



Empire Quilters Board Meeting Minutes February 12, 2010

Meeting called to order at 11:00 AM by Alice Brody sitting in for Paula Kenney.

Attendees: Sylvia Hughes, Larry Gifford, JoAnn Gatch, Mindy Wexler-Marks, Véronique Milliez, Alice Brody, Anna Krassy, Beth Pile, Janet Randolph, Jennifer Bigelow, Kitty Squire, Tina Barth, Renee Fields, Lisa Kehrle, Gail Lefton, Denise Walsh-Horowitz.

JANUARY MINUTES: Discussion to change Sandra Hughes to Sylvia Hughes; Jennifer Bigelow will make the change. Move to accept the minutes; Minutes accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Discussion regarding money collected thus far for quilt raffle (>\$3,000) and fees for quilts (\$1,800). Treasurer's Report accepted.

MEMBERSHIP: Kitty Squire stated that we will not have to raise the membership dues for next year. We just need to advise the membership that the dues will remain at \$55 and \$60 no matter where we meet. There will be a membership form available at the show and a decision has not been made as yet as to whether or not a membership form will be included in the Show Program.

CHURCH — NEW POTENTIAL MEETING LOCATION: Wednesday, February 9, 2011, Sylvia Hughes, Tina Barth, Anna Krassy, Paula Kenney, and Larry Gifford went to the church to look at the space. Some particulars:

- The church is offering us adequate space for our meetings. The sanctuary itself offers plenty of space for tables, and will set-up rooms for focus groups and coffee service.
- There are no pews in the meeting space. Round tables seating 8-10 people will be set up by the church staff, as well as 20 rectangle shaped tables, the sound system, and the projection system when needed.
- There is also no union involved at the church.
- There will be a small space for storage at the church, an extra room for the board meeting, and space for coffee service.
- Larry Gifford will find out the particulars regarding a projection screen, as the Church does not have a projection screen.
- The only the day the church is not available is the Saturday before Easter Sunday, so if this is a quilting meeting day, we will have to move the meeting day.
- Larry Gifford reported we are looking at a September, 2011 start, and the church is waiting to hear from Empire.
- Looking back over our expenses for the past five years, the FIT rent has gone up 10-15% and has gone up at least every year. The number the team discussed with the church is less than what we currently pay FIT, and the church does not anticipate raising the currently agreed upon rental figure.
- The rent will probably be paid quarterly.
- Question raised: can we sign a contract for one-year, then extend to a five-year contract keeping the same rates?
- Question raised: can we reduce our membership dues? No.

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- The closest store to purchase coffee is one long block away as well as two diners on the corner of 23rd Street and a supermarket close by.
- Sunday workshops will be held in the same space – Community Room on 8th Avenue.

SPECIAL RAFFLE: Janet Randolph proposed a special raffle of Japanese fabric. She will request that 12 people donate one yard of Japanese fabric. Individuals donating fabric will receive in exchange two raffle tickets toward the raffle. Janet's raffle was successful in the past and the feeling is it will be again as our membership loves raffles. The raffle would take place in May, with tickets being sold in April and May.

PROGRAMS: Mary Butler will be stepping down in June. She and Jennifer Bigelow went over the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Guild Network (MAQGNET) speaker/teacher list to review possible future speakers. We have a complete program to the end of the guild year and Jennifer and Mary will be working to fill in the next year.

RAFFLES: No raffles today as Paula Kenney is not here today.

CHARITY: March 5th meeting is our annual Charity Day. Denise Walsh-Horowitz reminded the membership in our newsletter about this annual event and what items members should bring with them to work on the quilts. Denise will be at the meeting between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM with all the batting, embroidery floss for tying the quilts, cutting board, iron. This will be repeated in the newsletter and Denise will remind the guild at the meeting today. Denise will follow-up with the City Quilter regarding their batting donation and when it can be picked up.

Denise also told the Board that we received a very nice thank you letter from the **Metro Family Shelter** and that it would be a good idea to print it in the newsletter so all the membership can read it. The letter will be forwarded to Lauren Dieterich to be included in the newsletter.

We have also been contacted by **Beads of Courage** which is an organization that gives beads to children who are going through cancer treatment, or treatment as a result of burns and other childhood medical conditions which require treatment. As each treatment is completed, they receive a bead. The children make jewelry, etc. but when asked where they keep the beads, they said zip lock bags, etc. The organization is requesting local quilting groups to make bags for the children to keep their beads. Denise will put this out to the guild in April and have the details in the May newsletter so the guild members can make bags if they wish. Cindy Russell has put the details regarding this project on the website.

SHOW JUDGING: The quilt show judging will take place on the same day as Charity Day: March 5 & 6, 2011.

SHOW COMMITTEE: Every person who has a quilt in the show is down for volunteer time. Tina Barth will make sure the people who could not open the schedule that she emailed to the committee chairs will know when their time to volunteer will be. Tina is having surgery on March 7, so Nancy Rabatin will be helping out. The show program book ads are closed and all checks are in. There were more ads from members this year.

ROOMS FOR THE SHOW: Discussion by Board members regarding the list of rooms made available from FIT, and which rooms will be used by the vendors, boutique, small rooms to hang quilts in, room for the President's Challenge, etc. It was noted that students will be attending class in three small classrooms at the end of the hallway, so we will have to be mindful of this. Question was raised if they can use other classrooms, but apparently some classes have already been moved and the students will be walking through our show in order to get to their classes. Empire can't accommodate any wait listed vendors as of now until we see the layout plans.

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DISPLAY POLES FOR THE SHOW: Larry Gifford brought up the subject of drapes and poles. We had an agreement with the Smithtown Quilting Group regarding drapes. We reached out to Evening Star quilters to borrow poles, but we were told they are requiring \$300 rental fee and a \$1,000 deposit to cover anything that is not returned complete and undamaged. Larry stated that it is not fair that the two guilds waited two years to complain regarding the poles that were borrowed/returned from our 2009 show. Larry reached out to Brooklyn Quilters, and they will decide if our use of their equipment will be on a loan, barter, or rental basis. LIQS is also polling their Board, and Larry feels they may be able to help us. The cost for new poles is \$67 per pole and expanding poles/cross pieces are extra. It is better if we can work this out and we have to be more diligent.

SHOW JUDGING: Emily Klainberg will be sure to tell the membership how to proceed for the judging.

SHOW QUILT SUBMISSIONS: Quilts will have to be in a pillowcase with the quilter's name. This instruction will be in the show instructions in the newsletter. Pillow cases will be behind the quilts.

FISHBOWL RAFFLE: Larry will make a plea to the membership for notion type items for the Fishbowl.

ARMORY QUILT SHOW: There is a free quilt show being held at the Armory the same weekend as our show. Renee Fields checked with the local police precinct as to whether there would be a problem if we hand flyers outside the Armory advertising our show and was told that this is not a problem. Renee would like to reach out to the membership to see if they know of any high school students or family members who would be willing to hand out flyers. They will also be able to earn credit for volunteer hours for a community event.

WORKSHOPS: Mary Butler is still taking sign-up for workshops for April, May, and June, and will mention this at the meeting today.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM.

Meeting minutes submitted by Denise Walsh-Horowitz