

EMPIRE QUILTERS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2005

Attendees: Cathy Bancroft, Jennifer Bigelow, Mary Butler, Lee Ebs, Betty Ford, Emma Green, Larry Gifford, Michael Greenberg, Joan Hellmann, Sylvia Hughes, Barbara Hull, Ellen Knudsen, Paula Kenney, Marilyn Korn, Leila Lieberman, Veronique Milliez, Beth Pile, Cindy Russell, Kitty Squire, Maggie Williamson, Sylvia Zeveloff

FIT Contract: Marilyn reported the old and new contracts plus bills and checks are being handled.

Discount from Fabric Mill : Joan reported that the manager had turned down her request.

Charity Requests: Lee described requests from the Herbert G. Birch Society and United Quilts of America for Empire's help. She'll present them to the general membership.

Treasurer: Ellen reported that 2 members have still not paid their debt from the December auction. She will pursue the matter.

The guild needs new stationery, which Kitty will order. The incoming board will continue to use the Old Chelsea Station post office box. Kitty moved, Paula seconded, and the board approved a motion to buy a PC Quicken Program for about \$30. Kitty wants to start work on a budget, Michael agreed to help.

Block of the Month: Leila reported that nobody had a design wall system to donate. Jen moved, Joan seconded, board approved a motion to buy one for about \$36. Leila forwarded Sylvia Zev's article about the Japanese quilt top to the contact.

Bus Trips: Ellen will forward info about a possible new tour to Sturbridge Village and the play "Quilters" and quilting cruises. We'll start posting such items on the wall at meetings.

Focus Groups: Beth asked why not have some after meetings for the sake of board members and others, will speak to Dorothy and hopefully some will start in September.

Library: Tina couldn't bring the cart today due to a family emergency. Cathy has selected books for June book sale. The raffle for early dues-payers will be part of the main raffle.

Membership: Beth brought up the question of waiving guest fees for May and June for new members joining now. Marilyn cited Section 2 of the current bylaws: "A guest fee shall not be charged when a person joins the Guild at the meeting." The board voted unanimously to waive May and June guest fees for anyone joining.

Newsletter: Betty typed the job explanation for new printer. In the last newsletter City Quilter's logo was missing, the printer's fault. Jen will speak to Dale about making amends.

Programs: In lieu of a speaker's fee for today, we will make a \$200 contribution to SAQA, and Empire will be mentioned as a sponsor. Barbara asked for more suggestions for local speakers.

Ongoing problem with meeting room, today was the worst ever, despite the fact that Barbara sent a letter to FIT last month and spoke with Kelly B. about continuing problems. Larry met with FIT Facilities after our last meeting. Christine told him to send a letter each time to document the ongoing problems, partly due to dealing with weekend staff, not regular staff.

Vendors: Barbara suggested we book 2 vendors when possible, as long as they don't sell competing wares.

Welcome Committee; Beth will be announcing guests.

June Meeting: Paula had flyers, will write it up for the newsletter, and announce it at the general meeting. The requirement for members who sell their own items must give 10% to guild, as do regular vendors. It was decided NOT to allow individuals to buy a table, as we don't have enough tables. We won't be changing the way we've been doing this.

Quilt Show: Jen and a small group are looking at the fall of 2006 or spring of 2007. Larry met with FIT, liked the great space of the new hall on 28th Street. The hall is \$1200 per day, and other nearby rooms are available at a separate cost of \$100-\$150 each per day. There are several possible dates, but FIT won't sign us up until July, after they work out their own schedule. We'll need to jump quickly then, also to get vendors and judges. Kitty moved, Marilyn seconded, and the board approved a motion to have a committee of Larry, Jen and other volunteers explore and present recommendations. Larry brought questionnaires for volunteering and will speak about it at the general meeting. Sylvia H emphasized the need for a volunteer to start working on the raffle quilt right away.