

GMRHG 2022 Fall/Winter Annual Meeting - January 22, 2022

Present - Suzanna Brown - President, Fern Strong - Secretary, Biffie Gallant - Treasurer, Sharon O'Neill - Program Chair, Barb Ackemann - Communications, Suzanne Girouard - Education Chair, Sandra Grant - At-large Director, Nancy Mongeur, At-large Director, Tricia Miller, At-large Director, Belinda Whipple Worth - At-large Director, Louise Clark - At-large Director

The 2022 Virtual Fall/Winter Annual Meeting on Zoom was attended by 33 members. Barb Ackemann started it off with a short video of highlights from some of our 251 hook-ins. There will be three raffles. The first raffle of the meeting was a bundle of wool won by Pam Finnegan.

Suzanna recognized the out going board members and thanked them for their service. Tricia Miller helped us raise over \$8000 dollars from the sale of Nancy Jewett's wool. Thanks, also, to Nancy Mongeur and Cherie Giddings for their input and ideas. Suzanne Girard served as Education Chair, and will continue her great assistance to the guild as At-Large Director.

Suzanna turned the meeting over to Susanne Dirmaier of the nominating committee to present the candidates for incoming board. Members at large - Louise Clark, Belinda Whipple Worth, Sue Girouard, and Deb Campbell. No vice president candidates. Treasurer - Biffie Gallant. Barb Ackemann - Communications, Sandra Grant - Education. Also noted was the Scholarship Committee, which doesn't need to be voted on, headed by Kris McDermott and including Pat Dodge and Beth McDermott. Slate voted and approved.

Secretary's Report from 2021 annual meeting was sent to members by email for review. No additions or corrections. Motion made and accepted. Fern thanked Jennifer Davey for her tenure as previous secretary.

Treasurer's Report was also available to members. Biffie shared that we have 259 members and as that is our biggest source of revenue, we need more members. Our expenses haven't been great, but still include storage of rug show equipment. Incoming bills are ones for the 2022 show like ads, etc. No corrections. Treasurer's report approved.

Sharon spoke about programs. We are hoping to have a hook-in and yard sale of guild wool in Randolph in the spring. Members can also sell some of their wool if they want. She will post updates on the Facebook page. And the newsletter will have information. Sharon asked who was familiar with our 251 Challenge and launched a quick poll to get that answered. The results showed that all attendees had heard of the challenge and about 24 members present had attended at least one. She shared that 35 towns events happened in 2021. For this year, planned 251 challenges can be posted on the Facebook page.

Sue Girouard spoke about Education. It was a quiet year, but we gave away seven kits. some were requested and we had people try rug hooking at some of the 251 hook-ins.

Barb spoke about Communications. the newsletter comes out March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1. We need articles, picture, etc. by the 15th of the previous month for inclusion. The

last newsletter went out to 245 members. Of that number, 82 percent opened it, 47 percent opened the link. Some people present stated that they read it from the website. As to the Virtual show, in 2020, 6000 people looked at the beginning and we continue to get about 700 visits a month. As the Facebook page is managed by Sharon, it comes under Communication. Barb encouraged members to post often.

Half way through meeting we had another raffle. Pat Dodge won an Oxford Punch Kit.

Discussion continued with information on the 2022 Rug Show to be held in Montpelier at The College of Fine Arts. The event will be November 3 -6 with a reception on November 2. It will be a great venue with show in large auditorium and vendors and classes in the building next door. Five teachers are lined up so far with most of them one day classes and a couple of two day classes. Guild members can get into show for free if they exhibit. There will be a rug registration fee yet to be determined. We expect to have a virtual show after the in-person one perhaps the following year. Yet to be decided will be postcards, business cards, or pamphlets to distribute to members to share. We need many volunteers to help with the committees. More information will be posted in newsletters and on Facebook.

Scholarship Committee - Kris McDermott shared that information was posted in the December newsletter. Anne Ashworth Scholarship - Stephanie Allen-Krauss agreed to offer two scholarships each worth \$175. They can be used at any rug school. The Patty Yoder Scholarship can be used at the 2022 guild show class.

The final raffle of a bundle of wool was won by Fern Strong.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 followed by a talk about copyright by Susan Feller.