

**Washington Area Computer User Group
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
March 19, 2005 (*Amended*)**

Board Meeting Attendance – Board Members: Paul Howard, Jim Brueggeman, Bob Rott, Chuck Roberts, Geof Goodrum, Bob Mason, Bill Walsh. *Others attending: John Neighbarger, Scott Hanak.

Minutes – The February 2005 minutes by Geof Goodrum were approved by the Board.

Comments on General Meeting – Chuck Robert’s Adobe presentation showed it to be a very nice software package for photo editing and archiving. The problem with showing the separate demonstration video was blamed on Digital Rights Management restrictions.

Attendance at General Meeting – 21.

Membership – Number of 2005 dues-paid members is 46. There are 14 members from 2004 who have not renewed; Paul Howard took the non-renewal list to try encouraging the holdouts to renew WAC membership. A survey of member dropouts was also discussed.

Treasurer's Report/Other Financial Business – Bob Rott reports the checking account balance is \$1574.77. There are outstanding checks: \$27.41 (Jim Brueggeman), \$8.52 (Geof Goodrum), \$214.92 and \$311.04 (Chuck Roberts). Today’s receipts: Memberships/\$50 (2 memberships x \$25 each), PC-DOM/\$24 (8 disks x \$3 each; 1 free disk distributed), Pizza-SIG/\$6

Bob Rott reports that the 14-month escrow for replacing equipment has accumulated *\$311.64.

For the proposed audit of WAC financials in May, Bill Bailes has volunteered to be the audit chairman.

Cursor Production – Article submissions need to be to the Editor by March 31, estimated mailing date to the members is April 7. Chuck Roberts says at this time there will be no additional newsletter exchanges.

Vendor Contacts – Chuck Roberts will check for a listing update with Mindshare before March 31, for sweepstakes consideration. Chuck will check with O’Reilly Publications for access to their books.

Old Business – Paul Howard says he has nothing new about the projector insurance, but he has been told verbally that the projector is now covered.

New Business – *The BoD approved Bob Mason as a WAC Board member. Bob will do the PC April Disk of the Month. Bob also mentioned we need a formally designated representative with Fairfax County; Bob knows some IT people who can help WAC achieve the internet reliability it needs for its meetings. (Amber, Bill Walsh’s contact at the Government Center, should be contacted about talking to their IT people about this.) Bob Mason and Bill Walsh will work together on this.

For promotion of WAC, business cards and calendars were discussed. (It was mentioned that some printers offer free business cards.) We should also seek opportunities to “work the crowds” with handouts, like the Washington Apple Pi computer group does. Paul Howard reminded us about the e-mail sent by Chuck Roberts on July 17, 2004, that had several suggestions for WAC improvement.

Promotion efforts should target seniors and youth: There is a Senior Net in Springfield we can contact, there may also be opportunities at AARP.org/computers, and younger prospects can be reached via tie-ins with schools and colleges, through journalism, newsletters, and marketing. These and many other ideas were brought up by Geof,

who attended the APCUG conference at the Consumer Electronics Show. Group promotion was a significant part of the APCUG meeting.

Jim Brueggeman is donating a laptop to WAC. It is a Dell 1100 with external CD-ROM drive, a 3-1/2 floppy drive, USB port, 20GB hard drive, 256MB RAM, and 2GHz CPU (not Centrino mobile technology.) Geof will evaluate the computer.

Paul invited the BoD members to the NCTCUG meeting the next Wednesday at Carlin Hall, with possible discussion of the weird problems WAC had today with the Windows Media Player.

Bill Walsh was tasked with creating a sign-in sheet for members at the general meetings.

Future Meetings – Bob Mason will do his Excel financial spreadsheet demonstration for the April meeting. Smart Computing Magazine has been contacted to give their presentation to WAC for the May meeting. They will be given several members' cellphone numbers to ensure their contact with WAC.

The Knoppix distribution of Linux was mentioned as another meeting topic.

There are new Intel "Presentations-in-a-Box" and Kathy and Dave Whittle should be contacted at webworkingservices.com for the status of these presentation packages.

Minutes submitted by Bill Walsh.