Commons Photographers User Group
Board meeting notes – July 8, 2023

Attendees:
- Suyash
- Ailura
- Frank
- Shreya

#1 Reporting issue with AffCom
Ailura has submitted our annual report on Meta, yet it isn't recorded correctly by the Affiliations Committee. Suyash will look into the issue; he will also share the WMF contact information with Ailura.

#2 Wikimania 2023
Ailura has tried to get scholarships, but hasn't been successful. Suyash talks about how the Wikimedia Foundation has been less supportive with regard to getting a travel visa. Suyash's Wikimania presentation about our user group has been accepted. He invites other board members to contribute to his presentation. Frank will be the unofficial co-presenter, as he will be at Wikimania anyway (in his professional role). Suyash advocates for bringing Commons-branded promotional materials to Wikimania. Frank will donate a small amount to Wikimedia Austria, so they can do the printing. Ailura will be responsible for this project. Suyash also proposes to add better information about the board to our user group's page on Commons; he volunteers to get that started.

#3 Report from Wikiconference India

Shreya represented our group at WikiConference India in the last week of April. Participants of the event were very interested in the activities of our User Group. People asked about local events. – Shreya also started a WikiClub at her local university and many of its members are interested in photography.

#4 User Group Board Election

For the upcoming board election in October, we'll clarify expectations for new board members (in particular with regard to responsibilities). We'll start a search for people who would facilitate the election. Frank will ask for volunteers during the next virtual user group meeting on August 5.

#5 Report from the Affiliate Meeting

Shreya and Ailura attended the Affiliate Meeting organized by the Wikimedia Foundation. Ailura mentioned during this meeting that our User Group doesn't get much needed support (e.g. we didn't get invited to the Berlin meeting).

#6 Zoom-Meeting on August 5

Frank will organize another Zoom-Meeting for our members on August 5. He's planning to have two speakers, one of which will be George Oates from the Flickr Foundation. George will talk about the recently launched Flickypedia project. Frank invites other board members to send him names of people who'd be interested in being the second speaker.

#7 New photo project: "Agriculture in Northern California"

Frank has started a new project, called "Agriculture in Northern California". The project is based on the observation that agriculture isn't well represented visually on Wikipedia. Frank's long-term goal is to inspire others to start their own projects and fill this large image gap. Suyash points out that projects of this kind could be very meaningful for new photographers in countries of the Global South.

#8 Next meeting

The next board meeting will happen on September 9th at 15:00 UTC (one hour earlier than usual to provide board members in certain time zones with a better opportunity to participate).

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