

Weavers Guild of Rhode Island Minutes

Location: North Kingstown Library

February 1, 2020

Call to order

Mary Brunell called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

Executive Committee members present:

President: Mary Brunell

Vice President: Janet Cooper

Treasurer: Gretchen White, excused

Secretary: Elizabeth Hill

Announcements

Introduction of new member, India Brown. Welcome to WGRI!

Welcome to two guests Pam Bahler and Natalie Rae. They are Linda Rhynard's students.

Minutes from the December Meeting

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

Treasurer Report: Gretchen White was excused from the meeting. She will give the treasurer report next month.

Membership: We currently have 68 members.

Programs Report: Janet Cooper reported on programs for next year are almost complete, with an excellent selection of speakers. Next month Laurie Carlson Steger will speak on the "HGA COE." Janet reported that 11 members were signed up to visit RISD for a curated tour of the "Spider Silk Exhibit" on March 11. Contact Janet to sign up. Cost is \$20.

Committee Reports

Educational Grants: Deferred.

Nominations: The executive board has assumed responsibility in light of no volunteers for nominations. Contact Mary Brunell if you are interested. We need members to volunteer for board roles so the guild can continue. This is a volunteer organization. If you have not volunteered to help with guild activities, now is the time to do so.

Publicity: Joy Beeson reported on contacting Susan Sklarek from RISD to view a special exhibit in April by senior textile students. More to follow on this by email.

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: No report.

Old Business: None

New Business

Norma announced an Anni Albers exhibit at New Britain Museum of American Art, March 19 through June 4. Mary put a link to this exhibit on the website under News.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the business meeting at 9:55 am.

Show & Tell

Margaret Moone led a show and tell with Margaret showing a scarf in silk variegated neutrals. Lynn Perrault showed several hand towels inspired by Manon 's work in waffle weave napkins and plain weave. Mary Brunell showed a name draft table runner for her Turkey Haven Farm. Norma Smayda showed turned taquette hand towels with two sides of color.

Next Meeting: March 4, 2020 at North Kingstown Library.

Presentation Today

Tapestry Weaving

Janet Austin learned to weave at Massachusetts College of Art, in 1972. After weaving and selling functional items for 8 years, she felt a yearning to express herself in images, and earned an MFA in Painting at the University of NC, Greensboro. Almost accidentally the weaving and painting came together, and she has been weaving tapestries inspired by her paintings since 1983.

Jan served on the board of the American Tapestry Alliance, and as coordinator of Tapestry Weavers in New England. She exhibits regionally, nationally and internationally. She has been teaching tapestry for more than 30 years, speaks to guilds and art groups and demonstrates tapestry weaving whenever she can.