**Minutes of PODS Executive Committee Meeting- May 28, 2014**

Nine members attending including: Michael Penn Smith: Outgoing President, Jen Kuykendall: Vice President, Laura Griffith: Secretary, Lesley Martin: President, John Hoag: Treasurer, Chris Wuestefeld: Show Committee Chair, Winifred Simon: Activities Committee Chair, Ken Ziegler: Committee Manager and Phyllis Rummel: Membership Committee Chair.

***Meeting Agenda***

**Transition of Presidency** from Michael Penn Smith (outgoing President) to Lesley Martin (newly elected President).

Michael voiced a concern that the member list needs to be constantly updated and who will be in charge of this duty? Doug Gephardt has offered to help maintain the list. The question of who is responsible for this list was raised. John Hoag as Treasurer for PODS believes that the list should be driven only by him as he will be the one receiving and recording the dues.

The Membership Committee needs the sign-in sheet from the monthly meeting in order to contact potential members and keep a prospect list.

Michael stressed that a phone campaign should be made at the end of the year to rev up existing members to renew their membership for the upcoming year.

It is also extremely important that the member list is continually updated and cared for.

As of this date PODS has 40 paid members.

Questions raised: Who should send out the meeting emails? What is the role of the Membership Committee?

Lesley Martin brought up the question of what kind of motivation do we give people to join the group? What do we offer for the membership money?

We do have membership packets that are given out to guests. We offer workshops, field trips and the like for members.

The Google Plus page is only for members and can be used as a membership incentive.

Lesley suggested that we also establish a separate page for the Executive Committee in order to easily communicate with each other between meetings. Either on Facebook or Google Plus.

**2014 PODS Digital Show:**

Pros: Rules and proposal of the show were clear and concise.

Chris Wuestefeld did a great job with the slideshow and handling the entries received. Good follow through with everyone involved.

PR was the best in comparison to previous shows.

Cons: Timing was late this year i.e. process should have begun earlier.

Show sales are not successful mainly due to the short amount of time that the show is up. Perhaps in the future the physical show should be 2 or 3 days long.

Future show winners should receive certificates.

Show cards should only be done by the committee for the sake of uniformity.

Location of the digital show should be promoted more heavily.

Some of the complaints brought up by the Executive Committee members:

Didn’t care for the judge’s selection.

Bring the judge back to critique his selections.

Get rid of the word digital because people are confused about the word.

Why do all the photographers have to be present for the entire length of the show?

Frames should be high quality with wired backs.

Could we see if Wesley Gallery would give a group discount for all participants to print, mat and frame the images?

Are we bothered by the fact that we have not had any sales from this show?

**Terms of Executive Committee Board Members:**

Board positions are for 2 years from the date elected.

Lesley has asked that the existing Committee Chairs stay in their positions until the end of her term.

Lesley will be out of town for most of September and October. The Executive Committee will need to take turns running meetings for her during her absence. Preferably members who are good public speakers.

**Meeting Program Committee:**

There is a need for a Meetings Programs Committee and it should be formed ASAP. A Chairman should be elected at the next meeting to get the ball rolling on this. In the meanwhile, several ideas were tossed around regarding future topics for meeting presentations.

**Miscellaneous:**

The new TV is at Mazama Coffee House with the slideshow of the Digital Show playing. (Note: the slideshow was updated to remove the past show date). The TV needs to be picked up and moved to a new location. The idea is to keep the show moving around Dripping Springs for awhile longer.

The website was brought up and both Chris and Lesley have WordPress experience and have offered to help with the site. The server still needs to be switched over. Should we just start from scratch and create a whole new website?

Lesley Martin will be meeting with several members of the Board individually to discuss their various duties and issues in detail. These meetings will take place in the near future.

**Immediate Past President Seat on the Executive Committee Board:**

A call went up for creating a new seat on the Executive Committee Board for the Immediate Past President. Winifred Simon nominated Michael Penn Smith for the seat.

John Hoag seconded the nomination.

All agreed and the motion passed. Michael Penn Smith will remain on the Executive Committee Board in the position of Immediate Past President.

As incoming President Lesley Martin posed these questions to the Board for future discussion:

What future topics would we like to see addressed?

How can we utilize our member’s vast array of knowledge to benefit the group?

What are our interests as a group?

What workshops are needed?