

**Washington Area Computer User Group  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
March 19, 2011 \*Amended\***

**Meeting start** – 4:10PM at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute-Tallwood Campus, Fairfax, VA

**Board Meeting Attendance** – G.Goodrum, P.Howard, B.Rott, B.Walsh, M.Mikosinski, J.Dakin, N.Grotenstein

**Attendance at General Meeting** – 37

**Comments on General Meeting** – Geof Goodrum talked about Pandora and other “internet radio” sources; Dan Feighery talked about the Photodex ProShow presentation software. Both presentations were rated “very good.” Some member service activity was a problem during one of the presentations, so we will close the service table at 1:00PM before the Q&A begins, and re-open temporarily during the break before presentations begin.

**Minutes** – February, 2011 minutes by Neal and Geof were accepted with minor amendments.

**WAC memberships** – 53

**Financial Business** – No formal report, Treasurer Bob Rott was unable to collect information due to a computer problem... **Today's Receipts of \$106.00** included the following: **\$75** dues (\$25x3 memberships) + **\$10** printed newsletter premiums (\$5x2) + **\$6** from the Pizza Sig + **\$5** Treasurer contribution + **\$10** Vice President print premium contribution... There is a CD maturing March 21; rather than an automatic rollover renewal, Bob asked if he could check for a better CD rate for a different term. The Board agreed we should check rates out as far as two years, and approved Bob's request.

**Cursor Discussions** – Articles to Editor Geof by March 31, expected member e-/mailings April 6. For March, Chuck Roberts reported there were 26 newsletters printed, 21 mailed... Bob said Chuck gave him a report on his expenses for 2010. The new tri-fold brochures cost \$37.15, software was \$50, and Cursor expenses were \$415.32 which consisted of 310 printed copies and their postage costs. Bob noted this averaged out to \$1.34 per printed Cursor, which means our \$5 yearly print premium is not cost effective; we are spending about \$16 a year per member for printing and mailing newsletters. Mel asked if there was a cost advantage breakpoint for Cursor printing. Looking at numbers for the January run of 30 printed Cursors, we could not see any nearby savings breakpoint for the monthly number of newsletters we typically needed. The Board discussed raising the cost to \$10 or even \$16 per printed newsletter premium, with the possible negative outcome of losing a substantial number of print subscribers. Because of the transition to a new editor team, we decided to wait until possibly October and see how the newsletter evolves before implementing updated Cursor pricing. Bob said perhaps we should not be promoting the print version in October, that this may be the incentive to phase out the printed newsletter... Lloyd Johnson has offered to be a Cursor editor for us during our transition... Sharon Parq Associates has sent another Microsoft Office article; Geof will scan it for usable tips... Chuck has given us the Adobe InDesign templates for the newsletter. \*Paul mentioned the Tech Soup software company OLLI uses as a possible source for Adobe InDesign software at a reasonable price for our non-profit group.\*

(continued)

**Old Business** – Geof mentioned we are waiting for Lorrin Garson to return in May to continue with the member survey activity. Geof also mentioned he needs to work on the election ballot procedures in the bylaws. Mel said it may help to have general, less detailed statements like they use for the NCTCUG group...Bob asked about his earlier proposal to have flash drives available for sale by the club. Paul agreed that this had been approved and would acquire about six at a reasonable price.

**New Business** – Paul advises that the APCUG “push” articles are available again. He has also been in e-mail discussions with a person interested in gathering newsletters from as many sources as possible, including ours, with the intent of electronically publishing a 36-page compendium of basically a “mixed bag of stuff,” some of which may be usable for the newsletter...Mel is taking over updating of the mailing list database, to keep it current on a more timely basis. Paul will work with him as this transitioning evolves...Geof asked for aliases for the officer contact list in the newsletter, suggesting we only publish these aliases. He discussed removing the phone numbers as well, but Paul pointed out that inclusion of the numbers is an additional resource for the desperate member who may need help with a computer problem and can call us for help...Bill mentioned that software compatibility is becoming a factor for what software is being presented. Software that works on Windows XP may not work properly on the Windows 7 operating system, and the switch to 64-bit software obsoletes the use of a lot of software that worked on 32-bit machines. Windows 7 in compatibility mode may still not allow some of the software to run.

**Future Meetings** – The webinar with Gene Barlow is scheduled for April. We expect to begin the program with him at 2:00PM. Gabe will be doing the Learn 30 for that month...We are having OLLI member Stan Schretter come in June and give us a presentation about Mac computers. He is planning to bring his 30-inch monitor, so we will need an appropriately-sized (and steady) table to properly make use of such a large display. We should make sure we have the appropriate VGA adapter available, if necessary.

**Meeting Adjournment** – 5:32PM

**BoD Minutes by Bill Walsh – WAC Secretary**