



Our Mission: To grow a vibrant, inclusive community of media professionals in the Pittsburgh region, to elevate the quality and value of our field for all creatives.

Agenda: December 15 2022. (Updated 12-14-22)

Board attendees: Jen, Elan, JW, Don, Adrie, Dave, Shelley, Farzeen, Polly, Martha,

Guests & other attendees: Richard Kelly, Peter Theis, Archie Carpenter, Elliott Cramer

1). 2023 Board

a). Board Size Proposal: Have no pre-determined number from year-to-year; keep flexible. Discussion and Vote.

Discussion: Adrie proposed a fixed max at 10, Elan agrees on a fixed size, maybe not 10 but fixed. Jen reports, per national that nobody has elections and those willing to serve should be welcomed, JW asked if there is clarification given that national also seems to encourage voting. JW also reminds us that board members are removed (?) if they miss more than 2 meetings. JW suggests that there should be a set size. Dave suggests that with no limit there could become factions that limits progress. Don suggests term limits. Adrie suggests that after 2 terms (2, two-year terms), if new members wish to join that a member sets down. JW suggests that we better outline the terms and responsibilities of Board service. Elan agrees with JW and suggests that we might not have need to remove someone. Adrie clarified that if we have a cap then long-term members step down to make room. Jens reported that we don't have specific bylaws (outside of those created by national) but that Tom (national lawyer) said they are working to rewrite chapter bylaws in order to make them more flexible. This will give chapters more ability to craft their own from that. Tom also suggested that if someone is excited and motivated to join the board, we should welcome them. Richard suggests that we have a minimum rather than max and that people should have tasks (committee chair, etc.). Elliott agrees with Richard and suggests to get around the issue of quorum that we could have other people involved as chairs for committees who are not voting members of the board. Too, that the officers should be rotated. Shelley said she spoke with Fine Arts chairs from other chapters who insist that they needed to be voting members to accomplish their goals. She suggested that there is a benefit to members remaining on the board for 20 years or more and doesn't agree to blanket term limits for general board members.

Vote: 4 yay*, 3 nay

**Cathy proxy-voted through Shelley and by announcing her support for no term limits in writing beforehand since she knew she would miss the meeting.*

JW would like to see us work to define Board roles. Board agreed to table that for the new board to work on starting next month.

b). Acknowledgement of new board members for 2023; read their statements if available.

Statements were read/given for/by the new members (see attached bios).

c). Set first board meeting date of new year.

No date was set, Elan agreed to work with the board to find a date that works for as many board members as possible.

d). If majority of 2023 Board is present, elect President and Vice-President.

A majority of Board members were present so a vote was held after a discussion.

Discussion: Elan announced that he would like to serve as president following this year in which he served as vice president. Shelley announced that Cathy volunteered to be interim president until a new president can be chosen. Jen reminded the Board that, per ASMP guidelines, the role of the vice president acts as interim president if the president is not available. Jen is finishing her term as president and therefore there is no need for an interim president even if that role didn't default to the VP. Shelley suggested that Cathy could serve as co-president with Elan or with Archie should he wish to return. Jen reminded the board that, per ASMP guidelines, co-presidents are not an approved structure for ASMP chapters. The structure is a single president, a vice president, a secretary, and treasurer. Archie explained that he stepped down 80% because of burnout after serving since 2000 and also, as Jen suggested, because he wanted to make room for new members to be on the board. His choice was also influenced by the 2021 board decision to limit the size of the board to 8 members*.



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*This decision was not recorded in minutes at the time but all members serving on that board, when asked, agreed that this decision was in fact made and that it was made for reasons that cannot be discussed openly with the existing board or general members (per email exchanges, no discussion of the reasons were made at this meeting).

Adrie announced that she would like to serve as vice president. Shelley questioned Adrie's ability to represent the interest of everyone on the board. Elan expressed support for Adrie and Don seconded that support noting the many things that Adrie did this past year in support of the entire membership, not just those on the board and not just for herself or things that served her specific interests.

Separate votes were held for each position:

8 yay for Elan for President

8 yay for Adrie for VP

Jen abstained from voting since she is leaving the board.

Dave asked that we make a note of the existing board members for 2023. Those are as follows:

Officers:

Elan Mizrahi – president

Adrie Rose – vice president

JW Ramp – treasurer

Don Orkoskey – Secretary

Committee Chairs:

Shelley Lipton – Fine Arts

Existing Members:

Cathy Kelly

Dave Prelosky

New Members:

Polly Whitehorn

Martha Rial

Megan Hursh

Farzeen Ghavam

2). Treasurers' report (see attached)

a). Spending Policy Proposal.

JW suggests: When planning events that require Chapter funding, approval for spending of up to \$60 may be provided by a simple majority of board members using online communications (group chat, etc). For spending of \$60 and above, the request must be brought to a board meeting for discussion and voting. He reminded us that per National:

ALL voucher reimbursement requests over \$400.00 MUST be submitted for pre-approval by ASMP National 60-days before the expense is to be incurred. A new Voucher Pre-Approval option is live at <https://www.asmp.org/chapter-voucher-form/>. Vouchers submitted that are more than \$400.00 and have not been pre-approved, or that have been submitted with fewer than 60-days' notice, will be summarily denied.

9 yay 1 nay

3). Membership Update (Elan)

This item was skipped (accidentally). Elan later emailed a report which is attached.

4). Fine Art Committee Update (Shelley)

Shelley is looking to put together a group gallery show at PI (or other locations)

Thomas Warner has published a new book The Business of Fine Art Photography – would like to do a “book club” type situation to go through the book



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Dave asked if there is a list of galleries or locations that show local artists, Shelley said it's on the to-do list
Shelley said she got a lot of good advice in Miami that she plans to share in the future

5). Portfolio Review Update. Choose Coordinator. Discuss to charge fees or not; potential dates.

Philly is interested in partnering again this year. Jen asked for someone to volunteer to help work with Philly. Adrie volunteered to serve as the coordinator. The question about charging for reviews was not discussed to the point of any resolution.

6). Bridge Program; possible Pittsburgh involvement. (Please review <https://www.asmp.org/category/the-bridge/> before the Meeting so you understand the basics of what it is. We have not as yet been given any specific guidance or details; just asked if we want to participate.)

Jen told National that we're interested in participating but the details are not clear at this time. National is working to find a way to role this out. Given that we are a smaller chapter they're unsure at this time of how that will work.

7). Member Appreciation Event in January. Choose coordinator and vote on budget.

Shelley volunteered to coordinate this event (beers in a basement)

Jen asked about the amount we want to spend. JW suggests not to go below \$1,000 in the bank account. Adrie suggests a soft limit of \$1,000 but a hard limit of \$1,500 –

Vote: 9 yay for hosting this event and for the budget restrictions suggested by JW and Adrie

Martha suggested that PPU might be willing to allow us to use their brand-new Media space (Benedum Trees) and that she would try to find out. Shelley said she'd defer to Martha allowing her to coordinate the event then but would take back over if the space isn't available. Farzeen agrees to help with this event. Dave suggests that the Energy Innovation Center might be a good location and he will get some info from them having just hosted his daughter's wedding there.

8). Pittsburgh Cultural Trust: Discuss involvement in January crawl or 3R Arts Festival. Discussion and choose Coordinator if so.

Polly is willing to volunteer to work with the Cultural Trust on the 3RAF but can't do January and doesn't think that we're likely to make that work or that it's really worth it given that it's not that large of a draw. Martha and Peter T. are also willing to help as they are familiar with the contact person at the CT.



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Attachment 1 New Board Member Bios/Election Statements

Polly Whitehorn

Election Statement:

ASMP has served as a lifeline to me in expanding my practice as a fine art photographer. Knowing I have a resource to answer questions addressing contractual dilemmas, client negotiations as well as professional ethics. During the pandemic I looked forward to our chapter Thursday evening Zoom gatherings. So great to get to know members this way and stay connected. Thank you, Archie, for making this happen!

I have grown and gained confidence in my endeavor since becoming a member. I would like to give back to the Pittsburgh Chapter by becoming a contributing member of the Board. I would like to see our Pittsburgh Chapter membership roster grow by adding young and emerging talents as well as established professionals who may not realize the value of ASMP. Cultivation events are a great tool. I would happily work on making these happen.

As a fine art photographer, I would like to see another pop up happening such as what we did at the Gallery Crawl last fall.

From her bio:

A graduate of the Fashion Institute of Technology earning an Associate Degree in Apparel Design prepared her for a career in the garment trade. Initially designing disco club clothing. Polly saw a niche opportunity and opened her own business, Polly Mills, Inc., designing and manufacturing a line of high-end, trendy girls' dresses and sportswear. Customers included Macy's, Bloomingdales, Neiman Marcus and specialty stores across the nation. Polly was involved in all phases of business management including design, sales, marketing and production. After her two sons had reached College age, Polly returned to work administering a grantmaking program for a local arts organization. Polly also returned to school earning certificates in both Fundraising and Non-Profit Management. She then went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Arts Management from the State University of New York. Polly is an accomplished quilter, photographer and fiber artist. Since moving to Pittsburgh, she has been highly involved in the arts community and has applied her nonprofit management and promotional skills. She has served on the Board of the Pittsburgh Society of Artists as Publicity Chair and continues as a member. Her photography has been displayed in galleries locally and nationally and is found in corporate and private collections.

Martha Rial

Election Statement:

If elected to ASMP Pittsburgh Board of Directors, I plan to continue my work as a mentor to emerging photographers in the region. I have been a working photographer for more than 40 years for a wide range of clients, including newspapers and magazines, nonprofit and for commercial clients. It has been an incredible education. In recent years I have worked in communities such as Pittsburgh historic Mon Valley where I have used photography and writing, as well as audio and video to build relationships and teach entrepreneurship and accountability. I'm looking forward to opportunities to share what I have learned with the ASMP community.

Bio:

I specialize in documentary, editorial and portrait photography and I mostly work on location. My community mural project Beyond the Ceiling, features portraits of ordinary women who have defied the odds and have become role models for their communities. Recently, I was awarded an Investing in Professional Artist Grant from The Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments to expand the project. Point Park University invited me to give a TEDx talk on the project to chronicle their inspirational work. My work has been exhibited at the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Mattress Factory, Silver Eye Center for Photography, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Galleries and at Carnegie Mellon University.

My work can be found in the permanent collections of the Carnegie Museum of Art, BNY Mellon and the Newseum in Washington D.C. Previously I worked as a staff photographer for the St. Petersburg Times (now the Tampa Bay Times) and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. My work has earned the Scripps Howard Foundation Award for Photojournalism, a National Headliner Award and the Distinguished Visual Award from the Pennsylvania Associated Press Managing Editors. I was also named Pennsylvania News Photographer of the Year.

My photographs have received international acclaim, including a Pulitzer Prize for work documenting the lives of Burundian and Rwandan survivors of the 1995 genocide. I have taught at Carnegie Mellon University, the Sundance Photographic Workshops and the Chautauqua Institution. Currently, I'm the project manager for the McKeesport Community Newsroom, a citizen journalism initiative of The Center for Media Innovation at Point Park University.



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I am a graduate of Ohio University's School of Visual Communication. In the spring of 2017, I received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Point Park University.

Megan Hursh

Election Statement & Bio:

Hello there! My name is Megan Hursh and I am passionate about photography. I graduated college with a master's degree in speech and language pathology, and I have worked with children and adults with disabilities for the past 15 years. I work in the medical field in an outpatient hospital setting and simultaneously have a true passion for photography. I got my first DSLR 13 hours ago and I haven't stopped taking photos since. I opened my photography LLC in 2021.

As a photographer, my greatest joy is emotive storytelling photography. I love to connect with humans and I aspire to capture authentic emotion through my lens. Perhaps my career path of working with children and adults with disabilities compliments this internal desire, complimenting the two worlds in a way. I am mostly self-taught while still having so very much to learn. I love to collaborate with others and that's why I have benefitted greatly by being a member of ASMP. I would be honored to be a member of the ASMP board. I would love to bring forth some new ideas and collaborate on projects while also learning the art of creativity and business.

Farzeen Ghavam

Election Statement:

By joining the ASMP board of directors, I hope to become a part of a close community of professional creatives and get to contribute in planning events, curating shows, connecting local creatives and evolving to be a better artist throughout the process.

Bio:

Farzeen's photography projects are essentially a study of human condition, at heart. His approach is grounded in his collaborations with different creatives working in various mediums that has allowed him to expand and evolve as a storyteller. By blending art history symbolism, psychology and cinema, he strives to convey thought provoking stories that carry an emotional charge. His goal is to craft intriguing narratives while learning about his subjects in hope to better understand what makes people who they are.

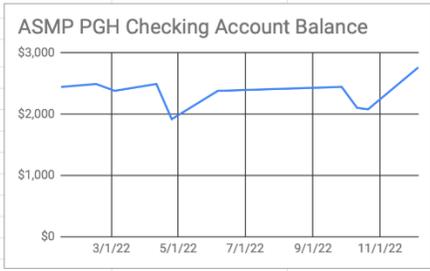


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Attachment 2 Treasurer's Attachment

ASMP 2022 FINANCES J.W. Ramp						
<i>last updated 12/15/22</i>						
EXPENSES						
Date	Description	Cost	Paid by	Voucher Submitted	Reimbursement Paid	Reimbursement Method
2/17/22	Food for open studio event at George Lange's	\$111.29	Elan Mizrahi	2/22/22	2/22/22	via PNC bill pay online
4/8/22	Carnegie Museum - books for reviewers	\$462.24	Elan Mizrahi	4/13/22	4/13/22	via PNC bill pay online
4/11/22	Sheetz drinks (asst workshop)	\$18.32	Jen Worley	4/12/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
4/11/22	ATM cash for sandwiches (asst workshop)	\$22.00	Jen Worley	4/12/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
4/12/22	USPS-mailers for reviewer gifts	\$24.72	Jen Worley	4/12/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
4/12/22	USPS-Mailing 6x reviewer gifts	\$30.48	Jen Worley	4/12/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
4/12/22	ATM fees	\$6.00	Jen Worley	n/a	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
4/19/22	USPS - Mailing last 2x reviewer gifts	\$10.16	Jen Worley	4/19/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
6/16/22	Kuhn's - food for Premier Imaging meetup	\$54.35	Jen Worley	6/27/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
9/23/22	Roy Engelbrecht - 20ea 20x24" prints	\$400.00	Roy	9/26/22	9/26/22	via PNC bill pay online (members also submitted \$\$ to JWR)
10/7/22	GotPrint - Chapter Banner	\$158.41	Jen Worley	10/27/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
10/8/22	StickerMule - Buttons	\$42.40	Jen Worley	10/27/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
10/20/22	Target - snacks for Sci Center Demo	\$26.26	Jen Worley	10/27/22	n/a - ASMP PGH Debit Card	
		\$1,366.63	total			
VOUCHER PAYMENTS						
2/15/22		\$48.15				
4/11/22		\$111.29				
6/6/22		\$462.24				
6/14/22		\$10.16				
9/27/22		\$54.35				
12/2/22		\$400.00				
12/5/22		\$227.07				
		\$1,313.26	total			
		\$1,366.63	2022 Spending			
		\$1,313.26	Vouchers received 2022			
		\$380.00	Cash from members for gallery prints			
		\$1,914.30	5/1/22 PNC Account Balance			
		\$2,386.70	7/15/22 PNC Account Balance			
		\$2,073.98	10/27/22 PNC Account Balance			
		\$2,761.05	12/15/22 PNC Account Balance			
		\$1,022.30	2022 Voucher Budget (per accounting firm 6/15/22)			
		\$47.37	Voucher \$ Unpaid			
		-\$338.33	Voucher \$ Remaining (we have been re-paid > our budget)			



Attachment 3 – Membership Update

Recently Cancelled:

Kelli Daerr - kelli.daerr@gmail.com – 8/31/22

Tom O'Connor - Tomoconnorphoto@gmail.com – 8/2/22

Unsure if anyone reached out with a feedback request. Does anyone know that answer to that? Do we have a specific feedback request that we've sent out in the past?

New Members:

Ed Knuff - edknuffphotography@yahoo.com – Joined in November

Jen reached out

Constant Contact: Up to date

Notes: Looks like when a member updates their membership status it shows that the membership was cancelled at the original level and then a new line item is added at the new level. Makes it confusing when sifting through the document. Can discuss with Jacie.