

## EMPIRE QUILTERS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2005

Attendees: Cathy Bancroft, Jennifer Bigelow, Mary Butler, Betty Chen, Lee Ebs, Betty Ford, Natalie Garfinkle, Larry Gifford, Emma Green, Joan Hellmann, Sylvia Hughes, Barbara Hull, Paula Kenney, Ellen Knudsen, Marilyn Korn, Mary Levins, Leila Lieberman, Susan Louis, Veronique Milliez, Beth Pile, Fran Riede-Klingler, Cindy Russell, Kitty Squires, Denise Walsh-Horowitz

Joan presided over the meeting in Sylvia's absence.

Archives: Mary Levins reports that the putting photos on the table is working out great.

Board meeting minutes: currently mailed/mailed to board members and posted near the library cart at general meetings. Starting next year, they will also be published on our website, password required for access. No issue of privacy exists, as all members are welcome to attend board meetings. But just in case, Jennifer moved, Marilyn seconded, and board approved online posting of board meeting minutes.

Brooklyn Guild: Barbara moved, Mary Levins seconded, board approved \$100 for a full-page Empire ad in the Brooklyn Guild's April show brochure. Sylvia Hughes will distribute cards today for that show.

Bus Trips: Fran reported that NJ was a success, a good show to visit. May need to collect additional \$25 each for Lancaster unless more people sign up today.

Bylaws Committee: Susan distributed minutes and partially-revised bylaws. Committee will meet again this afternoon.

Block of the Month: In May there will be 2 options for applique, too large for the newsletter. Leila will bring copies in April to distribute.

Charity: We completed about 100 quilts last month. Alice shared her district's recognition of Empire, will announce it at the general meeting, and will tell City Quilter (batting donor).

Mary Butler passed along a request from a girl scout for fabric for a bee she plans to benefit a children's hospital; will announce it to the general meeting.

Friendship Quilt: Beth continues work on it, intends to raffle it in June.

Library: Cathy has prepared a draft of librarian's job for the incoming committee and is working on the June book sale. She plans to charge 1/3 list price for fairly new books, \$3-\$5 for older books, and \$3-\$10 for non-quilting books. Members who prepay next year's dues get a prize bag of books. She'll proceed with the honorary membership for Michael Campbell, as board discussed in January. Fons & Porter have again offered the magazine discount, which she'll present at the general meeting. Members will pay \$15 for a year's subscription, of which Empire will keep \$5.

Membership: Too many members are not receiving their newsletters, so the committee will check on the mailing list being used.

Newsletter Advertising: Cottage Quilters is a new advertiser. Last month in error Betty omitted Sew Right's ad, so will double the size next month to make up for it. We should look for coupons in ads.

Newsletter Distribution: Susan's printer would charge less than \$1 per newsletter, lower than Kinko's quoted to Michael. Marilyn's printer quoted \$.50 per but excluded labels and stamps. Susan will call Marilyn's printer to compare equal jobs. By moving to a New York printer, we can use our tax exempt status, which our current New Jersey printer could not apply.

Nominating Committee: Sylvia Hughes will announce full slate of candidates. Cynthia Sprules will handle Newsletter Advertising.

Programs: Barbara told us what's in store.

Quilter of the Month: Rhona Triggs in April, maybe Stefanie Sheehan in May.

Raffle: It's a problem hearing the raffle numbers when people are at the Share Table.

Secretary: Lee read a thank-you letter from Kate Cox for Empire's letter supporting her request to immigrate to the US, which has been granted.

Shops: Joan will send letters to various sewing stores in the area requesting a discount for Empire members, will ask for suggested stores at the general meeting. Jen reminded us that stores get a discount on advertising in our newsletter if they give a discount to our members.

Space: Our FIT liaison Kelly Berger informed Marilyn that all SUNY rental contracts now require \$2 million liability insurance, double the current requirement. Our insurance agent told Marilyn the premium will go up \$126 to \$1048 per year. The rent to FIT will remain at \$5000 for ten meetings. The contract with FIT is in the works, Marilyn and Barbara will coordinate our dates, and Sylvia Zev can sign it when she returns. Our expected Nov. 12 date may change to Nov. 5 or 19. As the room seems crowded, we're considering fewer tables, giving more room for chairs. However, some people want tables for lunch and sewing. More long tables are not available per FIT. The occasional section of chairs for slide shows is a good setup, even though we don't care much for slide shows. Aisles are necessary for safety.

Vendor: Quilt Essentials is in discussion with Sylvia Zev.

Ways & Means: Paula is working on our "Christmas in June" bazaar and asks members to make ornaments, tree skirts, and other items. She is also considering other fund-raising ideas, including a 50-50 drawing in May.

Welcome: Beth made colored tags for guests and new members, so we should make a point of speaking to people wearing them. Mary Butler reported that Rhona was approached by a UN diplomat group from various countries; 12 or so will attend our meeting today.