evie Carrier, Jan Lewis, Jeanne Quillan, Richard Coombs, Steve Port, Shealyn McGee Sarns, Greg Ferguson, Kathy Kendall, Jack Eichner, Mike Bergeon and Della Landheer.

Meeting called to order by President Jan Lewis at 7:07 pm via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes: Della Landheer

Jan. 9, 2023 minutes approved as submitted.

Presidents Report: Jan Lewis

- 2023 Elections: Positions up for election are President, VP of Programs and Secretary. Della has agreed to run as Secretary, no one has agreed to run as VP/Programs or President. Jan has asked and been turned down multiple times. Jeanne suggests each Board member put forth a name of a program presenter.

Three other Board positions are open: Steve Port, Richard Coombs, and Jack Eichner. All have agreed to run again. One 1—year position remains vacant.

Treasure and Membership Reports: Christine Mooney

- Checking account balance is \$7,839.51. Pay Pal account balance is \$257.35 for a total of \$8,096.86. Equipment Fund balance: \$1,860.61 (this amount is included within the checking acct. balance).
- The non-profit tax document for 2022 was submitted and accepted on Feb.10, 2023.
- New members: 2 in January, 3 in February. 84 are on the member list, 54 are paid members to date. Question from Jack re: Equipment Fund: do we need a new projector? A: Not right now, we are using the GVA projector. Name was changed from Projector Fund to Equipment Fund.

Website Report: Jan Lewis

- There are PHP upgrade problems with the website. The CMS software needs updating which may break our site and require coding corrections. Notice from Dream Host: our website failed their recent upgrade. If we don't upgrade the PHP, Dream Host will start charging us. Jan talked to Matt, the issue is with Craft, the company that writes the code which is uploaded to Dream Host. Our version of Craft is very old. If we upgrade our Craft version it will probably upgrade PHP also. We stand a chance of having serious issues if we do try to upgrade, it will take several successive upgrades to catch up. Option is to go to Squarespace, would cost approx. \$300 per year. Our website is at a crossroads, it will cost whatever we do. After much discussion Jeanne made a motion that we move to Squarespace, we will need to pay up to \$300 annual subscription fee, Shealyn will build the Squarespace site. Seconded by Richard. Motion passed. It is noted that Jeanne and Jan will step in and take over Shealyn's responsibilities with competitions.

Membership Outreach Committee Report: Jack Eichner

- Four courses of action are detailed in the report. The goal of the committee is how to find new members.

Jack: Membership surveys (short) are essential. PSA has no suggestions. Mentorship; have a member greet new members alongside Christine at the beginning of meetings.

Richard: Reach out to entities in the city. New/additional materials are needed.

Shea: We can post on grnow.com, no cost for advertising. A facebook group may attract members. One on one engagement is important, Board members especially need to talk to new people. Need to expand programs, with fewer guest speakers, more hands-on experiences at meetings.

MOC members are willing to continue working toward finding new members and reaching out to those who are new, also, handling surveys and acquiring new materials. The Board reviewed the recommendations, requested the MOC to continue working and to conduct a survey as the next step. Data is available from Christine to survey past members.

VP Programs Report: Evie Carrier

- March—Jeanne & Evie, photo journalism.
- April—Russ will continue presenting AI.
- May—Shene Watkins, wildlife and landscape photography.
- June—Dianne Durrant, photographing vehicles.

VP Competition Report: Jeanne Quillan

- Jeanne is updating Membership Manual. Will be posted on the website.
- PSA—GRCC recently judged monochrome images. Are PSA club dues paid?
- 2024 Assigned Subjects. Jeanne asked Board members to send her suggestions.

Digital Coordinator: Shealyn McGee-Sarns

- Jan & Jeanne will take over digital competition in April for Shea so she can start on designing the Squarespace website.

Lights and Shadows: Greg Ferguson

- Next Deadline: March 23, noon for April newsletter.

Educational Zoom Meetings: Steve Port and Russ Barneveld

- Will ask people to submit AI images.
- Future topic: Breaking the Rules.

Workshops/Trips/Outings:

- GRAM Exhibit, March 9.
- Outdoor Discovery Center Shoot, April 29. Will be a fundraiser if more than 15 members attend.

Old business: None

New business: None

Next Board meeting:

Meeting adjourned by President Jan Lewis at 9:18.

Minutes submitted by Della Landheer, Secretary