October 16, 2014 2:00pm at the LENS

Officers & Committee Chairs Attending: Al Heacox, George Fusaro, Suzi Huismann, Fran Hubbell, John Parsons, Bill Schmitt, Vicki Reilly and Edith Wood,

Al Heacox called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. The minutes of the September 18, 2014 Board meeting were approved as written with the following changes/corrections: spelling of Bill Schmitt's last name, and the addition of John Parsons as responsible party for Honey Horn Exhibit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: Fran Hubbell indicated that there are currently 103 paying members, however, membership dues continue to trickle in. Her advice regarding the Membership List was to distribute the document to only Executive Board members & Committee Chairs.

LENS/Website: Bill Schmitt advised group that a link to a gmail account has been added to the Website for questions from the members about Club activities. He will periodically review & forward questions on to appropriate individuals for a response.

Fran suggested that the responsibilities of officers should be added to Website. Attendees agreed & Bill will add information. Bill explained that a post to the Website will be used to announce a single /short term item while for on-going initiatives he will work with responsible individual to ensure they have password to make additions/ changes.

Publicity Committee: Edith Wood reported on on-going efforts and requested that she be advised of monthly speakers for publicity purposes. Edith inquired as to whether the Club has a Facebook page. Bill agreed to check and ask at our next membership meeting how many would be interested and /or use a Facebook site for posting and/or viewing images. Bill did caution group that if the Club has a Facebook site - the site will need someone to maintain it - Edith volunteered.

Bill Schmitt advised group that he will be speaking with Bill Bosley regarding his ideas for a new location for LENS, although any venue most probably will not be free.

Treasurer's Report: Suzi Huismann reviewed budget pointing out that Membership Dues are actually significantly less than projected - figure was based on a membership of 170. No unusual expenses have recently occurred. The possibility of the Club not

underwriting annual dinner in future was mentioned if needed. Club's current balance is \$5,405.

Suzi reported that she is working on establishing a PayPal account for Club to simplify payment for dues & classes. Al agreed to query the Beaufort club to ascertain whether or not it expedites process & how many individuals are using option.

Field Trips: John Parsons indicated that nine members have signed up to attend field trip to zoo in Jacksonville this month. Jim Smeltzer is handling trip to Charleston in November which he will announce at October's meet. A December trip to the Sheldon Church is being planned. John agreed to delete the names of no-shows to zoo for reporting purposes for the Supporting Members Initiative.

NEW BUSINESS

By-Law Changes: Attendees voted to accept the following changes: lifetime membership will be retained, but no new members will be added, and Sect IV ii should read, "prepare and distribute." Al will distribute By-Laws via PDF with corrections incporated.

Competition Guidelines: Comments were solicited from attendees of the revised Competition Guidelines distributed prior to meeting. Suggestions included: stipulating under Item #3 one time only special circumstance and clarifying Item #8 to indicate images need to be submitted 24 hours prior to start of meeting. Under Item #16 d - delete comment, "but don't add value to image." It was also suggested that the Note at the end of guidelines which explains purpose be moved to beginning of guidelines as the introduction.

A discussion took place regarding whether or not to assign points to: first place, second, third & honorable mention selections. It was felt the assignment of points would provide a formula to move from one category to another i.e., novice to intermediate. Suzi agreed to take back to committee this recommendation along with aforementioned changes.

Mini Workshops: Bill Schmitt is working with Robert Rommel to decide on topics for mini workshops aimed at a smaller audience (4 to 5). The workshops will be designed to provide more interaction & are intended to be responsive to attendees' unique issues.

(Al Heacox agreed to contact Robert Rommel to confirm the recent change in class fees, \$10 to \$15 a session and the split between instructor and club, 80/20 to 50/50.)

Critique Sessions: Al indicated that Bob Ovelman has been asked to submit an outline regarding initiative. The intent to convene a panel to provided input/comments

on member's images. Review will not be limited to those being submitted for competition. Images can be either prints or digital.

Experts & Guides: Vicki Reilly will serve as the guide at the October 28th meeting. She will work closely with Fran to ensure that new members are warmly welcomed and that their questions answered. A supply of the Club's newsletters will be available. Fran asked attendees to help at end of meeting since she will be unable to stay.

Kurtzberg & PSA: Al announced that Natalie Nelson will step down from this committee at the end of May/June, and therefore, we are in need of a replacement for this one-person committee. Natalie will work with the volunteer to see to a smooth transition. Al agreed to solicit a volunteer at the next general meeting.

Art League Competition: Al advised attendees that the Club has been asked by the Art League to participate in a Judged Photo Competition/Exhibit to be held in January 2015. The Art League is looking for 30-50 framed entries for an open competition with a \$10 hanging fee going toward prize money to winners. First prize is \$250 and less amounts to runners-up. Group agreed that it would be advantageous to support the endeavor. John Parsons reminded attendees that the exhibit at the Presbyterian Church will also be held in January although their theme is Lowcountry.

Christmas Party Date: Following a brief discussion, the 16th of December was selected for Christmas Party.

Nominating Committee: John Parsons agreed to head up the committee and start approaching possible candidates as early as January.

John also agreed to chair the November Executive Board meeting in Al's absence.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Reilly, secretary October 20, 2014