

# Meeting Minutes

Date: November 20, 2024

By: Jean Davids

Jeff LaVigne wasn't able to make the meeting and present about sandhill cranes as the winter weather hit us late this afternoon and it got pretty slick out there. Thanks to those of you who attended. I know it was a slow, slippery mess out there. We had 9 members in attendance.

Brenda, Darrel and Jean all shared photos. Brenda's were actual macro shots while Jean's were closeup shots. Thanks for sharing.

Heather Reinhart presented on taking photos of Christmas lights. She did a PDF presentation on taking Christmas Lights photos. I will share that presentation on our Meeting Minutes page. Videos she shared or recommended were:

- How to photograph Christmas lights (4 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVpMe2zOsXw>
- How to photograph Christmas lights (9 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-L-x3cSYqTI>

**The other topic tonight was regarding the future of the camera club. Basically, Jean Davids wants to back out of her role as secretary/treasurer/website updater/etc. It's time to just try and take care of herself with her knee issues, etc.**

The issues we talked about how the club's membership is now currently only 17 members. During the winter months we drop down to only 5 or 6 members who attend. Currently we have no decisions regarding topics for next year. And, due to health issues, Jean wants to step down on all those responsibilities.

We discussed what options we have.

## **Staying as a club:**

### To keep the club as is:

Someone would have to step up to do all the tasks (or most of them) that Jean does now. This doesn't seem realistic for keeping the website as it is. And, she does the treasurer job too. Doesn't seem realistic.

### To keep the club going with modifications:

- Officially dissolve and eliminate need for funds reducing job of secretary and officers to bare minimum as it was in the old days when we started.
- Close out bank account by agreement of officers on dispersal of money. Notification of all this via meeting minutes to Riverwood Bank which has been bought out and will become National Bank of Commerce in January.
- If speakers would be desired, you raise the money by members attending, similar to how Sherburne Refuge Photo Club does. Tougher with fewer members.
- Decide who/how to run the club.

- If website is something that is wanted to be kept, move/recreate onto another website space that is cheaper. Maybe members would be willing to just chip in on the cost of it if they want it. Would still be a space for recruiting new members. Domain name renewal and hosting space is up in February of 2025 so this would be a high priority to take care of. Or, we could renew now and it would be good for another year to allow for more time to get things rolling.
- Facebook page needs someone to administer it.
- Meeting minutes could go away.

**Possible changes to ease secretary job - Eliminate Treasury job too**

● Keep

Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be:

- to keep records of the minutes of all board meetings **Emails or get rid of need for board if we unincorporate**
- be the custodian of the Club's records **Emails and other files**
- to maintain the Corporate records of the Club **Could dissolve from nonprofit and then no dues or corp records**
- keep a register of the address and telephone numbers of all Club Members **Contact List & spreadsheet**
- to notify Members of special meetings and events **Emailing members**
- to conduct correspondence of the Club **Emailing members**
- to prepare ballots for elections **Just vote at meetings for whoever volunteers**
- have authority to deposit/write checks in the name of the Club **Stop paying dues - no checkbook or treasury duties**
- oversee the club website **Could quit website if no dues are paid**
- have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds of the Club **Could quit treasury duties if no dues are paid**
- provide annual reports to the board showing income, expenditures, and pending income **Probably wouldn't need if no dues**
- to make financial information available to the membership, board members, and the public **Probably wouldn't need if no dues**
- maintain a consolidated record of all receipts and expenditures **Probably wouldn't need if no dues**
- deposit all Club moneys in the name of the Club in such banks or other repositories as **Probably wouldn't need if no dues** designated by the Board of Directors **Also wouldn't need a board of directors possibly**

**Dissolving the club completely:**

- Officially dissolve and eliminate need for funds reducing job of secretary and officers to bare minimum as it was in the old days when we started.
- Close out bank account by agreement of officers on dispersal of money. Notification of all this via meeting minutes to Riverwood Bank which has been bought out and will become National Bank of Commerce in January.

In our discussions, members attending (9 of them) want to keep the club going. Kevin Juliot volunteered to check into doing a free website. Tricia volunteered to take over the Facebook page and help Kevin investigate alternatives for the website. She also volunteered to take over the member roster information as well.

We agreed to let everyone think on all this for a couple of weeks. Then to make sure our December meeting doesn't turn into a boring meeting for spouses (holiday party where spouses and significant others are invited), Jean will arrange a special zoom meeting to make the final decisions on how the club wishes to proceed. We were hoping to have better attendance at the November meeting but mother nature had her own ideas. So, this will ensure better input and a decision can be made easier.

Jean said she would send these meeting minutes out to everyone in order to inform everyone of what is being considered to give them time to think about their decision.

So, think about this and we want your input on an upcoming meeting night to be scheduled in a week or two.

We discussed the upcoming holiday meeting. As part of the spend down to our bank account, Jean suggested we buy everyone's meals for the December meeting. Upon further calculation, if we spent \$30 on 34 people's meals (17 members x 2) x 30 = \$1020. That might be a little more than we would want to spend. \$25 per person would be \$850 which would maybe be more reasonable. That is something we can discuss on our zoom meeting as well.

**Jean will notify everyone when the zoom meeting will be and will continue to work with club officers to help in making some of these decisions. We will hold the zoom meeting on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. You will get an email prior to that to be able to join in the meeting to finalize how we proceed with the club future.**

I personally am glad the club wants to continue but also support me in backing off from 20 years of running the club in some way or another. Another thing discussed was inviting the other two founding members of the club to our December meeting. They are Lynne Fleming and Jeanne Marquette. This would allow them to help us celebrate our 20 years as a club since they also were big factors in starting it.

## **2024 Camera Club Meeting Dates and Topics**

December 18

- Assignment: Top photos of 2024
- Topic: Holiday party, open discussion – bring your spouse. We will be meeting at 6:30 to get our food all ordered in advance of our meeting.