

Minutes

Meeting of Board of Directors (BOD)
Washington Area Computer Users Group
Saturday, July 17, 2004

The meeting convened at approximately 4:30 PM at the Pizza Hut at the intersection of Routes 29 and Gallows Road in Falls Church, following the general meeting of the club at the Micro Center Computer Store in the Pan-Am Shopping Center. Present were Paul Howard, Bob Mason, Bill Walsh, Bob Rott, Geof Goodrum, Jim Brueggeman, Bill Wong, John Neighbarger and Jorn Dakin. Paul Howard called the meeting to order.

The meeting began with a discussion of the status of the minutes for the prior three minutes. By unanimous vote, the board approved the minutes for the April and May meetings as final. The minutes for the June meeting have been circulated by Bill Walsh via e-mail, and board members are to report individually by e-mail their individual sentiments on the June minutes. Bob Rott abstained from the vote on the April and May minutes.

Paul Howard reported that Anne Webster, who came in for help with her computer at the June meeting, had reported to him that with the help of the club members her problems had been successfully resolved.

The attendance at today's meeting was estimated at 22, with one visitor, whose exact identity was not determined. Geof Goodrum reported that as of the beginning of today's meeting the club membership was at 51.

Cursor articles for the next issue are due to Chuck Roberts on August 4, 2004.

Comments on the meeting, a presentation on the use of scanners and computers in photography by Margery and Bob Lawrence on scanning slide images and digital image manipulation with the Microsoft Digital Imaging program, were that it was an excellent presentation. It was noted that the new projector owned jointly by the club with National Capital Tandy Computer Users Group, had been of great use in the presentation.

A general round of expressions of gratitude to Micro Center for making its facilities available to the club occurred. The refreshments provided by Micro Center were especially appreciated. It was further noted that the October meeting of the club is scheduled to occur at Micro Center as well. The board agreed on plans to put up direction signs again guiding attendees to the meeting room once they enter the Micro Center building.

The secretary is to prepare a letter of thanks to the Micro Center management for the use of the facility and the refreshments. The letter may also note that one or more members of the club took advantage of the proximity to Micro Center to make significant purchases on the basis of what they learned at the meeting.

In response to a question, the secretary reported that the process of an official change in name for the

club is still going on. It was further noted that a formal vote of the board had approved the name change at the February, 2004 meeting.

Concerning future meetings, Paul Howard is to talk with Bill Bailes to confirm that a demonstration of Quicken is to occur. Bill Walsh is to do a demonstration of Digital Experience, and John Keys is to do a demonstration of hyperthreading, using materials provided by Intel. It was suggested that for future meetings consideration be given to demonstrations of the use of "Adaware" and "spybot" software. A further suggestion was for a presentation on "scams, frauds and fakes." Another presentation on wireless networking is also to be scheduled. There is a possibility that Judy Karinshak will do a demonstration on zip files. Paul Howard is to follow up on this particular demonstration. There was also some discussion of the possibility of building a club computer using donated or low-cost components. Finally, there was brief discussion of obtaining a presentation by Verizon of its possible plans for high-speed internet service using fiber optic cables.

Bob Rott presented the treasurer's report. The checkbook balance as of the beginning of the meeting was approximately \$2062. Two checks have been recently issued, one for approximately \$124 for printing and postage for the Cursor, and the other for approximately \$39 for disk of the month costs. The club's liability insurance policy has been renewed. The club is still seeking insurance on the newly-purchased projector.

Jim Brueggeman distributed paper copies of a compilation of responses to the questionnaire circulated by the club earlier in 2004. He asked that those receiving the compilation review it before the next meeting so that a discussion of the responses could take place at the next meeting.

Jim Brueggeman inquired about making past issues of the Curson available over the internet, and it was confirmed that the process of putting up PDF images starting with the three most recent Cursor on the members-only portion of the club web page would begin soon.

Bob Mason inquired about the use of the "non-profit" postage rate, and it was reported in response that the logistics of using the non-profit rate make it uneconomic.

There was discussion without resolution of the question of the e-mails that some club members have been receiving from apparent Russian software vendors concerning reviews of new software from Russian firms. A brief discussion of pending software reviews owed by members also occurred.

There was brief discussion of topics raised by Chuck Roberts in an earlier e-mail to members of the club board of directors. It is anticipated that these discussions will be carried further at subsequent board meetings.

There was a brief discussion of the logistics of securely mounting the new club projector.

Finally, it was pointed out that Office Depot is currently offering free disposal of computer equipment, as discussed in the Office Depot circular included in the July 18, 2004 advertising supplement package in the Washington Post.

It was voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jorn Dakin
Secretary