

Weavers Guild of Rhode Island Minutes

Location: North Kingstown Library

January 4, 2020

Call to order

Mary Brunell called the meeting to order at 9:30am. There were two visitors welcomed at this meeting. Carol McClennen who is the Dean of the WGB and India Brown.

Executive Committee members present:

President: Mary Brunell

Vice President: Janet Cooper

Treasurer: Gretchen White

Secretary: Elizabeth Hill

Announcements

We need Volunteers for Nominations, and Newsletter. Contact Mary Brunell if you are interested.

Sylvia Kilgour has graciously volunteered to be Hospitality Chair and is starting with this meeting. Remember to help her in this role and bring something for the Hospitality table.

Mary Brunell announced two free looms were available. Information on the looms and contact were sent by email to members.

Minutes from the December Meeting

Minutes from the November meeting were accepted by the membership with no corrections.

Treasurer Report: Gretchen White reported for November 1 through December 31, 2019.

General Fund: \$5,417.34

Encumbered Funds: \$6,159.34

Funds incoming: \$600.45 (Dues \$35, Amazon Smile \$13.08, BGH Royalties \$142.37, BFH book sales \$60, Sale of Dorrie Burton items \$150, Sale of display tables \$200.

Funds outgoing: Honorarium and travel \$206.80

Membership: We currently have 67 members.

Programs Report: Janet Cooper announced the next meeting would be “Tapestry” with Jan Austen.

Committee Reports

Educational Grants: Deferred.

Nominations: We need a chairperson for nominations. The executive board has assumed responsibility in light of no volunteers. Contact Mary Brunell if you are interested. We need members to volunteer for these roles so the guild can continue.

Publicity: Joy Beeson reminded members to take a copy of our new WGRI brochure to have posted in their local library.

Weavers Challenge 2019-2020: Sally Rianhard reminded members the challenge is due at the annual meeting. She had copies of the inspiration book and will help anyone that needs it.

Newsletter: Mary Brunell and Janet Cooper are working on a Winter Edition.

Yardage Challenge: Deferred.

Website: Deferred.

Community Outreach: Joy Beeson led our outreach this year in November and December at the Wickford Middle School with Alicia Skagg’s after school Art Club. It was a big success. Volunteers from the guild were Joy Beeson, Mary Brunell, Janet Cooper, and Judy Tysmans.

NEWS: Dates have been set at Smith College for July 13-18, 2021.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the business meeting at 10:00 am.

Show & Tell

Margaret Moone led a show and tell with Janet Cooper showing two beautiful scarves she made for her husband in a twill weave. She discussed changing the sett in this project. Norma Smayda showed linen towels woven in turned taquette summer and winter from a recent draft in *Handwoven*. Joy Beeson showed a tapestry that was her first work. Dave Westcott showed a waffle weave face cloth he wove for Christmas gifts and wrapped with soap. Nice gift!

Next Meeting: February 1, 2020 at North Kingstown Library.

Presentation Today

Framed with Woven Borders

Framing allows a textile to stand on its own and gives it value. This power point presentation focuses on the many options we have to “frame” our work, from simple stripes to using pattern blocks and woven edges to isolate a woven piece from its background. We will look at twills, overshot and summer and winter weave structures, among others, as ways to provide well-designed boundaries. Proportion, color value and simplicity are also factors to consider.

Tapestry weaver Archie Brennan feels that wall pieces of fiber art still search for a proper presentation; his comments will be considered. An unusual approach is to allow the image to break through the border. Photos of textiles through the ages will show many solutions for textiles both functional and decorative.

Norma Smayda, master weaver, teacher and author, established the Saunderstown Weaving School in 1974. She learned to weave in Norway. Scandinavian design, colors and weave structures continue to be an important focus of her work. She also specializes in the contributions of William Henry Harrison Rose and Bertha Gray Hayes. She is the co-author of *Weaving Designs by Bertha Gray Hayes*. More recently, she has immersed herself in weaving with fan reeds and has written *Ondulé Textiles: Weaving Contours with a Fan Reed*. She received the Weavers Guild of Boston Distinguished Achievement Award and the New England Weavers Seminar Weaver of Distinction. She is a Past President of the Handweavers Guild of America and an Honorary Member of the Weavers Guild of Rhode Island.