

ANNISQUAM SEWING CIRCLE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. President Deb Bird called for committee reports.

Treasurer Nancy Martin reported that we have \$25,524.26 in the bank.

Secretary Vicki Bourneuf read minutes from the April meeting, which were unanimously approved.

Emily Murphy reported that cards are being sent to Tom Hooper, Kate Meader, Mary Pope and Don Cook, who can all use some cheer and sunshine after hospitalizations, falls or illnesses.

Membership Chair Annie Sinkinson reported no changes in membership. We have 53 Active, 17 Associate and five Honorary members.

Sue Willis reported that the Finance Committee met last week and emphasized that the committee takes the job of distributing money that the Circle works hard to raise very seriously. The Committee unanimously agreed to distribute \$15,700 as follows:

- Village Church for maintenance, \$2000
- Pathways for Children, \$500
- Wellspring House, \$500
- Open Door, \$1000
- Gloucester Education Foundation, \$1000
- Village Hall, \$3000, which includes a number of requests that funnel into the Village Hall, including the Historical Society and special project requests
- Backyard Growers, \$500
- Cape Ann Animal Aid, \$500
- North Shore Youth Symphony, \$1000
- Cape Ann Museum, \$500 earmarked for senior programs
- Scholarships, \$4000
- Gloucester High School Docksiders, \$200
- Mt. Adnah Cemetery, \$500
- Cape Ann YMCA, \$500

A motion to accept the Finance Committee's recommendations was approved by unanimous vote. .

Deb Bird reported for Publicity Chair Deb Michels that Plant Sale poster and signs are in hand and being distributed. Suzanne Brown has sent press releases to local news and social media contacts. Deb Bird will let us know if help is needed to distribute signage.

Carolyn Rogers proposed awarding this year's scholarships to Jared Gillman for St. Anslem's, Alex Olsen for North Shore Community College, Ava Trotman for the University of Denver and Ted Moskal for Washington University. All are busy volunteering and have maintained good grades while contributing to the community. Scholarships for all four were approved by unanimous vote.

Suzanne Brown reported that there are no new workshops scheduled. The needlepoint and knitting workshops are going well. She is also happy to post member's favorite recipes on the Circle's website, including bake sale recipes. Just email them to her.

Deb Bird reported that the Willman Project pathway work is underway.

Deb also led a discussion about the upcoming Plant Sale, which is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 20th. Having it on Sunday this year is an experiment, with the time frame set to accommodate both early and late church goers.

Sign-up sheets for the bake table and plant area were circulated. Volunteers are needed to set up on Saturday.

Stevie Neal circulated a sheet to request special items, including geraniums and special perennials.

Teacups will be available again this year for \$10 each. They sell quickly and raise quite a bit of extra money. Through a show of hand, volunteers decided to assemble tea cups individually, rather than in a workshop. We need about 15, which is the number that sold last year.

Gigs updated us on the bake table portion of the Plant Sale, which contributes a large portion of the sale's proceeds. Baked goods should be attractively packaged and can be dropped off at Sue Harris's house at 96 Leonard Street between 4 and 6 p.m. on Saturday afternoon before the sale, or 8 a.m. the morning of the sale. Please label items and indicate if they contain nuts or are gluten-free. The Exchange will be open during the sale.

Deb Bird announced that the Annual Meeting will be held at noon on Tuesday, June 26th at Donna Caselden's house. Lunch will be followed by the meeting and auction. Bring something of value that you don't need any longer for the auction. You can also donate services, cocktail parties and the like. Please RSVP and sign up to bring something for lunch.

Hospitality Chair, Dottie Roeske thanked Pippy Giuliano, Ann Mannle, Emily Murphy and Nancy Davis for today's tea.

Deb Bird requested and members shared "Close to Home" ideas and recommendations, which included:

- The documentary, Ruth Bader Ginsberg.
- Osmocote for plants.
- Applying only liquid products to roses during the first year, and recommendation to loosen the roots and add an antifungal before planting, too. Neptune's Harvest as an excellent fertilizer.
- Wisconsin-based Women's International Pharmacy for estrogen cream, which is extremely expensive through other pharmacies. It's only about \$145 a year through this pharmacy. An MD referral is needed.
- Grill or roast asparagus to preserve vitamins. Fresh asparagus should have no smell.
- Advanced Cleaning Concepts in Beverly for upholstery cleaning.

Gigs Cunningham reported that Carol Cox is the new Good Neighbors president and Tom Moriarty the new vice president. Gigs noted that everyone in the Village is welcome to become a Good Neighbors member. There is a large group of members who take on a supportive role if they can't or don't want to take on an active role. Just let Good Neighbors know if you are interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Bourneuf