

Connections Membership Meeting

October 17, 2023

Attendance: 47

Recorder: Linda Bakian

President's Welcome

Brenda Brunelle thanked everyone for attending her 8th General Meeting as president and 10th overall.

Treasurer's Report

Lee Atieh

Membership Report

Susan Steele announced there are 220 members and the Board had voted to increase the maximum number of members to 250. A constitutional amendment is needed if the number of new members to be admitted each month is increased to more than five.

Susan told the group to have woman interested in joining to send in applications and to let her know if they would like to be a sponsor.

The new members were introduced:

- Annmarie Graziano sponsored by Lucie Fedeli
- Catherine Jacobson sponsored by Diane Lynch
- Virginia Cuce sponsored by Deb Dzubinsky
- Marilyn Cerrato sponsored by Brenda Scesney

Programs

Jacque Hinrichs announced the two programs for the remainder of the year:

- November: The magician Professor Harry Hocus will perform and the church's preschool children will attend.
- December: Holiday celebration.

Acknowledgment

Brenda noted the hard work of the two past Connections presidents, Donna Singer and Janet Daly. They're in charge of the technology at the meeting and because of their absence there was no Zoom. She thanked Bob Mosher for helping with the microphone.

Activity Leaders

- Opera Group: Brenda is the temporary leader. She asked for someone to step up and take on the role. *Dead Man Walking* will be shown at the AMC theater, in the Garden State Plaza, on Saturday, October 21, at 12:15.
- Ping Pong: This activity was suspended because of lack of attendance. Brenda asked anyone who is interested in chairing it to contact her. The Barn contributed ping pong balls and 8 paddles.

- Movie Club: Susan Cassell announced the next meeting will be on October 27 instead of October 20 because of a conflict with another church supported activity,
- Hiking: Sue Robertson announced the next hike will be on the New York City High Line. The group will meet at her house and walk to the Coach bus to NY at 8:30. The trail starts at 36th Street between 11th and 12th avenues.
- Walking Group: Danielle Manis spoke in Janet Daly's absence. The group meets at the Ridgewood Duck Pond. Walkers are texted on Sundays and asked to RSVP so Janet will know who's attending. If someone is late, they will wait for her. New members to the group are asked to send their cell phone numbers to Janet Daly.
- Luncheon Denise Santoro Mosher told the attendees the next luncheon at Due Fratelli may break a record. So far, 61 women have signed up. Wednesday, October 18, 2023, is the last day to sign up. November's luncheon will be at Mado in River Edge. Denise will send a email. Because of the holidays, there won't be a luncheon in December.
- Trips: Caroline Seibel thanked the women who attended the trip to see Some Like It Hot and reported all enjoyed it. The next one to Caramoor is sold out but there are four seats empty on the bus and if more tickets become available, she will notify the women on the waiting list. The trip committee is working on a trip in the spring. A trip to the Tropicana in Atlantic City is set for June 27 2024. Lunch, money for the casino, and a show, a tribute to Whiney Huston, are included.

Brenda closed the meeting by reciting a poem:

May there always be work
 For your hands to do—
 May your purse always hold
 A coin or two—
 May the sun always shine
 On your windowpane
 May a rainbow be certain
 To follow each rain—
 May the hand of a friend
 Always be near you
 With gladness to cheer you.

Performance: In celebration of Octoberfest Eric Kerssen played the accordion.