**Minutes of PODS Executive Committee Meeting November 20, 2013**

Eight members attending including: Michael Penn Smith, Cathy Potwin Jones, Jen Kuykendall, John Hoag, Phyllis Rummel, Winifred Simon, Laura Griffith and Ken Ziegler.

***Welcome to the new Committee Chairs***

Winifred Simon is the new chair of the Activities Committee and Phyllis Rummel is the new chair of the Membership Committee.

Carla McCandless has resigned from the Executive Board so there is a need to form a Special Projects Committee. This committee would be in charge of handling the Digital Shows and the Gallery Shows.

A survey was sent out from the Activities Committee to all members regarding field trips. We had a very low response from this so Winifred will hand them out at the monthly meeting and post it on Yahoo Groups.

The Activities Committee now consists of the following members: Winifred Simon (Chair), Jen Kuykendall, Ken Ziegler, Laura Griffith, Dave Wilson and Phyllis Rummel.

The Membership Committee now consists of the following members: Phyllis Rummel (Chair) and Michael Penn Smith. Ron Millegan has resigned as the Chair person. This committee needs at least three people.

How do we get people to volunteer for the committees?

We need to present the committees as fun and rewarding.

***Report on President Nominee Search/Analysis:***

Majority ruled posting on Yahoo Groups for President. So far there has been no response to previous emails and posting. Michael Penn Smith has personally contacted several members of PODS with no positive response.

Why is no one interested? Maybe it looks too time consuming or difficult. Michael has agreed to speak at the monthly meeting about the position.

***Strategy for call for Nominations/Election tomorrow, for Treasurer and President***

It looks like Michael Penn Smith will continue on as President for the next six months (actually until June 2014) as we have no other candidates.

We will ask for nominations for Treasurer/ President at the monthly meeting.

John Hoag has already agreed to fill the Treasurer position.

***Confirming special rule passed at October meeting, all new members joining at that meeting***

All agreed to confirm this special rate that allows new members signing up from the November meeting until the end of the year the following 2014 yearly rate with the rest of this year included for free.

***Proposal to Pro-Rate Dues***

After new members sign up they automatically become members and will have to pay full rate regardless of when they renew. We will still offer the early sign up discount rate of $20.00.

Michael Penn Smith would like to keep the $25.00 yearly rate for new members.

John Hoag proposed a $24.00 yearly rate (as it is divisible by 12)

Winifred suggested pro rating by offering a $2.00 per month fee.

Michael proposed a quarterly pro rate offer.

***January Membership Renewal Drive***

An email will be sent out in January to get members to renew for $20.00. They will have until January 31, 2014 to renew at this rate.

If needed phone calls, emails and posting on Yahoo Groups will be done.

***Commitment of Executive Board to attend monthly meetings as much as possible and common understanding of boundary***

A proposal was made that if a member of the Executive Board misses three consecutive meetings they will automatically vacate their position on the board. The member would be notified before any action is taken by the board. All approved that this should be included in the by-laws if it is not already there.

***Ideas for developing deeper and wider leadership in the club***

We need to have all the committees fully staffed

Should we offer incentives to get member to participate in a committee?

We will start offering door prizes at the monthly meetings.

***Christmas Dinner***

Jen Kuykendall still needs to go to the venue to see what we will need in terms of tablecloths, etc…

We will have live music at the party thanks to Jen finding a trombonist and a pianist (possibly).

There is $100.00 allocated by the club to cover expenses. Donations will be asked for at the monthly meeting to offset the costs of plates, cups, tablecloths and decorations.

***Digital Show 2014***

We will need to purchase new digital frames for the show. Looking at May 2014 for the show.

We will not have an opening reception this year but will have the show be a competition with Best of Show etc… We will have a party at the end of the show.

Michael proposed rotating the digital frames throughout Dripping Springs for the entire year.

This will be discussed at the next Executive meeting in January.