

CCHHI EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

February 19, 2015

2:00pm at the Lens

Officers & Committee Chairs Attending: Al Heacox, Jean-Marie Cote, George Fusaro, Natalie Nelson, John Parsons, Vicki Reilly, Bill Schmitt and Donna Varner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee: In the absence of chairperson Robert Rommel, Jean-Marie Cote reported that he has twelve (12) students in his class, Understanding/ Mastering Natural Light, many of whom are new to CCHHI.

Communication Committee: Donna Varner advised attendees that there is nothing particularly new to report. She did, however, remind attendees of the need to submit articles on-time (5 days prior to month-end), and that copy should be complete & correct with no multiple submissions.

Membership Committee: On behalf of Fran Hubbell who was absent Al Heacox reported that currently there are 169 members in CCHHI.

Publicity Committee: In Edith Woods absence, Al Heacox indicated that he had sent her information on Susan Jarrett in order to promote the March membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Al reported, on behalf of Suzi Huisman, that the Club's balance is currently \$4,769.77. Recent expenditures have been for the Opening Reception at Honey Horn and the pins for Supporting Member (\$275 for 250 pins). A full financial report will be forthcoming, but currently Suzi's hard drive is down. Also, Al agreed to canvas the Executive Board to determine whether or not an earlier or later start time for the meeting was acceptable since our treasurer is unable to attend Thursday afternoons due to a scheduling conflict.

Lens/Website: Bill Schmitt reported that he & Natalie Nelson are working collaboratively to keep the website updated and revised as needed. Timely posts are being added by Natalie such as photos from recent field trips, Photo Tips and images from the Opening Reception at Honey Horn. The results of the numerous additions are a more appealing and relevant website which Bill Schmitt agreed to showcase/review at the March general meeting.

Bill also reported on the continued availability of the Lens at Pineland Station. Though demolition is pending he felt that CCHH would be able to remain at the site through May of 2015. Therefore, he suggested we schedule the next round of classes, start using the Lens for one-day workshops and proposed the idea of showing the 90 minute documentary, Tim's Vermeer, which he highly recommends.

Competition Committee: Jean-Marie Cote reviewed with members the revised Point Value System which was adopted by the Committee on 1/19/2015. The System is now being recommended for implementation, and Jean-Marie agreed to explain and demonstrate it at the March membership meeting.

He distributed a handout clarifying the various scenarios based on prior & suggested requirements to move from one category to another. He emphasized that the total points needed depends on which level the member is in currently. Total points required has been revised upwards though not significantly for all categories though less the high one progresses (refer to handout). Jean-Marie also demonstrated the re-designed Awards Tracking System (spreadsheet) on his computer which includes many new & helpful features to monitor competitors by category.

Jean-Marie indicated that approximately one half of the club (82 members) have declared themselves novices. He mentioned that definitions of each category along with the criteria for judging can be found on the website.

Field Trips: John Parsons reminded attendees that the following field trips are scheduled: 2/19 Shooting the Night Sky, 3/29 Magnolia Plantation, 4/29 The Raptor Center and 5/27 The Nature Preserve at Spring Island. John suggested that this information be posted on the CCHHI website under a Field Trip category.

Supporting Member Initiative: Vicki Reilly recommended that the Supporting Member pins be award semi-annually rather than monthly in order to selectively highlight the uniqueness of achieving award requirements and to sustain excitement at presentations. Attendees agreed to award pins at the January & May membership meetings.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Tax Exempt ID: Al reported no progress on status although he will pursue information regarding the designation & classification other than charity (501C3) with other groups e.g., The Art League.

Nominating Committee: John Parsons reported that fortunately George Fusaro has agreed to serve as 2nd Vice President & run Education Programs. Robert Rommel unfortunately will no longer be available due to his business travel commitments. Candidates for the position of 1st Vice-President are being sought & recommendations would be appreciated.

Annual Banquet: The date of June 11, 2015, has been set for the Club's Annual Banquet at Indigo Run. Tony Mills, the Education Director, at The Nature Preserve @ Spring Island will be our keynote speaker. Vicki agreed to determine whether Mr. Mills had any AV needs. Attendees agreed to eliminate the \$5 club subsidy and simple charge \$25 per person for the banquet.

Board Meeting Schedule: Please note the following Executive Board meeting dates: March 12, April 16, May 21 and June 18.

Tri-Club Competition: As the liaison Jean-Marie reported that a meeting is scheduled for March 4 with representatives from Beaufort & Sun City to discuss the event and rules. (Lemar Nicks & Rich Matheny)

HHI Art League: Al reviewed a draft proposal to the Art League outlining our Club's requirements specifically regarding: space, usage, storage & financing. Reaction to proposal focused on our need to create a permanent identity as well as numerous anticipated drawbacks with the Art League i.e., location & perceived lack of storage space. Since CCHHI no longer needs to immediately vacate the Lens it was agreed that the committee to investigate potential sites be reconvened. The committee is composed of Al Heacox, Bill Schmitt and Bill

Bosley, a commercial real estate manager. Suggested sites include the Main Street Youth Theater & the Senior Center. Also mentioned for Exec. Bd. meetings were Starbucks and the library. Al Heacox will advise the Art League that the matter is still under consideration.

Newcomer's Guide: John Parsons thanked attendees for their input and advised them that the Guide is still in draft form with additional revisions being submitted (Jean-Marie). Considering the recommendations for visuals e.g., photos and input from newcomers, the Guide will not be available for distribution as soon as desired, however, an acceptable alternative was suggested. Bill Schmitt recommended that the Guide be put on the website as a PDF, and therefore, changes/revision/additions could be on-going.

Memory Matters Fundraising Book: Al review Memory Matters proposal requesting the CCHHI members submit photographs for their book published with images, poems & essays to raise money for their organization. Following brief discussion, attendees committed to submitting images themselves as well as publicizing activity, criteria & the need for photos to our membership via the newsletter, website and meetings. The deadline for submission is March 31. Memory Matters is looking for 100 photos and selection of images will be made by the publisher & CEO Lydia Inglett.

All Saints Garden Club Tour: Bill Schmitt reminded members of the collaborative plan to produce of photo book for each homeowner of their garden being showcased on tour this spring. The idea is to take photos primarily before the tour but on day of as well & present book to homeowner as a thank you. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Miscellaneous Items: John Parsons inquired as to the whereabouts of the Photo of the Year plaque. It was suggested that he contact Clyde Lohere. John also reminded attendees that The Heritage Library is hosting a History Day, March 28, and is looking for a photographer for event (refer to February's minutes). Bill Schmitt volunteered to take photos of sites to be visited along with Heather from the library, and John will get a photographer for day of event to ride along on bus.

Natalie Nelson reminded attendees that the Lens will be needed for the judging of the Kurtzberg Awards in April. She also mentioned that while recently visiting the exhibit at Honey Horn she replenished the People's Choice ballots. Last year \$80 was raised. Notecards are selling, applications for CCHHI have been restocked and 10-12 photographs have been sold to-date.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Reilly, secretary
February 20, 2015