

Annisquam Sewing Circle Minutes

Meeting called to order – Tuesday, March 11, 2025

After calling the meeting to order and welcoming members present and Speaker Mary Jane McGlennon, Vicki asked for a moment of silence in memory of Ann Mannle.

Vicki continued the meeting by asking that a motion be made to accept the February Minutes as sent; motion accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Maria Marolda) Maria reported that the current balance for the ASC is \$30,233.45. She also reported that Catherine Gunn made a generous gift in honor of her mother, Kari Gale. Other gifts made in memory of Ann Mannle also were received.

Corresponding Secretary (Kate Meader) Kate reported that a card of sympathy was sent to Holly Perry in memory of John Perry.

Finance (Gerry Herbert) Gerry announced that there would be a tour on Tuesday, the 18th at 3 pm at the High School highlighting where the Band plays.

Scholarship – While Lee Cunningham was not present, it was reported that there still were no candidates for scholarship award consideration.

Old Business

Workshops to continue – Heidi McGrath will lead one making Accordion Books on the 24th at Vicki's house.

Plant Sale – No report per se, but a vote was taken confirming that the Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 17th.

Jill Carter made a brief presentation suggesting a possible craft for the Christmas Fair – Lavender Pillows, which are reputed to be helpful in times of stress and anxiety. Possibly sell in the \$15-40 range.

Suzanne and Sue Harris set up an old photo display in the back of the Hall and asked for help identifying some of the older, former members of the Circle.

Speaker:

Gerry introduced Mary Jane McGlennon –from Grace Center (part of Lifebridge North Shore, which is in Salem).

Opening 15 years ago in Gloucester, Mary Jane described Grace Center as a Day Center located on Main Street that provides hope, vital resources and stability to those in desperate need of help and support at any given time. The age range of guests is anywhere between 18-89 years old. Guests (80% of whom are Gloucester connected) may be struggling with addiction, homelessness, mental issues to name just a few. Open 5 days a week and serving as many as 50-70 a day, the Grace Center provides a range of specific services including case management, therapy, medical and dental support, and access to other vital resources.

At the conclusion of Mary Jane's talk, Gerry offered to take anyone interested to visit Grace Center. Mary Jane concluded her remarks by noting that indeed, there are opportunities for volunteers to help at Grace Center.

After thanking Mary Jane, Vicki thanked the day's hostesses: Jill, Joan, Mimi and Peg Ris.

The next meeting will be April 8th.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie B. Neal