

Annisquam Sewing Circle Minutes

Meeting called to order – Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Vicki called the meeting to order and asked that a Motion be made to accept the November Minutes as sent; Motion accepted.

Treasurer's Report - (Maria Marolda) Maria reported that the current bank balance for the ASC is \$31,810.31; the Christmas Fair raised \$26,704.50, exceeding last year's total (2023). While not all revenue and expenses are in, the overall Net Profit is estimated to be \$18,688.34, exceeding last year's – a remarkable achievement given that overall expenses totaling \$8,513.260 were higher by 23%. Maria also noted that leftover wreaths (valued at \$800) were donated to a number of Cape Ann non-profits, including the Open Door, the Grace Center and the Rose Center. Maria also reported on how each Fair Category did, as well.

***See Maria's Treasurer's Report, dated January 14, 2025. Finally, Maria reported that this year's sales slips proved to be very accurate. It was recommended that more sales slips be run off next year; 200 was not enough. Maria's Report was accepted.

Sunshine (Kate Meader) - Kate reported that cards were sent to: Germaine Fritz, Dona Shea, Christine Lundberg, Joline Hentschel, John Perry and Martha Hooper.

Membership (Perry McIntosh) – Perry reported that two applicants for membership to the Circle had been received. Linda von Rosenvinge and Janet Boudreau; both were voted on and accepted.

Finance (Gerry Herbert) - Gerry reported receiving a thank you note from the Open Door.

Unfinished Projects -Jill Lovejoy reported that the next gathering would be at her house on the 21st at 1:30.

Christmas Fair Recap

Hospitality (Germaine Fritz) - Morning/Daily Refreshments went well throughout Christmas Fair week. It was suggested that coffee be available on the day of Fair, too. Some also wondered if we might consider selling donuts and coffee at the Fair next year.

Wreaths (Stevie Neal/Bonnie Angus) – On behalf of both Bonnie and herself, Stevie loudly said “Thank You, thank you!” to all. All had gone well on all wreath fronts!

Boxwood Trees et al (Lyn Fenollosa) - Very successful on all fronts.

Grabs (Gerry Herbert) - As usual, the Grabs sold out! Priced at \$5 each; it was agreed not to raise price of grabs any higher next year.

Jewelry (Donna Caselden) - Jewelry always a popular table – Donna hopes that more space next year would be made available to Jewelry.

PR (Lisa Accardi) – Lisa said she is already looking at ways to increase PR next year, including contacting the North Shore magazine.

Baked Goods (Lee Cunningham) - All good!

Crafts (Gigs Cunningham) - Gigs gave (and wrote) an extensive report regarding the Crafts Table, which always does well. This year it raised \$800 more than last year – the highlight being the 29 needlepoint ornaments, designed by Connie Mason; many handknit items from Sue Lannan; baby stockings flew off the table! She and Rosalie Hughes also both thanked all those who helped organize and arrange all the crafts for display.

Overall Comments:

A huge word of thanks went to the group of men who at the last moment pitched in at the end of the morning to take down tables, storing them properly in the barn. It was also agreed that going forward, post-Fair Clean-Up plans need to be better thought out prior to the Fair next year.

Vicki would like to see the Circle commit to planning some workshops for the spring through to the Annual Mtg. in June. To that end, Suzanne Brown will be holding two: Wednesday, January 22 at 10 a.m. and Thursday, Jan. 23 at 1 p.m. at her house.

Speaker: Second Glance Presentation by Susan Zwart

Introduced by Perry McIntosh who volunteers at Second Glance, Susan gave an overview of the organization, which is a major source of support for the Open Door Food Pantry. Operating as a Secondhand Store, Susan spoke about what can be donated and what cannot – e.g. mattresses and reminded us that all items must be clean and in good condition. It should be noted that Second Glance accepts not only clothing and furniture, but a wide range of household items as well.

(For a review of what Susan specifically said, Suzanne Brown recorded her remarks, which can be found online.) Concluding her remarks, Susan said that Second Glance always welcomes volunteers.

Before concluding the meeting, Vicki asked Germaine Fritz to review briefly what organizations were safe and reliable charities for making donations to aid victims of the

Southern California wildfires. An informational handout, re: highly rated, charitable organizations was circulated to the group.

In addition, Sue Willis made a motion that the Circle donate \$1,000 to aid those in Southern California to which the Circle unanimously agreed. It was then agreed that Germaine and Gerry would decide which organization would be selected to send our donation.

After thanking the day's hostesses: Suzanne Brown, Connie Mason, Linette French and Cynthia Borghesani, and announcing the next meeting would be Tuesday, February 11, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie B. Neal