**GP Photo Club Executive Meeting Minutes**

**Monday April 11, 2016**

Commenced: 7:08 pm at GP Library

(Quorum: 11 members)

**In Attendance:** Chris Thompson, Robert Moffat, Kim White, Lloyd Dykstra, Christine Young, Janice Kretzer-Prysunka, Maj Jose, Liza Curtiss, Doug Duplessis, Dianne Pelland Arsenault,

Delwyn Innes

**Regrets:** Belle Mampusti Bergeron

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion - Doug

Second - Dianne

1. **Review and Approval of Previous Minutes (March 14, 2016)**

No changes.

Motion – Lloyd

Second - Robert

1. **Old Business**

* *Membership Update*

Lloyd reported that we had 19 members pay their dues at the March meeting. This brings our total members to 52.

Robert will reconcile the members on our Facebook page and make the necessary changes to their access. When we receive a notice of someone wanting to join the FB group, Robert will verify whether their dues have been paid before approving them.

* *Financial Update*

Doug reported the account balance is $6208.98 and we are expecting an invoice for hosting fees.

1. **Upcoming Club Meetings**

* *April – Birds/Movement*

Marilyn Grubb is the lead with a presentation and showcase.

* *May – Smartphone Photography*

Dianne and Liza will be presenting on smartphone photo capabilities including some of the editing apps that are available. Members will be divided into groups of 4 to practice taking photos using their smartphone.

* *June – Landscapes*

How to take landscape photos with depth of field and focal point(s). Lloyd will lead this meeting.

* *July – External Flash Photography*

Have the meeting at Station 29 in Sexsmith if they have the availability. Chris will check with Linda or Al.

* *August – High Shutter & Water*

Burst water balloons/various options.

* *September – After Dark*

Photographing in low light conditions-how to.

*Ideas from Previous Meeting*

* Macro Night – Using adapters to capture your image.
* Image Quest – Use a bingo board with 9 squares (max.) consisting of low light/park bench/silhouette/etc. One theme with members shooting their best image and emailing it to the club for the next meeting.
* Selective Focus using Focal Length
* Studies in Composition – How to/what to look for when taking a photo. Rule of thirds/leading lines/shapes/etc. Covers many areas of photography including landscape/portrait/etc. (Bert Reynolds from Fairview as a possible speaker)
* Club Camping Trip – Search and Rescue techniques where 1 member is lost and has to be found.

1. **Field Trips**

Janice reported that 4 members had attended the GP Museum Fiddler’s Jamboree field trip. There was a good turnout for the field trips at Nitehawk. There is a Crocus Hunt at Kleskun Hill field trip coming up. Janice is also looking at future field trips that include:

* a macro theme at Dunvegan Gardens before Mother’s Day
* street photography
* Highland Games in June
* Soapbox Derby
* Scoping out a venue that has a farm yard with old vehicles
* McNaught homestead

1. **New Business**

* *Signing Authority*

Doug will contact ATB and ask for three available dates to have the signing authority updated on the account. Chris, Christine, Kim and Doug will meet at ATB and have signing authority on the account.

* *Survey to Club Members*

Liza reported 35 members completed the survey and only 1 member wouldn’t include their name when completing it. The results will be emailed and a presentation can be at a club meeting to show the members the results. The results showed the main areas of interest include landscape, macro, portrait and night and wildlife photography. Members are also interested in having basic Lightroom and Photoshop tutorials. The survey also showed that most members are interested in a mentorship program.

Overall, the members like what the club is doing so far and would like to see member showcases implemented again.

* *Outside Presenters*

Angie from Beginners Photography Guide would like to do a presentation on what beginner photographers are frustrated about. It was a unanimous decision to let members know Angie is available at the end of the meeting for questions and we regret we don’t have the time to allow for a presentation.

Steve Mah would like to speak to the club and invite members to join the PPOC (Professional Photographers of Canada). He would like to do a presentation on lighting, camera techniques, etc. that is aimed to beginners like the events London Drugs has. It was a unanimous decision to decline Steve’s request but to forward the event details to the membership.

1. **Ideas for Workshops**

A suggestion was made to offer a subsidized rate to members depending on the price of the workshop. If we can’t get enough members to join a workshop we could offer it to the public to increase the number of participants and try to keep costs down.

Possible Workshops:

John E. Marriott - Nature and Wildlife Photography

Dave Brosha – Landscape/Lighting/Portraiture Photography

Joe Desjardins – Nature and Wildlife Photography

Brian Merry – Landscape and Wildlife Photography

Darlene Hildebrandt – Managing Editor of DPS (Digital Photography School)

Ethan Meleg – Bird/Nature and Wildlife Photography

1. **Open Discussion**

* Member Showcase – Have members bring in images (3 max.) to be viewed at the meeting anonymously and give the members a chance to critique them.
* Monthly Photo Contest – Members can submit 1 photo from the meetings theme that will be included on FB for voting. The images will be resized to 72 dpi, no watermarks and deadlines for entry and voting will be included in the FB post. Only 1 vote per member will be allowed and the winning photo will be announced and given a $25 gift card to either Watson’s Foto Source or London Drugs. Kim will take the lead on setting up an email account and adding images to FB for voting.
* Chris will look into a gallery night at Coffee Crave where members can have images on sale and a percentage of the sales could be used as a donation to the Paul Pivert Memorial Student Award Fund.
* Christine will research the AB Culture Days at the library to find out whether we are partnered with them and if a theme presentation can be set up there.
* Images placed on view in the Centre for Creative Arts gallery paperwork needs to be completed for the membership to take advantage of displaying their images. Maj will forward Griffin’s contact info to Chris for more information.
* Dianne will put together a package that can be handed out to new members. The package will include a welcome letter, cheat cards, photo club hand out card (should be a white card) and club executive bios.
* Dianne suggested an Edit Challenge on FB where a photo can be submitted and anyone can make edits to the photo and repost showing your changes. This shows members different ways to edit a photo.
* At the beginning of each meeting there should be a 10 minute short presentation on The Basics of Lightroom and/or Photoshop.
* Ex: As a beginner I …..
* New topic for each meeting
* Not necessarily the same member presenting each time

Liza will present a 10 minute presentation on Lightroom Basics which includes importing images and file naming including adding tags to your images at the April meeting.

* Chris would like some thought put into alternate meeting ideas for inclement weather.

1. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Motion - Delwyn

Second - Maj