



NEORQC General Meeting March 7, 2020

The general meeting of the North East Ohio Regional Quilt Council convened at 10:00 a.m. at Pins and Needles Quilt Shop in Middleburg Hts, with President Janis Hittle presiding. The meeting was hosted by the Quilters With Hearts Guild.

President Hittle welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. She also thanked Pins and Needles for providing the location for today's meeting.

Members were reminded that tickets for 3 raffle baskets were being sold until lunch time.

One past president was in attendance and was asked to stand to be recognized.

The minutes from the October 5, 2019 general meeting were approved after a motion was made, with a second following, to accept the minutes. All approved and the minutes stand as published.

The Treasurer's report was given by President Hittle (in place of Barb King who was unable to attend) and will be filed for audit. Expenses were read and the ending balance in the checking account as of March 6, 2020 is \$13,150.33. The balance as of March 6, 2020 in the savings account is \$8,584.97. Janis also mentioned that we need to spend down some of our money to maintain our 501 c3 status.

A letter was read from Barb King thanking everyone for their support the past 5 years while she was our treasurer. She is retiring from this position. A big thank you goes to Barb for a job well done!

Linda Roberto, membership chairman, did the guild roll call in place of Vice President Beth Headings (who was unable to attend). One person from each guild was asked to present a few highlights about the activities their guild is participating in.

It was announced that a new group has formed for those interested in doing long arm quilting. It is the Ohio Long Arm Quilters Group.

President Hittle recognized NEORQC teachers that were attending and asked them to also present a few highlights of the teaching they are involved in.

Linda announced that presently we have approximately 1500 members, 43 guilds, 18 shops and 10 teachers in our membership. Three of the shops are new to us.... Pomegranate Place, Sweet Dreams Quilts and Mom's Sewing Basket.

Membership packets....1 per guild were passed out.

Janis reminded everyone about the Challenge quilt. The theme this year is "Sudoku". Members participating should plan to display their quilts at the June meeting.

New shopping cards were available. These have been updated to include the new shops. You need to visit 6 shops and have your card signed to participate in the drawing. If you need a card you can also print one from our website. Once a year all of the cards in the container not drawn, will be purged. The winners this time were: Jane Gishnock, Sherry DiBacco, Leslie Geer and Margaret Lavenia.

Grant applications.... Flyers were passed out to encourage our guilds to apply for a grant. The grant applications are due no later than September 1, 2020. The grants will be awarded at the October meeting. The winners of the 2019 grants will also present information about their project at the October meeting. Profits from the Getaway are used to fund the grants.

A recap of the 2020 Getaway was given by Sue Straub (in place of Barb King). It was very successful! A big thank you was given to all the committee members who worked so hard to plan the weekend. Also, a big thank you went to Directional Press and Tiny Stitches whose names were not included in the printout. There were 134 registrations and 5 teachers. All of the classes were filled. The dates for 2021 are February 19 -21. At this time the committee is considering a return to the same hotel but also considering finding a larger area. At the June meeting, the location will be announced. Registration will open August 1st. It is recommended you apply ASAP when the registration opens as the weekend fills up quickly. Part of the restrictions on the number of people that can register is based on how many people can be fed in the space allocated. Barb is looking for other locations, but space and price is an issue. Some places would mean an increase of \$170-\$200 for the cost of the weekend. The committee is reading all the evaluation forms and carefully considering any suggestions made.

Webmaster Sue Straub announced that she is currently making updates. She is sending out test emails to the contacts for the guilds and shops to double check information and update if needed. Any events given to Sue will be added to the website and given to Jean to be placed in the newsletter. Also, any guild name changes need to be given to Linda Roberto. They will then be given to Sue so she can update the website. Sue reminded everyone that we do have a closed Facebook page that is for NEORQC members only. To get approved, 2 questions will be asked. Are you a member of a Northeast Ohio guild? What is the name of that guild? Sue also would like someone to step forward to help her with the website so she can eventually transfer out of the position. Please let our president know if you are good with computers and would like to help.

Jean Krusinski drew 2 names from those submitted by members who read the newsletter. The winners were Sue Rhoads and Mary Bernower.

New Business: Nominations and elections took place for 2 new officers for 2020-2022. Nominated for the office of Vice President was Margaret LaVenia. There were no additional nominations from the floor. The nomination closed and the vote was unanimous, and Margaret is our new Vice President. Nominated for the office of Treasurer was Mary Rose Nordquist. There were no additional nominations from the floor. The nomination closed and the vote was unanimous, and Mary Rose will be our new Treasurer for the next 2 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Members then enjoyed "Show and Tell". Those participating were entered into a drawing and 2 names for the prizes were drawn.

Our guest speaker was Sandy Shelenberger from Conneaut, Ohio. She presented a wonderful program called "My Creative Life in Textiles". She presented a slide program highlighting the beautiful fabrics she has created.

Pins and Needles owner, Jan Brostek, presented information on "Machine Maintenance". Jan, along with one of her technicians, gave in-depth information on the importance of cleaning and maintaining your machines.

A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted by Georgia Darrah / Secretary