

Minutes – MVPC Board Meeting: January 9, 2024

Tuesday, 1/9/2024, 7:04 pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Board Members 2023-2024

President	Rick Graves
Vice President	Daniel Vande Vusse
Secretary	Brian Bauman
Treasurer	Debra Sunderman
Salon Committee	Daniel Vande Vusse, Al Kiecker, Kevin Corrigan
Programs	<i>vacant</i>
Publicity	Phil Davies, Joy Kamano
Exhibits	Lorrie Dahlman, Carrie Rebeschke
Website	Joe Santos, Bev Kiecker
Facilities	<i>Vacant</i>
Activities	Bonnie Vande Vusse
Photographer's Playground	Don Tredinnick
TCACCC Rep	Craig Peterson
2024 Interclub Judging	Craig Peterson
Eagan Rep	Ken Cheung
PSA Rep	Bev Kiecker
N4C Digital Rep	Rick Graves
N4C Judging Team	Daniel Vande Vusse, Craig Peterson
Historian	Becky Bergmann
Past President	Al Kiecker

Highlighted names indicate attendance.

Members in attendance:

Roy Larson
Carol Jacobson
David Perez
Julie Ackerman

Officer & Committee Chair Reports

President – Rick Graves

- Vacancies: Programs, Facilities (two spots), Activities, Web Team

Vice President – Daniel Vande Vusse

- Working on getting ready for judging Interclub competition with Craig Peterson

Secretary – Brian Bauman

- Approval of December Board Meeting minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes by Daniel Vande Vusse and seconded by Al Kiecker. Motion to approved passed unanimously by Board.

Treasurer – Debra Sunderman

- Reminder that Club Fiscal Year runs September 1st to August 31st.

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Primary Savings	
Beginning balance	\$5.19
Deposit (interest)	\$0.00
Total	\$5.19

Savings -Money Market	.70%	0.80%	
Beginning balance			\$7,028.12
Deposit (interest)			\$4.78
subtotal			\$7,032.90
			\$7,032.90

Checking					
	Beginning balance				\$301.77
	Deposits				\$80.00
		Sub total			\$381.77
	Expenses		\$0.00		
		Checking total			\$381.77

Checking					Total Funds MVPC	\$7,419.86
Deposits						
	1 membership			\$35.00		
	1 family			\$45.00		
	Total Deposits			\$80.00		

Expenses					
					\$0.00

Salons – Daniel Vande Vusse, Al Kiecker, Kevin Corrigan

- Throughout the photography world, there has been much chatter about artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on photography, especially how it affects photo competitions. It is the position of the salon committee that we will hold off any change to the MVPC salon rules until TCACCC, N4C and PSA have given us guidance by updating their rules. In the interim, we recommend that the Generative AI feature now available in Photoshop not be used for any image submitted to an MVPC salon.
- Adam Grim is the year end salon judge. Banquet date recommended in chart below
- Salon judges have been found as indicated in the chart below

Salon Date	Due Date	Topic	Media	Judge
9/28/2023	9/7/2023	Lines and Angles	Digital	YES – Beverly Hawkins
10/26/2023	10/5/2023	Wildflowers	Prints	YES – Mariann Cyr
11/30/2023	11/2/2023	Anything Fun	Digital	YES – John Olson
1/25/2024	1/4/2024	Macro/Micro	Prints	YES – Bob Lundquist
2/22/2024	2/1/2024	Wabi-Sabi	Digital	YES
3/28/2023	3/7/2024	Water In Motion	Prints	YES
4/25/2024	4/4/2024	Favorite Hobby	Digital	YES

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5/23/2024	5/2/2024	Weathered	Prints	YES
6/6/2024	5/2/2024	year end	both	Adam Grim

- January Salon Statistics:

Color Open	11
Color Topic	6
Monochrome Open	12
Monochrome Topic	4
Novice Open	none
Novice Topic	none
Total	33

- NOTE: In order to make the timing of the Year-end salon for judging, prints for the Year end Salon must be submitted by May 2nd.

Program Chair – vacant

- Rick Graves and Al Kiecker have arranged some programs for 2023-2024 year

Date	Presenter	Title/Subject	Remote/In-person	Comment	Fee?
9/7/2023	Jef Clements	Video	In Person	Great feedback	No
10/5/2023	Terry Butler	B&W photography	In Person	Couldn't find meeting location	No
11/2/2023	Rikk Flohr	Macro	In Person	Great feedback	No
12/7/2023	MVPC Members	Member slideshows	In Person		No
1/4/2024	Arik Gorban	Travel	Remote		
2/1/2024	Mariann Cyr	Antarctica	In Person		No
3/7/2024	Ed Sanders	3D Photography	In Person		No
4/4/2024	Lisa Cuchara	Add Impact to Your Flower Photography	Remote		
5/2/2024					
6/6/2024		Year End Banquet	In Person		

- As a backup Rick has obtained a 90-minute video lecture “The Heart of the Photograph” by photographer David duChemin (<https://davidduchemin.com/>). Ordinarily he charges for a presentation to camera clubs but he offered this video presentation free. We are not permitted to share it on any website.

Photographers Playground – Don Tredinnick

- Upcoming activities:
 - Listed on the club website

Publicity – Phil Davies, Joy Kamano

- Announcement for Arik Gorban’s meeting was shared – will do the same for Mariann Cyr’s presentation at the February meeting (may run a paid ad on Patch for this).
- Need to find another printer getting the updated brochure printed. Let Phil Davies know of any leads.

Exhibits - Lorrie Dahlman and Carrie Rebischke

- Looking for more prints to exhibit.

Website – Joe Santos & Bev Kiecker

- Website:
 - Our website went down twice in the last month.
 - It went down the first time when GoDaddy accidentally removed our current website instead of our old subscription-expired website.
 - It went down again when GoDaddy removed our expired security plan.

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- Both were caused by GoDaddy not properly reconnecting our website after removing expired subscriptions.
 - We have an issue with one of our subscribed software disconnecting and disabling some pages of the website. This seems to happen every time GoDaddy disconnects from our website. I have an open support ticket with the vendor (Supsysitic) but have not yet heard back.
- Salon Programs:
 - A new salon upload app has been completed and is ready for testing by the Salon Committee and reps.
 - We have known for some time that our existing salon upload app violates GoDaddy’s security policies and have already been told to remove the app.
 - It’s only a matter of time before GoDaddy finds the app is still on our website. A decision needs to be made on what to do with the existing salon upload app:
 - Outsource the service to another provider,
 - Replace the current app with a new app, or
- Modify the existing app to conform to GoDaddy’s security policies.
- Email Lists (A reminder)
 - The table below lists all the emails that are currently set up in Googlegroups and GoDaddy and how they function and where to manage the personal emails that are listed. The Webmaster builds and maintains all the lists

mvpcboard@googlegroups.com	All board members	Manage in Googlegroups
mvpcinfo@googlegroups.com	President, Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity	Manage in Googlegroups
mvphotoclub@googlegroups.com	All current members	Manage in Googlegroups
To be built, when needed	Inactive Members	Manage in Googlegroups
mvpcsalon@googlegroups.com	Personal emails of salon group	Manage in Googlegroups
n4c-entries-to-mvpc@googlegroups.com	Personal emails of N4C Judging Team	Manage in Googlegroups
To be built	Personal emails of PSA Reps	Manage in Googlegroups
mvpc-psa-team@googlegroups.com	Personal emails of PSA Team	Manage in Googlegroups
mvpc-zoom@googlegroups.com	Personal emails of Zoom Hosts	Manage in Googlegroups
webmaster@minnesotavalleyphotoclub.org	Personal email of Webmaster	Manage in GoDaddy

- Club Calendar
 - Reminder: All Committee Chairs need to supply timely information for the club calendar, as needed.
- Send any activity pictures to Joe Santos to be posted on site – this will help keep things fresh.
- Getting hacking probes – do not click on any links!
- Testing of new upload app is still on progress. Need to have a meeting with the Salon committee to review the new app to go over any concerns.

Facilities – vacant

- ISD 191 Note (keep this note until we use the credit)
 - Contact at ISD 191 for facilities use is Kyle Hinrichsen at 952 707-4123
 - We have \$210 -\$140 = \$70 credit remaining toward use of facilities.
 - The cost of rooms varies between \$25 and \$35 per hour.
 - Larger rooms are \$35.
 - Classroom style rooms range from \$20 to \$30 per hour.
 - Note: there is a comment on insurance, with a requirement for Certificate Liability of Insurance.
 - the insurance requirement applies only to groups above 75 participants and anyone who requests use of the gymnasium.
 - They no longer offer food service onsite, so it is permissible to bring in outside food.
 - No alcohol policy on all School properties
- Have room scheduled for February 20 Photographer’s Playground (\$140 of credit used)

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- 6:30-8:30pm.
- Club Equipment
 - Al Kiecker has in his possession the digital projector
 - Club will be retaining our sound system and keep for backup – currently in Al Kiecker’s possession.
- Approved Banquet Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024.
 - Question – do we need to be a banquet? Group consensus is that we are not required to have a banquet. Maybe do something alternative like dessert or cake & coffee? STILL AN OPEN TOPIC TO BE DETERMINED.
- The MyMeeting that was held on 1/8/2024 at the Burnsville Library was free. Could this be a possible option going forward for future meetings?
 - Libraries have rules that need to be navigated (how often you can have them, what time the library closes, etc.) that can makes things difficult.

Activities – Bonnie Vande Vusse

- No report

TCACCC Rep – Craig Peterson

- No report

Interclub 2024 – Craig Peterson

- The upcoming Interclub will be on Thursday Jan 11th. Need to arrange Print pickup & drop-offs.
- The council has signed off on the new PDF submissions forms. 2024 interclub entry rules are now posted on the council's website. This includes artificial intelligence wording. Instructions on how to resize and image files and simpler file requirements.
- Al Kiecker is having the club members vote on the final 20 images that will go into the club competition.
- Bev and Craig have finalized their parts in processing the entry submissions. Submissions will start coming in on January 21 and the deadline is February 11. There was an issue with the google group setup for this. We went back to having the submissions come directly to Bev and Craig's email.
- Daniel, Rick and Craig are working out the details for the judging. Estimated 1,000 images to judge.
- Below is the current updated timeline.

Timeline	Event	
Saturday, April 13, 2024	Award Ceremony	
Saturday, April 6, 2024	Pick up trophies, sticker ribbons	Create Final results reports
Saturday, March 30, 2024	Create slide shows and final awards prep	
Saturday, March 23, 2024	Bev, cjp; Proof order sheets and order trophies by.	trophy co has 2 weeks to create trophies
Wednesday, March 20, 2024	cjp compile and make proof order sheets	
Sunday, March 17, 2024	zoom meeting window end	Daniel is available
Saturday, March 16, 2024	zoom meeting window start	Daniel is available
Thursday, March 14, 2024	cjp finish compile files for zoom meeting	Provide judges combined results and match file.
Monday, March 11, 2024	judges finish scorecards due end of day	2 weekend window for judges to complete their scorecards.
Friday, February 23,	Judges receive scorecards	

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2024		
Thursday, February 22, 2024	Entry grace period, cjp finish prepping judging files	
Sunday, February 11, 2024	Entries due, prep for judging	
Saturday, February 3, 2024		
Saturday, January 20, 2024		
Sunday, January 21, 2024	Start receiving entries	

Eagan Rep – Ken Cheung

- Upcoming events are noted in emails to club members

PSA Rep – Bev Kiecker

- Deadline coming up February 1st.

N4C Digital – Rick Graves

- Digital Altered Reality – 6 entries
- Digital B&W – 5 entries
- Digital Journalism – 8 entries (some were from Nov where they did not get judged)
- Digital Nature – 6 entries
- Digital Pictorial – 5 entries
- Digital Travel – 5 entries

N4C Judging Team – Daniel Vande Vusse, Craig Peterson

- Upcoming 2023-2024 Judging Schedule
 - May – Digital Nature

Historian – Becky Bergmann

- Last night was the first MyMeeting of the year (and the very first in-person meeting). Very good attendance for that meeting (18 in-person and 10 on Zoom).

Past President – Al Kiecker

- Nothing to report

Action Items

- **Action Item:** Vice President (Daniel) will take the action to create the new policy and send out to be reviewed by Board member – IN PROCESS
 - Proposed Policy – Individuals will be removed from membership (dropped from emails, lose all member benefits) if dues are not paid in full by Dec 31st. In the event a lapsed member returns they can retain their old salon number.
 - *Completed as of December Board Meeting.*
- **Action Item:** Changes to website will affect membership & salon numbers. Joe Santos will set up discussions with Daniel Vande Vusse, Rick Graves, Al Kiecker, Bev Kiecker & Deb Sunderman.
 - 2023-12-08 Status: This action is on hold until the web team begins to work on the new membership process. It is unlikely that the salon numbers will need to change.

Old Business

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New Business

- Proposal for AI rules addition to the salon rules by David Perez
 - Board and attendees reviewed and discussed the proposal. The proposal was modified with David’s approval during the discussion (see attachment for amended proposal)
 - Motion made by Deb Sunderman to approve amended proposal, seconded by Joe Santos:
 - Yea: 11111
 - Nay: 111111 – Motion failed (6 to 5)
 - Motion made by Al Kicker that “the issue of AI is to be discussed and decided by Salon Committee for a proposal by the April Board meeting that would then be presented to the May Membership meeting”. Motion seconded by Bev Kiecker.
 - Yea 111111 – Motion passed (6 to 3)
 - Nay 111
 - Abstain 1

Motion to adjourn meeting made Al Kiecker and seconded by Daniel Vande Vusse. Motion passed unanimously by attendees. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

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Attachment – Room Technical Difficulties Recommendations

I think we need an AV team. Right now if I do not show up, I am not certain we will have a meeting. Put together a process document. Normal operation and fall back procedures. The AV team shows up 30 minutes before and setup / tests, installs fall back solutions as needed. I do not always get to focus on this, supporting the salon, etc, prior to the start of the meeting.

I also think we need to be prepared for equipment failures. It will happen. It happens at work, we just move to another room. We do not have that option.

Resources we need to hold a meeting;

Presentation Laptop - currently the Club Laptop - New should be reliable, I still bring mine as a spare just in case.

Monitor laptop - Currently my laptop. - See what is being "broadcast". Mute participants who have not muted themselves, Used to test the setup prior to the meeting. Need a wireless headset to listen in to the audio. Could it be done using a phone / tablet as a backup? An AV team member needs to be monitoring this.

Projector - Club has one, we should confirm it works and bring it. Just need a wall if the screen does not come down. We had one meeting where it finally started working just a few minutes before the meeting.

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Sound - Club should have a speaker system, just a decent set of PC speakers is likely good enough. May plug into the same adaptor as the microphones.

Internet - Would need someone with a phone that supports a hotspot and unlimited data, This has never been an issue, so far.

Audience microphone wrangler. - AV team member to move mic to participants in the audience for questions / comments / introduction.

Extension cord and power strip for projector and sound system.

USB C hub, with USB 3 ports. Plug in the microphone adapter, Microphone power supply, USB drives with presentations.

Daniel

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Attachment – modified Proposal for AI rules in Salons

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into image capture devices and post-processing tools has changed the way we capture and process images. Photography clubs like MVPC need to establish workable guidelines governing the use of AI in their competitions.

In the absence of specific information on how Adobe, or other, tools interact with the AI components, and the reality that AI use will increase with each new release, I believe a generalized approach to handling the issue of “photograph” versus “computer generated art” is preferable to attempting to isolate and attempt to determine how each tool’s use should be governed.

Post-processing tools like Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop (as well as those from other manufacturers) rely on AI to streamline processing, reduce time spent on mundane tasks, improve correction of flaws and imperfections, and improve overall image optimization.

They can also be used to synthesize entire, realistic looking images, and create or modify elements of an image with components not captured by the photographer. These changes transform the image from a “photograph” into “computer generated art”, making the image ineligible for use in competition salons.

Proposed Rules Addition

This proposal strikes a balance between the use of AI-driven tools for image optimization and for creation of Computer-Generated Art. It allows the use of all available tools for cleanup and image optimization, and excludes images with conscious (user-initiated) AI-Generated content. The proposed addition is:

All images, and post processing of those images, must be the work of the member entering the image. Images generated wholly, or in part, by user-initiated prompt Generative AI are prohibited, however, all available tools, including AI tools (i.e., generative fill), may be used to optimize one’s own captures provided no perceptible elements not captured by the photographer are introduced.

Supplemental Information

The scope of this proposal does not extend to the area of computational photography or autonomous processing in image capture devices, and whether that output should be considered computer generated art rather than a photograph.