



American Society of Media Photographers
Pittsburgh

Feb 3rd 2022 Board meeting

Virtual Board meeting Member Attendees:

Jen, JW, Adrie, Don, Shelley, Elan, Dave

Non-board Member Attendees/Guests:

Peter Theis, Archie Carpenter, Dan Salitrik, Marc Soracco

Jen called the meeting to order at 7:05

Housekeeping

Board Meeting times/frequencies:

Jen explained that there are no set rules per national or local bylaws for the frequency of or times at which the board meets. The board intends to meet as needed likely on a monthly basis. The president will call meetings as needed with a goal of scheduling meetings monthly. Jen set a goal of keeping meetings to 1 hour or less and asked that a motion be put forth to continue after that should the need arise.

Board Order:

Jen proposes that the board follow national guidelines and the principles behind Roberts Rules to maintain order. The board will use an agenda, items on the agenda are considered brought to the floor and therefore do not need to be motioned or seconded. All business not on the agenda will need to be motioned and seconded. To have items added to the agenda board members should send the president or secretary their agenda items at least one day prior to the meeting so that agendas can be organized. Shelley asked that standing committees have a standing place at each board meeting to report on their activities and ask for any business needing approval to be approved. No vote was taken but no objection was raised and the board seemed generally in favor of this proposal.

Jen explained that when an item of business is being discussed that members raise hands to join the discussions. Business on the agenda will be discussed and if any vote is needed it will then be called. If an item is not on the agenda but is motioned and seconded then it will be discussed and a vote will be called if needed.

Thriving Not Surviving Update: Portfolio Reviews

Jen reviewed her conversation with Lisa Godfrey from the Philadelphia chapter who expressed interest in another Philadelphia and Pittsburgh joint Portfolio Review. Philadelphia proposed either April 6th or 7th as dates for the event. Lisa expressed how happy they were with Pittsburgh's Zoom management and asked that Archie, JW and Alan be involved again.

Discussion:

Dates, no objection to the dates of April 6th or 7th

JW agrees to help organize (as he did last year)

Shelley offered a list that Archie has for perspective reviewers

Jen proposed that we create a portfolio review committee



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Proposal:

Philadelphia and Pittsburgh chapters work on a joint portfolio review similar to the 2021 portfolio review casting a wider net for reviewers including some from Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago with the intention of hosting the event on or about April 6th or 7th and that Pittsburgh forms a committee to run the event.

Vote: All board members present in favor

JW, Elan, Adrie, Shelley, and Archie agree to be on the committee

Diversity/Relationships Updates

Center for Media Innovation

The CMI at Point Park and the McKeesport Community Newsroom are projects that member Martha Rial is involved with which seeks to help underserved community members in the Mon Valley through journalism and photography. Jen proposed that the Diversity Committee sponsors a workshop with this group.

Discussion:

Don asked if this would be a volunteer program or one that has financial involvement? Jen said there is no financial involvement but if there were any in the future that that would come back to the board for approval.

JW asked if there is a date range so that the proposal is not open ended.

Proposal:

The Diversity Committee sponsors a workshop early in 2022, which if successful, can be repeated several times a year without needing board approval unless there are any financial considerations that need to be approved.

Vote: All board members present in favor

YM Camera

Jen spoke with Terry Clark at YM and they would be happy to do an in person mirrorless workshop for our members.

Discussion:

Jenn asked if we can get a large number of board members to attend

JW proposed that we do a work-day/work-hours event to not interfere with non-working time.

Proposal:

Arrange a time for a workday workshop when as many board ASMP members can attend to emphasize the value of a shared relationship with the goal of leading to conversations about sponsorship.

Vote: All board members present in favor



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Pittsburgh Drone Masters

Dan Calig is a local drone operator and teaches drone pilots. He suggests that he does a free 101 drone class for ASMP members and in turn have some of our members do photography classes for his drone group. He has a facility in Crafton where they race drones where we could conduct classes.

Discussion:

JW asked how long his class is (1 hr, 8hr?)

Jen isn't sure how long the class would be

JW volunteered to help and to take lead and Don agreed to help

Proposal:

To proceed with arranging joint training event involving drone education as well as photography skills.

JW will take over the lead and Don will support JW in working on this relationship.

Vote: All board members present in favor

George Lange

Jen proposed that we meet with well-known and respected photographer George Lange in order to get him involved with ASMP Pittsburgh. Jen spoke with George and he is aware of ASMP and would be happy to host a small gathering at his studio.

Discussion:

At least a small group of around 12 people could attend a Thursday night event at his studio.

Elan has met with him and supports this proposal. Elan says that he is a really nice, entertaining, and personable guy that we should get to be involved with ASMP. Elan agreed to take the lead in working with George to schedule something.

Proposal:

Elan will work with George to schedule an event at George's studio for a Thursday evening with a group of 12 or fewer people.

Vote: All board members present in favor

By-monthly Zoom

Jen proposes to continue community zoom meetups on the first and third Thursdays of each month. She spoke with Archie who agreed to host and run these Zooms. Monthly in-person programming can target that third Thursday slot to take over that time.

Discussion:

Archie will come up with a name for these

The board can "takeover" a Thursday for other programming, both online or off

Proposal:

That Archie continues to manage first and third Thursday Zoom sessions but that the board can program these days/times if other programming should be available.

Vote: All board members present in favor



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Other Business

Shelley's Fine Arts Committee Proposal

Per Shelley's request Jen motioned that we open discussion on Shelley's Fine Arts Committee

Jen motioned that we vote on Shelley becoming the chair of the Fine Arts Committee
Seconded by Don.

Vote: All board members present in favor

Shelley proposes that the board accepts her proposed plan for her committee (plan to be attached to the minutes)

Discussion:

Shelley shared her plan with the board

The board agreed with all points on her plan asking only that any request for financial expenditures be brought back to the board for approval.

Proposal:

That the board accept Shelley's plan as shared in the attached document.

Vote: All board members present in favor

Nature Walks Partnerships

Don had no progress to report on attempts to reach out to Allegheny Land Trust in order to lead sponsored Nature Photography Walks in partnership with them. Jen proposes Don's monthly walks be sponsored by or be in partnership with ASMP. This item was tabled to be discussed at the next board meeting.

National Leadership Meeting Update

National shared information on their cost savings plan that reduced overhead and expenses, they're changing how ASMP conducts business which is encouraging. Shelley shared information about the importance of retreats which were stressed at the National Leadership Meeting. Discussion of a retreat for the Pittsburgh chapter was tabled until the next board meeting.

Member Survey

JW will share the member survey with the board via email for discussion and approval.

Portrait Meetup

Adrie is working on a meetup with a group of portrait photographers that ASMP may be able to sponsor or at least participate in.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be on February 24th at 7pm at a location to be decided.

End of meeting called by Jen at 8:45