



## **Commons Photographers User Group Board meeting notes – September 9, 2023**

Attendees:

- Ailura
- Suyash
- Shreya
- Irvin
- Frank
- Wilson
- Bright (intermittently)

### **#1 Report from Wikimania 2023 in Singapore / ideas for Wikimania 2024 in Kraków**

Wikimania 2023 was great from our perspective. Suyash gave a great presentation, Irvin brought User Group t-shirts, and we had a photo walk that some people said was their “personal highlight of this year’s Wikimania”.

User group member Ivo approached Frank about a road tour from Estonia to Kraków next year. Suyash will get in touch with the local organizers and Frank will start talking to the Wikimedia Foundation about funding.

### **#2 Partnership opportunities and programmatic activities**

Wiki Loves Folklore would like to partner with us. The Maithili Wikimedians User Group also would like to partner with us. They’ve asked for a rapid grant that would allow Shreya and Suyash to attend their event in Nepal in person. Shreya received a partnership request from a Wikimedian in Punjab Jagseer who’s working on audiobooks.

Shreya conducted a virtual workshop during Wikimania as well and enrolled 10–12 new members to commons, and she is planning to conduct other activities within the Wiki club in collaboration with CPUG.

A Wikimedia Commons conference in the Philippines is happening late December 2023 and Irvin is inviting our user group to be a partner. Somebody from our user group could present at the conference virtually or through a local member. He will check the budget if inviting an international photographer is possible. (Irvin is also thinking of holding a Commons Photographers conference in the Philippines in the future.)

### **#3 Upcoming board elections**

Timeline:

1. September 15 – September 30: Applications for the election committee
2. October 1 – October 9: Vote for election committee (ideally comprised of three members)
3. October 10: Election committee starts work
4. October 20 – November 9: Nomination phase for candidacies
5. November 10 – December 10: Elections
6. December 15: Results announced

Responsibilities:

- Ailura will send out the message for the election committee applications and the process/timeline for the election
- Suyash will create an election landing page until September 14
- Frank will draft role descriptions and share them with the other board members until September 11

Other:

- At least two existing board members should act as advisors to the new board in order to ensure continuity

### **#4 Virtual meetings**

Ailura will give a presentation about sports photography in November. Next year, Bijay will talk about travel photography in Nepal, and Wojciech (who

joined our User Group during Wikimania) will give a presentation about concert photography.

### **#5 Wikimedia Summit 2024 in Berlin**

Shreya will represent our User Group in Berlin. Suyash will attend on behalf of AffCom, Frank on behalf of Wiki Education Foundation. The new board should prepare opinions on the movement strategy.

### **#6 Other business**

Suyash reminds the other board members that we should work on more branding materials. Having nice swag would also enable us to send out presents to members. Irvin highlights that he could print cards and other items with our User Group branding in the Philippines. Irvin will draft a rapid grant request and send it to the other board members for review.

Wilson talks about how he has been spread too thin and how he wasn't able to always be actively involved in User Group activities. He will not run for office again, but he will continue to be enthusiastic about the User Group.

Shreya ran a virtual meeting while others were at Wikimania. 10 more people created user accounts on Commons. Shreya also runs a club at her university. The next board meeting will be on November 4th at 15:00 UTC.

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## **#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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