

SLCC – Sun Lakes Camera Club  
November 2, 2023  
Officer & Chair Meeting Minutes

In attendance: President Samantha Palmatier, VP Ken Duquaine, Treasurer Betsy Ohlgart, Membership Chair Kathy Fiakas, ACCC Liaison John Livoti, Webmaster Bob Little, Past President Lynn Thompson and Secretary Donna McGregor.

Current News and Reports:

1. Membership report by Kathy Fiakas: There were 46 renewals and 4 new members in October. This is close to 50% renewal so far. Procedures were discussed to ensure the treasurer, membership chair and web site were kept up to date with renewals to prevent emails being sent requesting dues from people who had already paid.
2. Treasurers Report by Betsy Ohlgart: The current balance is \$10,342.49. Betsy is working on a budget for the year and verifying the yearly bills such as Microsoft office are paid. The large balance is being maintained in anticipation of having to buy new computer, projection, and sound systems.
3. Deceased member. Rob Sanchez passed away. Betsy will arrange for flowers to be sent at a cost of approximately \$50.00. Sam Palmatier has his camera that his wife needs help selling. Bob Little will get a quote from KEH.com and post the equipment on the SLCC web site at that price. If the equipment does not sell, it can be sold to KEH and his wife will be given the proceeds.
4. Sam had \$150.00 from the sale of a camera donated to the club. She gave the money to Betsy as a club donation.
5. Sam has the initial Speakers List for the 2023-2024 season. She requested updates including Date, Speaker, Credentials, and Subject. Ken Duquaine is requesting program details from the speakers. It was suggested that he verify each speaker was presenting a new program this year.

Agenda Items:

1. ACCC and PSA.

- a. John Livoti will need volunteers to coordinate ACCC tasks for the spring ACCC roundup in March that will be hosted by SLCC. The venue at Cottonwood has already been secured. Volunteers will be needed to arrange for food, make name badges, and work at the registration desk. Work will begin after the fall roundup is completed later this month.
  - b. Some support may be needed when Arizona chapter hosts PSA in November next year.
2. Speakers and Judges
- a. Possible candidates for speakers and judges
    - i. Alan Fitzgerald 480-361-1118 from Art Intersection  
[info@artintersection.com](mailto:info@artintersection.com)
    - ii. Neil Miller 480-235-4876
  - b. Discussion about using on-line judges via Zoom or other on-line connections
    - i. John prefers interaction from on-site judges.
    - ii. Print competition is not practical with on-line judges. Print competition brings people in who may then participate in ACCC and other print competitions.
    - iii. Lynn would prefer to only use on-line judges if no other options were available. He would prefer to use SLCC judges in person before going to on-line judging.
    - iv. There was no interest at this time in using on-line judges.
  - c. Discussion about last month's judges not considering the Motion category description as part of the scoring.
    - i. John provided the category names to the judges.
    - ii. In the future, he will also include the category description from the Rotating Subjects and Techniques document located on the SLCC website under News and Info > Competition.
  - d. Ken suggested there should be guidelines for expenses for speakers
    - i. A possible structure was suggested of no payment for members making presentations, \$50.00 - \$100 for local speakers, \$300 for speakers that needed to travel and spend the night.

- ii. It was stated that a large amount, ie: \$1000, should be reviewed by multiple members to determine if the speaker was worth that amount to the club
  - iii. No decision was reached, only that reasonable judgement should be used regarding speaker compensation.
- 3. Flyers need to be budgeted for.
  - a. Last year's cost was approximately \$100.00.
  - b. This year's budget needs to be approximately \$300.00 to print 100 flyers.
- 4. Should Ribbons or Plaques be awarded for End of Year competitions?
  - a. Plaques cost over \$400 last year. The prior year cost was in the high \$300 dollar range.
  - b. It is thought that Melissa Hance got instruction from Wayne regarding the purchase of plaques for the last year-end competition.
  - c. John will check on the current cost of plaques when he picks up awards for ACCC.
  - d. Discussion whether plaques are appropriate. Ribbons can be displayed along with the picture.
  - e. A decision was not made regarding ribbons or plaques for this year-end competition. Further discussion is required.
- 5. Competition Committee
  - a. Chair – Melissa Hance
  - b. Members
    - i. Shelley Hughes
    - ii. Tom Jones
    - iii. Bob Little
    - iv. Karen Schlax
    - v. Linda Davis
    - vi. Ruth Massey
  - c. Paul Lesage is no longer on competition committee
  - d. Need additional members
  - e. Need more members with knowledge and practice performing the various steps required on the computer to manage the competitions.
- 6. Raul Lopez sent in a question asking if we could increase the projected image size from 1400 x 1050 to 1920 x 1080

- a. Not possible with our current projector
  - b. Preference was expressed not to change the image size in the middle of the year. Perhaps consider it for next year
  - c. Do we need to buy a new projector or can we use the projector in the meeting room?
    - i. The HOA has been inconsistent as to whether the projector in the room can be used. Currently the answer is no.
      - 1. Sam will meet with the Cottonwood HOA to discuss using the projector. Possible topics could be:
        - a. Offering to pay rent to use the room and projector
        - b. Offering to pay a security deposit to use the projector
        - c. Offering to make a one-time or annual contribution to the HOA in exchange for using it
      - ii. If the room projector cannot be used, we need to buy a new projector for next year. The cost could exceed \$3000.
7. Microphone/Sound System for meetings
- a. It was previously decided that a microphone was not needed in the current meeting room but the judges comments were difficult to hear at the last meeting.
  - b. The club previously purchased a karaoke machine that worked initially but not the most recent time it was used. That machine should be tested again to see if it can be made to work then write instructions for use. It cost \$145
  - c. Bob will try to locate the karaoke machine
8. A question was raised if we could do more to help new members feel welcome.
- a. Bob will send out new member emails for review.
  - b. Should Raul be invited to board meetings to represent membership committee?
  - c. Activities that members have enjoyed in the past
    - i. Pizza meetings
    - ii. Small group critiques
    - iii. Having mentors for new members
9. We're looking for someone to plan trips. No suggestions were made.