

Connections
Membership Meeting
November 15, 2022
Attendance: 31
Zoom Attendance: 4
Recorder: Linda Bakian

Opening

Janet Daly welcomed members to the meeting and reminded them they must park in spots marked CH and have a Connection sign on the dashboard. The parking lot map was displayed on the screen and can be found on Connections' website. In addition, parking is available on Circle Avenue, Reynen Court, and John Street.

Webpage

Donna Singer displayed the webpage, njconnections.com, on the overhead screen and reviewed the information on it. The roster on the membership page is password protected, and Janet shared the code with the group.

Membership Report

Sue Steele announced there are now 204 members including 3 women who joined before membership was suspended and read their names aloud.

Election of Officers

The election for board members was held. The membership voted unanimously for the slate. The new Board is:

- Brenda Brunelle: President
- Jackie Hinrichs: First Vice President
- Marianne Siccardi: Second Vice President
- Lee Atieh: Treasurer
- Susan Steele: Membership Chair
- Linda Bakian: Secretary

Janet thanked the Nominating Committee, Patricia McDonagh, Denise Santora Mosher, and Donna Singer for their work. The attending members voted yes by acclamation.

Treasurers Report

- Lee Atieh informed the group there's a balance of \$14,063 in the Connections' bank account. Dues are due by December 1, and Janet Daly will send a reminder to members

Activity Leaders' Announcements

- Denise Santora reminded everyone about the November 22 luncheon at the Village Grill, at 12pm. Thirty one people have signed up. Today is the last time to join the group. The cost is \$23 per person. Denise will send an email to all attendees confirming their reservation.
Janet complimented Denise on the good lunches and good prices.

- Carolyn Seibel announced the upcoming trips:
 - The December 1: Bucks County Playhouse with lunch in Lambertville is sold out, and there are four people on the waiting list. The restaurant will be decorated for the holiday, and it will be a festive day..
 - A Valentine's Day tea at the Harmony Tea House in Westwood is scheduled for February 10. There are forty spots; a flyer will be sent out at the end of December.
 - A Brooklyn chocolate tour will take place in May.
- Donna Singer announced canasta is cancelled this week because of a food drive at the Ridgewood Town Hall and next week because of Thanksgiving. Women who are not going on the December 1 trip and would like to play canasta should contact Marilyn Chuebon. She will have the cards and trays. Fourteen members attended the cooking club's luncheon featuring French cooking. Donna Singer and Marie Cestola hosted. The cooking club will hold a potluck brunch at the church on Dec. 6. Donna will reach out to the Cooking Club Committee for help in organizing it. Attendance is limited to members of the group but women are welcome to join the club.
- Activities Leader's Luncheon: The President thanked the activities leaders at a luncheon on November 9, at Justin's.
- Mystery Group: Janet asked if anyone attended a meeting at the church last Tuesday. Dana told her a group had met then. However, no Connections' meeting was scheduled for that time. Janet asked if anyone had been in attendance. No one had.
- Activities Leader's Meeting: Ideas were shared at a November 21 Zoom meeting of the board and activity leaders.
- Bridge Luncheon: Linda Bakian announced the bridge group is having a luncheon at The Ramsey Country Club, on Thursday, December 8, at 12 pm. All players are invited.
- Book Group 4 is meeting at the Northwest Senior Center.
- The Solo group member's holiday party is planned for December 11.

Recommended Changes to Policies and Procedures

Twenty new members joining in September created problems. Therefore, changes were made to the Policies and Procedures to facilitate incorporating new members. At present there are 205 members, and the total number will be capped at 225.

The changes to the Policies and Procedures were read to the members and the document is on the website with the changes highlighted. The changes will be voted on at the December 20 holiday meeting.

Janet ended the business section of the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Activity: Tie Dying