

CCHHI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

January 22, 2015

2:00pm at the Lens

Officers & Committee Chairs Attending: Al Heacox, Jean-Marie Cote, George Fusaro, Fran Hubbell, Kim Lewis, Natalie Nelson, Vicki Reilly, Robert Rommel, Jim Smeltzer, Donna Varner, and Edith Wood.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee: Two classes with the possibility of a third will be offered this winter, Great Masters by Bob Ovelman and Lighting by Jean-Marie Cote. Class descriptions and registration information is available on the Club's website.

Communications Committee: Donna Varner sought clarification regarding whether or not to continue emailing the newsletter to individuals who have not renewed his or her membership. After a brief discussion the group agreed that if an individual has not renewed their membership after one year, he or she will be removed from the mailing list.

Membership Committee: Fran Hubbell advised attendees that the Club currently has 119 renewing members plus 39 new members for a total of 158. Fran has collected \$3,000 in dues.

Publicity Committee: Edith Wood reported that images & information regarding the Photo of the Year, selected at the Holiday Reception, had been submitted to the Island Packet, however, to date no one recalled seeing any publicity.

Competition Committee: Jean-Marie Cote advised group that moving forward competitions will focus on themes rather than a single word other than those already identified for 2015. For example, in April the theme of the competition will be "Togetherness," with the intention that this will allow greater latitude for the photographer. Also, Jean-Marie indicated that the committee is working on developing a point system to use for progression into higher skill levels. At this time only six (6) entries have been submitted for January's competition "Water." Fortunately or unfortunately experience dictates that most images are submitted at the last minute.

Lens/Website: In Bill Schmitt's absence, John Parsons announced that Natalie Nelson has agreed to support Bill's work on the website. Natalie will concentrate on ensuring that information is current, complete and user-friendly. It was noted that the identity of the Club's monthly speakers along with a short bio would be informative & help to draw

attendees. She may also re-establish a marketplace on the website for members to sell used equipment.

Treasurer's Report: In Suzi Huisman's absence, Al Heacox indicated he had reviewed a financial report submitted by Suzi & everything looked in good order. Al will forward report to the group.

Field Trips: John Parsons reported that his committee consisting of himself, Jim Smeltzer and Gerry Griffin, have planned a trip to the Magnolia Plantation in March, a possibility of a trip to the Nature Preserve on Spring Island in April, and will venture to the Cypress Garden and the Center for Birds of Prey in May. Next week a group of fifteen (15) will travel to Beaufort for a day of photography, and in February attendees will be shooting the night sky - time & location TBD.

Supporting Members Initiative: Vicki Reilly reported that as of January 1, 2015, ten (10) members have attained the status of "Supporting Member," and will be presented with a pin designating this achievement at next weeks meeting provided that pins have arrived. (Vicki will check with Bill.) The mid-year presentation is designed to encourage others to pursue initiative.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

PayPal: Al Heacox indicated that a 501c3 designation will reduce fees and will not require an individual to supply personal information i.e., SS#. Al is currently gathering pertinent information from the Beaufort Camera Club which has a 501c3 status.

Nomination Committee: John Parsons provided attendees with the following update indicating that a slate of candidates is not due until later in the year:

Natalie has spoken with Fiona Grygiel who has agreed to shadow Natalie's work this year on the Kurtzberg Awards & PSA and assume responsibility next year. Natalie and Fred Chitty have agreed to be members at large. Others currently serving as officers or committee chairs will be contacted regarding his/her willingness to serve.

Exhibits: John Parsons reported that the exhibit at the First Presbyterian Church has been well received. Two (2) photographs have been sold. The pick-up date for entrants is Friday, Feb. 6 from 10am to noon.

John distributed promotional material for the Coastal Discovery Museum & CCHHI presentation of "Lowcountry Through the Lens," exhibition running from February 10 - March 29. The deadline for entry is January 30, the entry form is on our website with photographs due for hanging on February 10. The Opening Reception will be at Honey Horn on February 11 from 5pm to 7pm. Fran Hubbell indicated that currently she has

received twenty (20) entries, but again most forms come in at the last minute. There are spots for eighty (80) photographs.

Fran raised the issue of how to encourage new members and/or novices to participate in the exhibition or any exhibition for that matter. Following a brief discussion, John agreed to discuss event at next week's meeting, and several board members will make themselves available after meeting to discuss process with interested parties.

Other suggestions included distributing handouts at monthly meetings outlining key dates for upcoming events/activities, and offering a workshop covering topics which would help individuals prepare to participate for the year ahead.

Annual Banquet: Al reviewed suggested June dates, and group agreed to return to the Country Club of Indigo Run for the event. Vicki proposed as the keynote speaker, Tony Mills, Education Director of the Lowcountry Institute on Spring Island. Mr. Mills is the co-director of the Master Naturalist Program, an accomplished instructor & TV personality & a published writer. Al agreed to secure a date for event and Vicki will obtain commitment from speaker.

Board Meeting Schedule: Thursdays @ 2pm on February 19, March 26, April 23, May 21 and June 18. Al also raised the issue on moving the November membership meeting date so as not to interfere with the holiday.

Tri-Club Competition: As acting liaison for this competition Jean-Marie indicated that at this time there was nothing to report, Sun City will be hosting event in May.

Miscellaneous Items of Interest: Al reported that the HHI Art League has offered the use of classrooms to our club and perhaps exhibit space for a month. George Fusaro agreed to accompany Al and meet with Art League representatives to discuss future possibilities.

Events Committee - Because all attendees agreed that Al has done a great job securing speakers for the Club Al agreed to continue serving as chair of Events Committee. He encouraged individuals to continue to pass along names of suggested speakers and he will continue to compile a speakers list.

Request for Photographers - John Parson reported that The Heritage Library is hosting a History Day on March 28 from 10-4 and is asking if we would be willing to take pictures as we did for similar tours during the 359/30 celebration last year. Concern was expressed that we did not get recognition for our efforts last year, and that if a fee is required to take the tour we should not provide free photography. John will contact the Library officials to get more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm. (Yea!)

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Reilly, secretary
January 25, 2015