

October 9, 2012

Vice President, Ann Mannle called the meeting to order at 1:40. Ann read her minutes of the previous meeting which were approved with some minor corrections for committee heads.

Pippy Giuliano introduced the guest speaker Courtney Richardson, Director of Education and Public Programs at the Cape Ann Museum. The Sewing Circle will consider making a donation to the Museum this year so Courtney outlined a few programs that our donation would benefit. The Museum sponsors *Young at Art* which is in its third year serving Headstart children from Pathways. Children ages 2.5 to 5 years of age will have a museum experience about 4 times a year. The Museum plans programs for Gloucester students from grades 3, 5 and the high school. Susan Erony art historian and scholar has created a Cape Ann Timeline in digital format for the Gloucester schools. And new this year, the Museum is reaching out to area nursing homes. Museum admission is complementary to all students. Free Family Day convenes the second Saturday each month with planned activities. Currently, the Museum has 11 active docents and 22 in training. Courtney was very clear that any monetary donation to the educational programs would be very much appreciated.

Martha Hooper, membership chair reported that the Circle has 55 active members and 14 associates.

Treasurer, Nancy Martin reported that there are some unpaid dues and that the sale of cookbooks has garnered \$2,368.

Finance chair, Mimi Emmons said that 2 charities have been brought to her attention and presentations will be forthcoming.

Publicity chair, Germaine Fritz reported that fair publicity will begin 4 weeks before the fair. The Fair will begin at 8:30 and end at 1 pm with 2 luncheon seatings at 11:30 and 1 pm. It was generally felt that most goods have been purchased by 1 pm which makes it a good time to close.

Discussion turned to the silent auction of art work. The consensus seemed to suggest keeping the talent in house. Contributors are welcome to donate framed or unframed original art. The location and display possibilities were discussed but not nailed down.

Deb Marston will send out reminders to the tea hostesses.

Web liaison Suzanne Brown explained how the new set up will be more user friendly. There is an opportunity for a community bulletin board, to post on our blog page and for committee notes and instructions. This new system will give us more independence at a reasonable cost. Jen Gabbay will report later on the cost of the new server. Suzanne welcomes your input so please email her with any ideas or suggestions.

New Business:

A list of committee chairs;

Crafts: Donna Caselden, Deb Ebeling, and Mary Warner – please include your name when dropping off your craft item. Donna showed some wonderful contributions of potholders, wreaths, pillows, dinner plate and a decorative sash.

Stevie Neal, Bonnie Angus – all size pine cones are needed

Gourmet table will be headed up by Deb Bird and Sue Willis

Baskets headed by Suzanne Brown will range in price from 25-35 dollars – no more than 30 baskets. Committee: Dottie Roeske, Pippy, Patsy Whitlock Judy Juncker and Sandy Andrew.

Luncheon chefs Connie Mason and Mimi Evans – Pippy prep and dishes

Wreath Bows – Judy Gustin's eager beavers will meet November 15th.

Grabs: Jackie Littlefield and Ellen Stone (4 grabs each member)

Wine: Ellen and Bill Stone

Ann Mannle gave us an uplifting update from Pam Saylor that Emily is on crutches and doing very well. She is home schooled for the time being. Pam is so grateful to everyone for the meals, cards and overall support that she and her family have received these last few months. You could feel the room breath a sigh of relief.

The meeting was adjourned to a lovely tea hosted by Suzanne Brown, Sandy Andrew, Lida Bernard and Nancy Davis.

Respectfully submitted,
Pippy Giuliano
Recording Secretary