

SHOOTERS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

“Come click with us!”

November 9th, 2017

To: Mayor Nelson Santos & Kingsville Council Members

Reference: Shooters Club use of Unico Community Center for monthly meetings

Greetings,

The Shooters Photography Club is a local Kingsville photography/art organization that is populated by local citizens, as well as others from the Essex County area. This club has been active in the area since 2009, and presently has an active membership of about 35 people. The organization has an active board of ardent photographers, which meets every second month, and is made of volunteers whose interest is to reach out to other amateur photographers to share their photographic knowledge base.

The Shooters club has an official web page, as well as a Facebook page where we enjoy a following of approximately 450 interested parties. As well, the board plans for a minimum of 11 monthly member get-togethers, where activities might include some of the following subjects: critiques of submitted photos, teaching on photo software programs, technical aspects of cameras and their function, portrait taking of model sessions and invited guest speakers talking on a variety of photography subjects.

The Shooters Club presently meets on the first Wednesday of each month and the meeting location is in the Hibiscus Room at Colasantis' from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

The Club's membership fee of \$40 yearly, has been our sole source of revenue for some years now and while the general operating costs of the club are modest, the rental monies paid to Colasantis' at \$550, along with a couple of other fees, such as the Leamington Art Center, for the web social media outlets, as well as guest speakers honorariums, brings us to year end at the break-even point of dollars in, dollars out.

The Shooters board members are wrestling with two issues at the present time.

1. Colasantis' has informed us that they are planning to withdraw the months of July and August from our planned members meetings in 2018. This will drop our ability to hold photography/art meetings to 9 per year.
2. The Shooters board is composed of volunteers and for years have operated without any provision for Officer and Director Liability Insurance. Recent

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litigiousness events have made this issue paramount for the directors to find a solution for the funding for this now required club expense.

A proposal has been made by one of our directors that the board look into the possibility of seeking permission from the Township of Kingsville for the use of the Unico Community Center for our planned eleven 2018 monthly photographic sessions. This solution would allow us to continue to have an active slate of training opportunities as has been our past practice.

Secondly, were the Mayor and Council to be persuaded to waive the normal rental fee structure for our club, this reduced meeting expense would then allow us to move ahead to solve the liability insurance question with more funds available within our normal operating cost structure.

We would certainly be very willing to come before council to explain more about our club and this request for the use of this hall and a waiver of fees.

Sincerely,

Mike Towne

Vice President

519-733-5251

cc: George Schiefer, *President*