

**NELG Meeting Minutes**  
21 October 2023

**Attendees**

Executive Board: Rosalie Bares, Jill Hawkins, Gail MacLean

Sr. Catherine Morin, Sr. Rhea Quintin, Sr. Madeleine Cleverly, Margaret Lelakes, Lori Venezia, Susan Thomson, Sharon Sacco, Judy Jeon-Chapman, Barbara Goddeau, Danielle Foster, Winann Steinmetz, Marjorie Dashef, Mary Mangan, Kate Moore

- I. President, Rosalie Bares, called the meeting to order at 11:18am and introductions were made.
- II. The minutes from the Annual Meeting in June were reviewed and minor corrections were made. Sharon proposed that the minutes be accepted with the corrections; the motion was seconded by Marjorie and was passed unanimously.
- III. Officer and Committee Reports
  - I. **President**
    - In June, NELG Vice President & Treasurer will be up for election and volunteers are needed to serve on the Nominating Committee. In the first instance, the incumbents in each position will be contacted to ask if they are willing to continue for another term.
    - Mary Linden was thanked for her liaison work with the Big E.
  - II. **VP/Programs**
    - November 18 - discussion / review of "Demonstration How To's"
    - December 16 - Lunch in Historic Tap Room at Publick House, Sturbridge with holiday gift exchange. Deadline for registering for lunch is November 20; an email reminder will be sent to everyone.
    - January 20 - "Lace from Europe" an informal presentation by Jill Hawkins of lace discoveries during her vacation in summer 2023 (Zoom meeting)
    - February 17 - Discussion and sharing of examples of different tape laces (Zoom meeting)
    - March 16 - Making decorative scissor fobs
    - April 20 - Learn how to tat with Carolyn Wetzel and Sharon Sacco
    - May 18 - Retreat
    - June 15 - Annual Meeting
  - III. **Library** – no report
  - IV. **Treasurer/Membership**

We reviewed the draft budget for 2023-2024 and made some changes:

    - Newsletter expenses should be reduced to \$400
    - Website expenses should be reduced to \$810
    - Retreat expenses should match retreat income (\$20,000)

- In light of the fact that we are charging a registration fee for retreat, AffiniPay expenses should be reduced. Jill will calculate how much AffiniPay expenses should be for memberships paid online and will notify the Treasurer.
- Active memberships stand at 87, which is the lowest number in many years.

**V. Retreat**

- Retreat in 2024 will be on Mother's Day weekend: Thursday, May 9 - Sunday, May 12. Teachers: Bobbi Donnelly (Tonder), Holly Van Sciver (English laces), Sharon Sacco (beginner class which is subsidized by NELG)
- The theme for the 2024 Lace Challenge is "Kaleidoscope". Kits will be available starting in January.

**VI. Newsletter: November issue**

- The deadline for the November issue is October 29.
- Reminder about memorial for Patty Foley

**VII. Member-at-Large**

- Thank you to all who demonstrated at Big E, OSV, NH Craft Fair, Dudley Farm and other events. Please remember to report your volunteer hours for any activity related to NELG. The form on the website describes all eligible activities that can be reported.
- Upcoming demonstration opportunities:
  - a) October 28 - Dudley Farm Museum, Guilford, CT
  - b) November 4 & 5 - NE Fiber Festival, West Springfield, MA

**VIII. Website**

- Based on a decision made at a meeting earlier this year, our website account with Wild Apricot has been flagged for downgrade prior to the January 2024 renewal. This will result in a cost reduction of over \$300 per year.
- There is a Tag Sale and Swap Page on the website that can be used by members to offer lace-related items to other members. Please check it out.

**IX. Scholarships - no update**

**X. Announcements**

1. Ipswich exhibit update
  - There was recently an article in the IOLI Bulletin regarding our Ipswich exhibit, along with a related article reminding members that there are grant funds available from IOLI for activities that require funding.
  - The presentation at the Wakefield Arts & Crafts event was well received.
  - The Lost Art Lacers of North Jersey have requested to borrow the Ipswich exhibit for the NJ State Fair in August 2024. Gail may go with the exhibit.

2. Jill reported that OIDFA will have a Virtual Congress in July 2024. The 21st OIDFA World Congress & General Assembly will take place in August 2025 in Bulgaria.
3. Jill reported that there will be a Celebration of Life for Patty Foley on Wednesday, November 8 at 5:30pm at the Indian Hill Country Club, Newington, CT.

Rosalie announced that there would be a raffle at each monthly meeting. Gail MacLean won the raffle this month, which was a very cute mini ceramic pumpkin containing a miniature potted plant.

Marjorie proposed a motion that we adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Sr. Rhea. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm

Respectfully submitted

Jill Hawkins