

Weavers Guild of Rhode Island Minutes

Room: North Kingstown Library

October 13, 2018

Call to order

Mary Brunell called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Meeting started with a welcome to visitors and new members.

There were 28 members in attendance to make a quorum.

Executive Committee members present:

President: Mary Brunell

Vice President: Lynn Morriseau

Treasurer: Gretchen White

Secretary: Elizabeth Hill

Past President: Janet Cooper

Announcements

A special welcome back to Noriko Crasso, and her new baby Niko. He is now four months old.

We are very happy to welcome back Dave Westcott. His presence has been missed!

Welcome to New Members:

Renee Van Cougan

Norie Shirako

Joyce Fennell

Hospitality Host: We would still like to see someone step up to volunteer for this position. It makes a nice difference at the meetings to have refreshments. Janet Cooper has the box of supplies for this (coffee pot, etc.). Please let Mary know if you are interested. This is the last request for this guild position.

Property List – This is an on-going project. If you know you are still storing WGRI property for the guild, please give Mary Brunell your list. We need to archive this information.

Anne Richardson – Anne had surgery. A card will be passed around for those people who know Anne and would like to wish her a quick recovery/get well soon to sign.

Outreach – Janet Cooper and Mary Brunell met with Alycia Skaggs from the North Kingstown Schools. She was very grateful for the contributions of yarn and the loans of

the many table looms. We'll be hearing more throughout the school year. It's looking like it will be a wonderful project.

Minutes from the October Meeting

Janet Cooper made a **motion** that we accept the minutes from the September meeting as written. **Seconded and approved by the membership.**

NEWS

Ginny Walsh will continue as our NEWS representative. Anne Richardson is unable to continue. Please let Mary Brunell know if you are interested in this position.

WGRI Program Report by Lynn Morriseau

The programs for the Guild's monthly meetings are posted on the WGRI website and fall newsletter.

Susan Targove will be our speaker for the November 3rd, WGRI meeting. Susan is a former Dean of the Weavers' Guild of Boston and currently serves on the boards for the Boston guild, the Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild, and the New England Weavers Seminar.

The title of Susan's presentation is "Organizing for the Fiber Addict." She will be discussing issues centered on the fiber artist's workspace organization. Information about this session can be found on the WGRI website. Come to class with a list of your problem areas and take home some ideas for making your space work for you. Materials/Handouts Fee: \$2.00

Treasurer's report by Gretchen White

September 1, 2018-September 30, 2018

Checking Account \$8505.28

General fund \$3348.94 Encumbered funds \$5156.34

Total incoming funds: \$1120.00 (Dues and Antonia Kormos Fund)

Total outgoing funds: \$185.25 (Power Cord and Honorarium)

As of this meeting, there are 57 paid WGRI members and 4 honorary members.

Committee Reports

Educational Grants: No report

Nominations: Sally Rianhard had no report at this time.

Publicity: Joy Beeson has no report at this time.

Weavers Challenge 2018-2019:

At the September meeting, Margaret Moone presented her idea for this year's challenge, continuing with a Beatles theme. This year we will continue with our Beatles and 1960's theme.

With a partner or alone we are encouraging everyone to participate.

- Can you weave a yellow submarine?
- What did you weave in the sixties?
- A name draft for Ringo?
- A design from a 1960's Handwoven Magazine?

For our annual meeting, June 1, 2019, please complete a weaving project that reminds you of that period – weaving, photos, drafts, and hairy scarves! Be creative and surprise your friends.

Newsletter: The Fall WGRI Newsletter was sent by email to members and is available on the website.

Website: The website continues to be updated by Mary Brunell and Janet Cooper. They request members send photos, news, and other information to post on the website. If you need help with this or have questions, contact either Mary or Janet, and they will assist you.

Old Business

Presently, we need someone to volunteer as a coordinator of the yardage challenge. Please let Janet Cooper or Mary Brunell know if you are interested.

A clarification in the requirements for submitted pieces:

3 yard minimum length.

12 inches width requirement.

The yardage will be judged and returned at the annual meeting in June. More specific information may be found in the September 2018 WGRI meeting minutes.

New Business

WGRI Bylaws Proposed Revision

WGRI members were asked to review the revisions made to the Bylaws so that they can be approved at today's meeting. The revised Bylaws were emailed to all members for review.

Janet Cooper led the discussion and the vote to approve the minutes as follows:

Style and grammatical changes made.

1. The apostrophe was removed from the Guild's name, to read *Weavers* instead of *Weavers'*;
2. The word *The* was removed from the beginning of the Guild's name;
3. The Oxford comma is now used in a series throughout the Bylaws;
4. Hyphens were closed up throughout the Bylaws document.

The Guild title now reads as Weavers Guild of Rhode Island.

Article 3 Membership

1. Honorary members will now have a vote;
2. Only 1st time members will now be permitted to pay half the fee after January 1st. All other members will pay the full fee, regardless of the date.

Article 7 Sub-paragraph c

Nominating committee and elections – the slate of nominees for new officers will now be announced at the monthly meeting immediately before the annual meeting, and will be announced electronically at a minimum of two weeks prior to the annual meeting.

A Motion was made by Sally Rianhard to approve the Bylaw changes as presented. Ginny Walsh seconded the motion. The membership voted unanimous approval.

Thank you to Janet Cooper and the WGRI Board for taking the lead to draft these bylaws.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the business meeting at 10:30 am.

Presentation

Janet Cooper led the discussion on Bertha Gray Hayes, with Norma Smayda and Gretchen White participating.

Who was Bertha Gray Hayes (BGH)?

Quiz – Participants found that they still had much to learn about her.

History – Norma discussed BGH's history at length. She also shared the story of how the Guild came to own the archives of her work. In 1986 the WGRI received a box of her weavings. To date, the Guild has her entire collection of samples and drafts.

BGH completed most of her patterns on a Structo loom, built by the same company that built the Erector sets that many of us remember from childhood. The Structo was a small tabletop loom. She also inspired the concept of name drafts in weaving patterns.

If you are interested in having a more complete knowledge of BGH and her contributions to weaving, please read *Weaving Designs by Bertha Gray Hayes: Miniature Overshot Patterns*, written by Norma Smayda, Gretchen White, Jody Brown, and Katharine Schelleng. This book is a gem!

Show & Tell

In honor of today's topic, Bertha Gray Hayes, participants brought in their own samples of weaving inspired by BGH.

Janet Cooper– Estrellita and Domino;

Norma Smayda– Estrellita fan weave;

Mary Brunell– Yankee and a name draft for her daughter;

Polly Alfonso– Bomber flight;

Lisa Geigen– Remembrance;

Judith Schafer– Jitterbug.

These were all beautiful pieces. Bertha Gray Hayes has a lasting legacy, and we have all felt her influence in our weaving.