

**** MEETING MINUTES ****

Subject: Merrimack Valley Camera Club Executive Committee Meeting

Place: Boucher residence

Date: 26-Jul-2018

Members present:

- **Fred Boucher – President**
- **David Jones -1st Vice President**
- **Cathy Dunham – Secretary**
- **Lorraine Lurvey – Treasurer**

Absent: Todd Minot

Via Phone: Steve Painter and Greg Davis

TOPICS Discussed:

Housekeeping:

- **Fred asked if all members had copies of the 2018-2019 EC Meeting Schedule. All agreed.**
- **Fred asked if all EC could provide portraits for the website page.**

Topics:

- Fred reviewed the current agreement and responsibilities of the EC regarding our rental space at the Trinitarian church.
- Fred explained that the Trinitarian church is now requiring a Certificate of Liability Insurance from all renters. Fred asked the church secretary to explain exactly what type of liability insurance parameters their insurance carrier was looking for. She stated that she would find out and get back to us. Fred contacted his insurance agent and was told that these policies would start at about \$600 per year.
- Lorraine agreed to create a 2018-2018 budget for the club. This budget would primarily be based on the 2017-2018 budget as spending is expected to be the same. The only exception is the possible need for liability insurance.
- The EC discussed with Steve Painter and Greg Davis the issues that we are having with our Website. The current issue now is that the website doesn't always consistently send out acknowledgement emails for member renewals and receipt of images received for competitions. Steve explained that emails from our website may be blocked because they are filtered as spam by some of the receiver's email services.

- Fred proposed to alert members to have patience not to always expect a response from the website
- David proposed that he could manually alert submitters to the digital competition to acknowledge their submission by sending out a list of all received images, the day before the due date. Need to also work with the Print Competition committee to see if they would also do the same.
- The EC also agreed to start looking into another website platform. One that was “off the shelf” may be easier to use, more reliable, have more functionality. A committee would be needed to investigate and pursue such a new platform. This would be a long-term fix. Lorraine Lurvey agreed to chair such a committee after December and that this may be a 2-year project. Visual Pursuits was one of the web software platforms mentioned. Their annual fee is about \$6 per user.
- Fred brought up the topic of improved feedback from judges in our competitions as a serious improvement to the improvement of our members skillsets. Some judges do not provide any improvement feedback for the submitters, which is not helpful. Fred agreed to meet with the print committee, digital committee and judges committee to explore the best way to get judges to provide the three key feedback elements (what is good, what needs improvement and how to fix the image)
- The EC also reviewed the agenda for the opening night meeting on September 5th. The agenda will include:
 - Welcome and opening remarks by Fred
 - Report outs from the chairpersons of key committees
 - Summer images slideshow from the members

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Cathy Dunham
Secretary, MVCC