

Halton Hills Quilting Guild Executive Meeting August 26, 2024, held in person at Margaret's home in Georgetown.

The meeting was attended by Irene Rushworth, Donna May, Melinda Noble, Margaret Newey, Jane Symmes, Barbara Shein, Kimberlee Peers-Moore, and Maria Trott. Ida Jenkins was absent.

Margaret called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and welcomed the Executive. The minutes of the June 2024 Executive meeting are posted on the website. Barbara wondered if the minutes needed to be formally approved but the consensus was that the Executive members have had an opportunity to review and correct the draft copy before posting so that was not necessary.

President: Margaret Newey

Margaret welcomed Maria and Kimberlee to the Executive. It is great that we have a full Executive. Margaret encouraged everyone to review their job description on the web site. Margaret will contact the Optimist Club to renew our contract/rental agreement for our in-person meetings and workshops. The zoom account requires an email and phone number. Currently Ida is the zoom contact. Margaret would like to use the Guild email in future.

Past President: Ida Jenkins—Absent because of ongoing health issues.

Non-Executive Positions

Photographer—Kimberlee has offered to take this role. The executives unanimously approved. Margaret is still able to create the photo montages for the web site and newsletter. Margaret will ask Anne Balanyk if she is able to serve as a backup for this position.

50-50 draw--- Sabryna will not be rejoining the Guild. Anne Balanyk and Brenda Mathies were able to fill in for the last few meetings. Margaret will ask for a volunteer for this position at the September Guild meeting and Barbara will add the request to the newsletter.

Tea Lady---Lorna is not able to continue. A few different approaches were discussed. It was noted that when the members were asked to bring treats for our June AGM they responded well. Donna noted that when she posted a sign-up sheet for treat volunteers only two members signed up. Maria mentioned that she did not realize that there was a sign-up sheet. Likely other members were also not aware of the ask. Margaret will ask for a volunteer to serve as a refreshment coordinator at the September Guild meeting and Barbara will add the request to the newsletter.

BOM—Donna will continue in this role. The BOM patterns, samples, and write up have been submitted to Barbara for the September newsletter/attachments.

Hearts and Hugs—Elaine Karton **Not discussed FYI** --Elaine plans to continue provided we use a PA system at the meetings. She mentioned at the AGM that she was having difficulty hearing. Irene has promised to bring the PA system.

Vice President: Donna May

Donna will Chair meetings if Margaret cannot attend. Someone else will have to take the minutes on that rare occasion and Irene volunteered to do that. It makes sense for Donna to have signing authority for the bank account. Currently Margaret, Irene and Ida have signing authority. All three people must be at the bank to change the signing authority so this will have to wait until Ida is available. Donna understands that the main role in this position is to help the President and prepare to assume the President role if approved by the members.

Secretary: Donna May

Donna will continue in this role. Donna picked up the mail recently. There was a member renewal form and payment from Pearl Sawden. These were given to Margaret. Margaret found the second key for the mailbox and will check the box occasionally.

Treasurer: Irene Rushworth

Thanks, Irene, for continuing in the role. Irene mentioned that Vendor/Business Advertising in the Guild Newsletter has been a good source of income. She wondered if contacting the vendors could be done by the Publicity Convener. Kimberlee has agreed to take this on. Irene will still invoice the business. Irene has a list of businesses that have advertised with us before for Kim to get started with. Barbara noted that the deadline for newsletter submissions is Aug 28. The Fall Fairs have not been cashing the donated cheques for quilt competition prize money. This is creating an accounting headache as the cheques are stale dated. We currently support the Acton, Milton and Georgetown/Halton Fall Fairs . Melinda said that she could contact Theresa regarding the Acton Fair’s procedures. Maria asked what the plan will be when Irene is not going to continue as Treasurer. Irene noted that when that time comes the systems that she has in place should make the transition easy but that it would be good to have a training period closer to that time.

Program Convener: Melinda Noble

Thankyou Melinda for continuing in this important role. The program budget for 2024-2025 is \$1800.00. It was generally agreed that member run programs were fun and less expensive than guest speakers. Melinda plans to be under budget.

Date	Location	Program	Cost
Sept	Optimist Club	Member activity/return brown bag exchange	free
Oct	Optimist Club	? Anne Balanyk trunk show	??
Nov	Optimist Club	Outreach sewing evening.	free
Jan25	Zoom	? Tara Starzomski free motion workshop	??
Feb	Zoom	TBD	
March	Optimist Club/Zoom	Member activity/round Robin	free
April	Optimist Club	TBD	

Date	Location	Program	Cost
May	Optimist Club	TBD	
June	Optimist Club	AGM-Member activity	free

Maria wondered if the November Meeting could have a Christmas/celebration theme. A gift exchange/secret Santa was discussed. The executive thought this was a good idea and agreed to an unspecified dollar limit for a gift exchange/gift steal activity. The coffee time could include potluck snacks. Irene is planning an Outreach sewing evening as the main activity for the November meeting. The groups would be small 2-3 so that more of the members would be busy sewing. She has a pattern in mind incorporating small 2.5x5 "bricks". Margaret will find out if there are any power restrictions. How many sewing machines can you power with one outlet? Maria mentioned that she would not mind demonstrating a skill (label making) at a future Round Robin event. Melinda had an idea to have the members bring their favorite quilting tool and talk around that. Melinda mentioned that she might be able to get Tara Starzomski to give a zoom workshop on domestic machine, free motion quilting. She teaches at the Quilters Barn and Gifts in Russell (near Ottawa). Donna mentioned that Brenda from "Conquering Mount Scrapmore with Brenda" seems willing to give free talks to Guilds. Donna will send information to Melinda.

OutReach: Irene Rushworth

Thanks, Irene, for continuing in the role. Irene has had a busy summer planning a family wedding, so has not had any recent contact with any organizations that might want our quilts. Irene noted that two quilts have been returned after quilting. Pearl and Lorna have each volunteered to bind one. We have several quilts that need labels. The members might be able to sew on labels at upcoming guild meetings. The Salvation Army needs adult sized quilts. Margaret mentioned that an Extendicare staff member voiced an interest in our quilts. Irene will follow up when she is able. Kathryn's Krop 4 a Kure is fundraising for Neuroblastoma research for Sick Kid's and would like a quilt for their silent auction. The proceeds are 100% donated. The event is September 28th at the Georgetown district High School. The Darling Home for Kids in Milton might want a quilt. Links2care would like quilts, placemats, and fidget quilts.

Newsletter Editor: Barbara Shein

Thankyou Barbara for continuing in the role. Barbara noted that she is getting more submissions. This is great. The deadline for submissions for the September edition is Aug 28. Barbara wants to have much of the work done early as she will be traveling for about 1 month. Donna mentioned that the ROM has a quilt exhibit "Quilts: Made in Canada" until November 17, 2024. World of Threads in Oakville may have an exhibit again this year.

Membership Convener: Maria Trott

Thanks so much for taking on the role Maria. Maria will officially start at the September meeting. Marg Brown has agreed to mentor Maria at that meeting. There are enough new members now to order badges. We have been ordering name badges from Sherwood Engraving and they have a minimum order. Maria noted that there are less costly options. For now, we will continue to use engraved badges. Barbara noted that there may be members that cannot use a magnetic badge. Margaret will

add a question regarding magnets or pins for badges to the membership application. There was a discussion about membership fees. Our current fee is \$45.00 for early applications and \$50.00 for applications received later. Two people used the old form from the web site to apply for membership with the old fee of \$45.00. The executive agreed to honor these applications. Margaret will update the membership application on the website. The idea of pro-rating membership was discussed but no firm decision was taken. The Fat Quarter Exchange was not discussed.

Website: Margaret Newey:

Margaret will continue to administer the website. The Website has been updated with the new executive members. The platform that the site was constructed on is difficult for her to modify. The executives felt that the Website would benefit from some updating. Margaret will do what she can.

Postcard Exchange: Margaret Newey

This was not discussed.

Sew and Chat: Margaret Newey

Margaret would like to resume in-person Sew and Chats. The Trinity United Church in Acton is available and is less expensive for a small group Sew and Chat. Margaret plans to ask the members about their preferences for the day of the week. Irene and Donna noted that working members cannot attend on weekdays.

Facebook: Margaret Newey- nothing to report.

Librarian Convener: Jane Symmes

Jane has re-inventoried the books, and they are now being stored at Jane's home. Jane has drafted a notice to let other Guilds know about our book sale. This was approved by the executive. Jane will forward the information to local Guilds. The CQA has contact information.

Workshop Convener: Jane Symmes

Thanks for continuing in the position Jane. Three workshops are planned for this year, Oct 19th, April 5th and May 24.

Workshop ideas:

Anne Balanyk to teach the bag workshop.

Postcard Construction

Margaret: Film at Five quilt

Fidget quilts

Family Day: teach a kid to sew

Publicity Convener: Kimberlee Moore

Thanks, Kimberlee, for taking the role. The executive members are very pleased to have you join. I was amazed that you seemed to create content for the role as the meeting progressed! Kim will bring flyers to the September meeting that the members can take home to post in various locations of their choosing. (church, library, retail store bulletin boards, ect). The idea of starting an Instagram account was discussed. This is exciting and would open our story and content to many new people. It was felt that likely it would be ok to post quilt, fiber art pictures, but pictures of members would need to be cleared with that person. Likely we should ask the membership before proceeding. Maria noted that the public do not really know that we exist and what we do. We need to highlight our Outreach work more and stress that the Guild is meant to be an inclusive place for sewers of all skill levels. Guild membership does not presume expert quilting, just enthusiasm! Melinda mentioned that she was organizing an "event" at the Acton Town Hall November 21,22,23. She thinks it is a good way to display fiber art created by Guild members. Displaying our craft is a good way to advertise the Guild. Melinda did not have full details regarding any admission fees, or the original purpose of the event.

The meeting finished at 9:50 pm.

Submitted D May Sept 6, 2024.

Done is better than perfect.