

Annisquam Sewing Circle Meeting
Minutes
April 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Minutes from the March meeting were read and approved with no changes.

Treasurer Nancy Martin reported that we have \$10,777.98 in the bank. A motion to accept the report was made and approved.

Sunshine Chair, Judy Gustin, sent a note to Maureen Quine. A motion to make a \$50 donation to the Village Hall Library to honor Bobby Emmons, who passed away yesterday, was made and approved. Christine Lundberg, who is recovering from shoulder surgery, needs a note. Dick Novak would also benefit from a note. He is hoping to get back to Annisquam soon; however, Joyce fell yesterday and hurt wrist for yet another setback. They are staying at Riverbend in Ipswich and Deb will send everyone their address.

Deb Bird proposed that we also make a library donation in Paul Littlefield's name. A motion to make a \$50 donation was made and approved.

Membership Chair Annie Sinkinson proposed Sandra Caniff for Active Membership. Sandra recently moved to Bennett Street, and her many interests include crafts, cooking and racquet sports. She comes to Monday teas and will be a great addition to the Circle. A motion to accept Sandra as a member was made and approved. Annie will let her know.

Scholarship Chair Carolyn Rogers asked members to spread the word about the Sewing Circle's scholarship. Her goal is to have an ongoing list of Annisquam kids in 9th grade and above so we can have an idea of whether money is needed each year or whether it can be repurposed. We only have one potential applicant for the current season and she has not yet contacted us.

Please send Suzanne Brown any helpful kitchen hints and she will post them to the website.

Hospitality Chair Dotte Roeske reported that today's tea hostesses are Joan Collier, Germaine Fritz and Jill Lovejoy.

Deb Bird read the list of people slated to receive Easter Plants, which the Sewing Circle delivers each year, and asked if there are others who should also be in on the list. Please send her names if you think of anyone.

Deb Bird opened a discussion about the upcoming Plant Sale, which has traditionally be held Memorial Day weekend. Last year, moving the date earlier resulted in increased sales.

Perennials from members' gardens and native plants always sell well.

Donna Caselden reported that this year's sale will include planters. A few will be planted ahead of time, and we will also have some empty planters so buyers can choose plants at the sale and have us put a planter together for them. Please bring empty planters you no longer need to the next meeting on May 9th.

Also, bring empty water bottles, packing noodles or empty soda cans for large planters.

Sign-up sheets for Bake Sale donations and volunteer times were circulated. Germaine Fritz will fill in for Bake Sale co-chair. Sue Harris, who will be away the date of the sale. Please package baked goods attractively.

Volunteers are needed for Friday set up, ideally strong men. Ellen Stone will ask for volunteers at the next Leonard Club meeting.

Deb Bird reported that Bonnie Angus is on board with this year's earlier Plant Sale date, which is Saturday, May 13th.

Publicity is working on new signage for the sale.

Deb Bird reported that the Willmann Project has raised \$625K to date and is very close to the \$650K goal. Dave Pearce sent a note thanking the Circle for our \$10,000 donation to the project.

Gloucester's Generous Gardeners is holding a Tulip Festival on Saturday, May 6th. The festival features over 22,000 tulips that were planted on Stacy Blvd. last fall. The event is free and worth supporting.

Judy Junker thanked the Circle for books donated to the Library.

Gigs Cunningham reported that the Good Neighbors' brunch is being held Sunday, May 7th at noon at the Village Hall

Deb Bird reported that Heather Atwood, who writes the Gloucester Daily Times "Food for Thought" column, will be our guest speaker at the May meeting.

This year's Annual Meeting will be a Garden Party at Donna Caselden's house. More details will be provided at the May meeting.

Donna introduced Kate Wiggins, this month's speaker. Owner of KW Landscape designs, Kate installs and maintains a variety of landscapes with an emphasis on seaside gardens, naturalistic habitats and organic methods. She answered members' gardening questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. to another delicious tea.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Bourneuf