



NIAGARA FRONTIER REGIONAL CAMERA CLUBS

AM-CENTER CAMERA CLUB, AMHERST, NY
CANYON CAMERA CLUB, PERRY, NY
ERIE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, ERIE, PA
ST. CATHARINES PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
SOUTHTOWNS CAMERA CLUB, HAMBURG, NY
TWIN TIER CAMERA CLUB, OLEAN, NY

BATAVIA PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, BATAVIA, NY
NIAGARA FALLS CAMERA CLUB, NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.
HAMILTON CAMERA CLUB, HAMILTON, ONT.
SCIENCE MUSEUM CAMERA CLUB, BUFFALO, NY
TWIN CITIES CAMERA CLUB, TONAWANDA, NY
WELLAND CAMERA CLUB, WELLAND, ONT.

Minutes of the Board of Directors

April 6, 2014

The Buffalo Marriott Niagara, 1340 Millersport Highway
Amherst, NY, 14221-2902

President Ravi Sampath called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM.

1. ATTENDANCE:

CLUB REPRESENTATIVE:

AM-CENTER: Ron Storfer
BATAVIA:
CANYON: Joan Schumaker
ERIE:
HAMILTON: Rob Thorne
NIAGARA FALLS: Eric Baloga
ST. CATHARINES: Victor Ens
SCIENCE MUSEUM: Robert Carey
SOUTH TOWNS: Manny LoPresto
TWIN CITIES: Mike Dziak
TWIN TIER:
WELLAND:

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Ravi Sampath
VICE-PRES: Rob Thorne
SECRETARY: Joan Schumaker
CDN. TREAS: Leslie Khan
U.S. TREAS: Michael Hilczmayer
PAST PRES:

APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

WEBMASTER:
SLIDE CHAIR:
CONVENTION CHAIR: Doug Hansgate
HISTORIAN:

OTHER ATTENDEES

STCC - Janet LoPresto
STCC – Karl Miller
AM-CEN – Bob Klick
SMCC – Sharon Dentice
SMCC – Charles Vallone

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL MINUTES – Joan Schumaker

- **February 16, 2014 Minutes** – the following corrections were noted: #3 - Canadian Dollars will show up as the conversion rate for the year for income and expenses. #4 – change from three to six years. There was unanimous approval of the corrected minutes, with a motion by Manny LoPresto and a second by Bob Carey.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF TREASURERS' REPORT - Mike Hilczmayer

- **US/Canadian Consolidated Financial Statement** - Mike reviewed the Consolidated Financial Statement dated April 6, 2014. Total assets of \$39,833.76 include \$15,767.16 in our CAN GIC (Savings) Account. The Treasurers' Report was unanimously approved with a motion by Vic Ens and a second by Eric Baloga. (See attached Financial Report)

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on IRS Not-for Profit status** – Ravi summarized some of the background of our efforts to obtain IRS NFP status and the February 19, 2014 letter from the IRS granting NFP status retroactive to November 15, 2010. Mike Hilczmayer reported that there was still a question concerning our complete compliance with the reinstatement. Discussion followed and it was decided that we should again contact the IRS. Mike will prepare a letter to the IRS seeking clarification to determine if we need to submit Form 990EZ for each of the following years: 2007, 2008, and 2009. Mike also noted that we need to apply for NYS Income Tax exemption and that he has started that process.
- **Nominating Committee Report & Election of 2014-15 Officers: Doug Hansgate**
Doug reported that all current officers are willing to continue to serve, but the committee has been seeking a candidate for President to replace Ravi Sampath who is moving out of upstate New York. Ravi noted that Joan Schumaker had indicated a willingness to serve as president and that Dee Cunningham has offered to replace her as secretary. Doug then proposed the 2014-15 slate of officers as follows: Joan – President, Rob Thorne – Vice President, Dee – Secretary, Michael Hilczmayer – US Treasurer, Leslie Khan – Canadian Treasurer. This slate was approved unanimously.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

- **IRS Letter dated February 19, 2014 granting the NFRCC Tax Exemption status retroactive to November 15, 2010 under section 501 (C) (4)**
- **March 22, 2014 invitation from Steven Levinson at Image City Photography Gallery for club members to participate in an upcoming Portfolio Showcase at the gallery.** This event has prizes valued at over \$4000. Two distinguished judges select eight portfolios for exhibiting and including in a catalog of the show, and one grand prize winner is selected. Each portfolio consists of eight images. An announcement will be sent out later in April.
- **Reminder of graveside memorial for Don Mason on Sat April 19, 2014.** This reminder will be sent to all clubs.

6. CAN/AM PHOTO EXPO 2014 (March 7-9) Report – Doug Hansgate

- **Can/Am Expo Survey Report** – Doug reviewed the survey results: 169 responded; 98% rated the Expo good or excellent; and 64 were attending the Expo for the first time. (See attached copy of the report.)
- **Can/Am Expo Attendance** – About 400 attended, including about 220 NFRCC members. (1/3 to 1/2 were from outside the NFRCC) Less than 30 Canadian members attended. Doug noted that the Convention/Expo has been too long in the US and that we need to consider a move to Canada for 2016. Those attending from Toronto were pleased. About 380 attended the banquet.
- **Problems and Changes planned for 2015** - Extra printers (4 suggested) and a laptop will be added to help speed up registration. The screen area for viewing digital image competition submissions was crowded so will try for two screens and better viewing spaces. The judging of prints in the Print Salon will be moved to an earlier time so that prints can be on display longer. A larger room will be provided so that all prints will be displayed. Different color lanyards will be used for day passes. Vendors donated items that generated \$2,500 but need to consider charging for table space. The committee is considering a Convention Center at Niagara Falls Ontario for 2016 that will provide more space and an increased number of vendors. The committee has a goal of a 1000 person convention in 2016.

- **Can/Am Expo Financial Report** - Expo income was \$58,318. Expenses of \$61,481 included \$45,731 for facilities, food, and AV. This resulted in a net loss of \$3,163. Leslie Khan asked for a detailed financial report, similar to past years, for the Expo. Doug will send this out to members.
- **New Audiences for Can/Am Expo** - Committee member Bob Carey suggested that we try to attract new attendees from area colleges by including topics such as “The Art of Photography” and seek speakers from staff at the George Eastman House.
- **President’s Comments – Ravi noted that this was a Great First Year for the Expo and thanked Doug and his committee for their excellent work.** He suggested that a video making track be included next year. Ravi also suggested that one person be in charge of organizing the banquet and that this person and the NFRCC President be included on the Expo Committee. The Banquet Organizer should work with Past President Dee Cunningham on the schedule and Google+ should be used to provide access to information for all Expo Committee members.
- **Wildlife Digital Slide Awards – The Diane Payton-Majumbar Trophy was awarded to the 1st place winner in this slide salon category. However, the 2nd and 3rd place awards were not given. These two awards are currently with Rob Thorne and Chris Empey needs to identify the winners so that they can be recognized and the awards delivered.**

7. REPORT ON 2014 FALL SEMINAR – NOV. 22, 2014 – Michael’s Banquet House, Hamburg

- **Rob Thorne** reported that he has signed the contract with Michael’s but has yet to get a speaker.

8. WEBSITE: No Report (Note – Scott Neumann of the Batavia Photographic Club has agreed to replace Patty Raydo as the NFRCC Webmaster)

9. INTERCLUB DIGITAL SLIDE COMPETITIONS REPORT – No Report

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Plans for 2014 NFRCC-GTCCC Inter Region Competition - Doug Hansgate distributed a flyer announcing this event for May 10, 2014 in St. Catharines, Ontario.** The three categories are: 1. Prints (Portraiture, Photojournalism, Creative); 2. Digital Projection (Pure Nature-no hand of man); 3. Digital Projection (Pictorial – no nature or natural images). After discussion of the categories, Doug indicated that he will add a fourth category for Nature Prints. Images are needed by May 1 and a committee is needed to select the US images for submission. (Note: At the end of the meeting there was a brief discussion on combining this competition with an event already scheduled by the St. Catharines Club. Since the May 10 date is past and no further details have been provided, I assume the NFRCC-GTCCC event has been postponed to later in the year.
- **2014 – 15 Program Book – Mary Lou Frost** is willing to continue editing the Program Book for 2014-15. She has sent an email to the clubs requesting the following: the name of who in your club is responsible for this project – she will send a word document as a starting point; submit officers and award winners ASAP; all copy should be in by July 1; and the name of the person responsible for final proofing of the copy.
- **By-Law Revisions Needed - Nonprofit Revitalization Act of 2013 –** Joan reported that New York State has revised requirements for nonprofits for the first time in 40 years. The new legislation was signed by Governor Cuomo in December 2013 and is to go into effect July 1, 2014. All nonprofits will need to amend their by-laws in order to comply with this new law and a six month time period is not sufficient time for many clubs, including the NFRCC, to do so. There is an effort to delay implementation of this law until Jan. 2015. A committee will be formed to address this issue so

that we may act on the needed revisions at the first two meeting in fall 2014.

Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation Act for 2010 (ONCA) - Michael Hilczmayer alerted us to the new NFP Act under review in Ontario. (Note - While initiated in 2010, the ONCA has yet to be approved and will not be in effect until 6 months after approval. Not-for-Profits then have a three year transition period to review their Constitution and By Laws to address any changes needed to be in compliance. This is a much more reasonable time period for implementation than that currently being allowed in NYS.)

- **Dates for the 2014-15 NFRCC Board Meetings & Events** – Please see the dates listed at the end of these minutes. While approved in 2010, the ONCA has been undergoing revisions and has yet to be
- **Can/Am Expo Print Salon** - Karl Miller asked about the total number of members in the NFRCC. It was suggested that member clubs submit their total membership as of January 1 of each year in order to determine the total NFRCC membership. Karl noted the need to reduce the number of prints being submitted for the Print Salon.

11. CLUB NEWS:

- Canyon Camera Club – The 12th Annual Photographer’s Dream Day will be Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the Mt. Morris Dam Visitor Center.
- Joe LaFever is coming to St. Catharines on May 31, 2014

Ravi noted that he will keep in touch and will try to come to the Can/Am Expo next year.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM after a motion to adjourn was made by Les, seconded by Manny, and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Schumaker
Secretary

2014-15 Meeting Dates – Marriott at Millersport

- **September 14, 2014**
- **November 9, 2014**
- **Fall Seminar – November 22, 2014**
- **January 11, 2015**
- **February 15, 2015**
- **Can/Am Photo Expo – March 20 - 22, 2015 (Note change of dates)**
- **April 26, 2015**

Attachments: Financial Report – April 6, 2014
2014 Can/Am Photo Expo Report

