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## New England Lace Group

### Meeting Minutes, September 15, 2012

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Executive Board Attendance: Patty Foley, President; Karen Hansen, Treasurer & Membership – via audio; Bryce Wolf, Vice President; Susan L. Benzer, Clerk

Executive Board Absent: Gail MacLean, Newsletter Editor; Librarian – unfilled position; Mary Linden, Member at Large

Member Attendees: Linda Sheff, Sharon Sacco, Barbara Morrow, Winann Steinmetz, Rosalie Bares, Carolyn Wetzel, Linda Lane, Ellen St. Clair, Doris Schick, Lies Stolk, Carolyn Hastings, Sally Barry, Marjorie Dashef, Wini Blacklow

Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m.

#### Clerk – Susan Benzer

June 9, 2012 minutes – Motion made by Bryce Wolf to accept the minutes seconded by Rosalie Bares. Motion passed unanimously.

#### President Report – Patty Foley

Welcomed everyone and to our newest member Ellen. She spoke briefly about our anniversary year and our focus on our legacy. With such a full agenda, we went straight to business.

#### Treasurer Report- Karen Hansen.

a. Winann spoke briefly about the final report for the year ending August 31, 2012. She reported the final balance in both accounts totaled \$11,065.07

b. Budget for 2012-2013 – Karen made a recording of her report and it was played at the meeting. Three scenarios were presented; briefly – Version A was to keep dues at \$15 and include the requirement of \$1000 profit by the Retreat – this would still be a shortfall of \$1151 that would need to be funded out of our savings. Version B was to raise the dues to \$20 per year and include the \$1000 profit by the Retreat – this would be a short fall of \$721. Version C was to raise dues to \$20 per year, reduce the Retreat profit by a loss of attendance to a net of \$325 – with would be a short fall of \$1,396. The shortfall for the anniversary program of \$1500 was voted by the membership in the prior year.

Karen motioned to accept Version B, Winann seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on why we need to do this when we have so much money in the bank. Then there was an extensive discussion on the 3 budget options presented by Karen. Board members tried to make their case for their requirement for fiscal responsibility that a budget where expected income is equal to expected expenses. The rank-and-file members couldn't see why we need to raise dues when there is over \$10,000 in the bank. Vote on the motion was Yes = 1; No = 12, Abstain =3

Motion was made by Bryce Wolf and seconded by Carolyn Hastings to pass Version A with the following changes: eliminate the requirement that the Retreat make any money – reduce the \$1000 income to \$0. IOLI membership fees for the three individuals that was under the President's section was discussed further. And decided to reduce to only reimbursing the President's IOLI membership and not include reimbursing the Vice President, the Member at Large for their memberships nor to add a reimbursement for the Treasurer. Deficit for the 2012-2013 Budget year, including the deficit on the Anniversary Luncheon, is \$3,624. Vote on motion was Yes = 14; No=1, Abstain=1

#### Membership – Karen Hansen

a. Update on members - health, wealth and welfare – we have 95 members and they are represented as follows: Massachusetts 42, Connecticut 20, Rhode Island 3, Vermont 3, Maine 2, New Hampshire -, = the core of the membership 70 individuals.

The other 25 members are located in New York 5, Pennsylvania 4, New Jersey 4, Virginia 3, and one each in Guam, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Minnesota, Texas, Washington, and 2 international members.

Motion made by Karen and seconded by Sharon Sacco to eliminate the international membership category with its separate dues. Since our international members are now receiving the newsletter electronically, there is no international postage to be paid. Vote on motion was Yes=16; No=0, abstain=1.

#### Programs - Vice President Bryce Wolf

a. She is currently in the midst of moving. The Bragging Rights! Table began this month. We will set up a table at meetings so we can bring out show-and-tell items to share with everyone. Everyone is encouraged to bring in their lace and other fiber related projects.

#### Anniversary Event - Patty Foley

a. She reported that 36 members have RSVPed so far. Since seats are limited to a maximum of 45, you need to make sure your payment gets to our Treasurer. Your Big E Entries are requested so we can display lace for everyone to enjoy.

#### Member at Large – Mary Linden

- a. Mary's report was read – we have over 600 hours reported so far this calendar year. Creative arts volunteers are reminded to log in their time at the website. 13 of the 17 days are covered by volunteers. Thank you all – and enjoy the fair.
- b. Upcoming events – Fiber Festival – November 3 & 4 – at the Big E Fairgrounds.

#### Creative Arts - Big E – Rosalie Bares

a. We had 38 entries to the Big E. Results have been posted on the NELG website. If you want your items held over for the anniversary luncheon, please get your tickets to Rosalie so she can pick them up.

#### Local groups

- a. Connecticut Lace Day was at Jill's. Winann reported that the number of homes large enough to accommodate attendees is getting less. They did a study group at the August meeting.

- b. Lace at Lies – Leis hopes to resume this soon.
- c. Sunday Lace Group – Uncertain for October due to the Luncheon
- d. Lace Group – Western Mass –Carolyn Wetzal is coordinating with Rosalei Bares to have one in October in Shelburne Falls.
- e. Maine/Jeri Ames – no report
- f. Other areas – Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire - no report

Library Report – Acting Librarian – Patty Foley

a. We now have three assistant librarians, they are Linda Sheff, Sharon Sacco, and Mary Linden. She is looking for two additional assistants. Their responsibility is to bring three boxes to meetings. The collection is now on line and you can see all the covers and descriptions of the books. Circulation of books for last year – 2011 to 2012 was 45 books by 26 individuals. Please contact Patty if you are interested in becoming an assistant librarian or becoming the head librarian

Retreat Committee- Winann Steinmetz & Patty Foley

No Report

Website - Jill Hawkins

The website home page is being updated on a regular basis. A schedule has been developed to facilitate this and keep track of what has been posted and when. This will help keep our presence on the web fresh to encourage more visitors. Website hits are now approaching 3,500.

Event registrations are going well. Members have been encouraged to register for monthly meetings and other events, and this functionality really proved its usefulness when we used it for our annual retreat. We had a few minor issues, but overall the response has been favourable.

There is a new addition from Clay Blackwell to the Members Lace Gallery, although many more submissions are needed to make this a vibrant and exciting area. Please consider sending a photo and brief description to the Webmistress at [NELGWebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:NELGWebmaster@gmail.com).

Links to our older newsletters (currently going back to 2001) are gradually being added in the Members Only area. To save space on the website these documents are stored off site (in the “cloud”) and will therefore appear a little different when they are downloaded. The goal is to keep the current and previous year newsletters stored directly on the website so they are easy to view, read and print.

Library contents (i.e. covers of books) are now available and are searchable by author, title or type of lace. If you haven’t looked at the Library Page in a while, you are encouraged to do so and to let us have your feedback either via email ([nelginfo@gmail.com](mailto:nelginfo@gmail.com)) or on the blog on the website.

As always, suggestions for improvements or changes, as well as any general comments (what you like or don’t like) are always welcome!

Newsletter – Gail MacLean

Publication schedule is now the first of February, May, August and November, making it every 3 months. We've added a new lace group that we exchange newsletter with—the Atlanta Chapter of IOLI, thanks to a contact at Lace at Sweet Briar

We mail hard copies in black and white to 30 members and the rest receive email notification when the newsletter has been posted to our website. Thank you to everyone who contributes! We never run short of material, but always welcome your submissions and ideas!

Scholarship & Grants Committee

- a. Awards from June 1, through August 31, 2012 – no application were received over the summer

IOLI – Carolyn Wetzel

The name has changed to *INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LACE, INC.* Mary Linden received the annual pattern CD from Convention and the certificate of Volunteer Hours.

Adjournment 12:31 p.m. and welcome Henrietta Curtis who will be showing us her collection of many fine laces.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan L. Benzer