

Annisquam Sewing Circle  
Minutes  
Tuesday, January 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Nancy Martin provided a financial update:

- The Christmas Fair grossed \$18,125.75. Expenses were \$5,604.40. Additionally, there was a \$100 donation, bringing our net gain to \$12,521.35.
- We have \$22,819.59 in the bank.

Ann Mannle reported that Judy Junker, Kate Meader, Maureen Quine, Dotty Roeske are today's tea hostesses.

Finance Committee Chair, Mimi Emmons thanked her committed for their assistance in recommending this year's donations. She noted that the Committee adheres to guidelines to give to Village community first, and then the immediate community. She noted that we try to be fair, don't give to every charity every year and make decisions based on need.

The Committee recommended the following disbursement of \$10,500 available for donations this year:

Annisquam Village Hall (Replace 2nd floor bathroom floor)	\$4,000
Annisquam Village Church (Building preservation)	2,000
Backyard Growers	500
Open Door	1,000
Wellspring	500
Pathways	500
Cape Ann Animal Aid	500
Cape Ann Symphony-Youth Program	1,000
Cape Ann Museum – Elderly Program	500
TOTAL	\$10,500

A motion was made approved to accept the Finance Committee's recommendations.

Sue Willis, Scholarship Chair, had nothing new to report, but reminded members that we do not advertise our scholarships. We depend on members to let Annisquam high school seniors heading to school or college know that we have scholarships available.

Judy Gustin, Sunshine Chair dispersed no sunshine last few weeks.

Reporting for Publicity, Stevie Neal provided a brief update on the greens portion of the Christmas Fair. There is nothing specific to report about fair publicity, except it went well and they are already thinking about next year.

- We had a lot of new items this year, which sold well. Big sellers are custom wreaths, many to Bennie's customers.

- Some considerations for next year include small, live decorated trees, terrariums, etc. Lynn Fenollosa, who has many creative ideas, will help a couple extra days next year.
- Thinking of sending an E-Blast next year to get custom orders ahead of time.
- Disappointed with ribbons and looking for other sources,

In short, things went well and there are things we can do to make the greens portion of the fair even better. Let Bonnie or Stevie know if you have any ideas.

Betsy Colby noted that we have always given Lynn a gift certificate to a restaurant to thank her for her help with the fair. A motion was made and accepted to give Lynn a \$125 gift certificate to her favorite restaurant.

Suzanne Brown had nothing new to report for the website.

Martha Hooper reported that Jaye Whittier proposed Chicki Hollett for membership. Chicki lives in Norwood heights and has many talents, including gardening, sewing, floral design painting, costume making and more, is on the Board of the Annisquam Village Players, is incredibly talented and now has time to give to the Circle. A motion was made and accepted to approve Chicki's membership, which brings active membership to 54.

Sue Willis suggested that it would be helpful if sponsors of new members "mentor" and keep them up to date on expectations for the first year, especially for the Greens Fair and Plant Sale.

Val Gilman, new Ward 4 City Councilor, was welcomed as guest speaker. Val provided an overview of how she can help constituents navigate and stay informed about issues and activities in the city. She also reviewed important services and information available on the city's website and how to use the site to stay current and get assistance with local issues and problems.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. to another delicious tea.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Bourneuf