

Connections Membership Meeting

March 19, 2024

Attendance: 59

Zoom Attendance: 9

Recorder: Linda Bakian

Marianne Siccardi, Second Vice President, introduced herself and explained she would be running the meeting in place of the President, Jacquie Hinrichs, who was having surgery.

Treasurer's Report

Lee Atieh reported the ending balance in February was \$18,903.

Membership

Sue Steel announced seven new members would be introduced at today's general meeting bringing Connections membership to 224. While there is a waiting list, Sue thought everyone on it would be introduced by June. She thanked the women who volunteered to be sponsors asked anyone who was interested to speak with her.

The sponsor's responsibilities:

- Are to explain Connections:
 - o Website
 - o Parking
 - o Activity groups
 - o Contact information

The following new members were introduced:

- Beth Levine-sponsored by Denise Potter
- Jodi Levine-sponsored by Linda Bakian\
- Gretta O'Brien-sponsored by Monica Fennell
- Barbara Kardos sponsored by Dody Cobin
- Stacia Moser-sponsored by Joann Cooke
- Jean Place-sponsored by Shelley Mackey
- Carol Ciarlo-sponsored by Ann Swist

Activity Leaders

- Cooking Club : Donna Singer announced the cooking club just finished its Chinese New Year's Event. She's hoping to plan an activity for the end of June, possibly to be held at the church.
- Canasta : Donna Singer stated because the Ridgewood City Hall will not be available, there would be no meeting on April 18.
- Luncheon : Denise Santora Mosher reminded everyone the next luncheon is on April 2 at Mezza Luna in Allendale,. March 28 is the deadline for signing up. Luncheons will take place in May and June and resume in September.
- Hiking : Sue Robertson invited all new members who are interested in joining the group to see her. She's trying to hold two hikes a month, one on a flat surface and the other with elevation. On April 9, with a rain date of April 23, the flat hike will be on the Highline in New York City. Anyone who is not in the group but is interested in going should contact her.

- Trips : Carolyn Seibel informed the group the April 10 trip to see The Notebook sold out in 10 days, and there's a waiting list. Lunch is on the participant's own.

The trip to Atlantic City was cancelled because of a problem with the hotel. In the summer, members will receive a notice for a tea at Caramoor. On October 23 there will be a Best of Everything Brooklyn Tour with lunch at Junior's. Carolyn asked anyone who has a trip suggestion to contact her.

- Movie Group : Susan Cassell spoke about the successful Oscar party held on the day of the ceremony. It was a wine, hors de oeuvre, and chat party. The next meeting of the group will be on Friday, April 19. The two movies to be discussed are American Fiction and The Wife.

- The Walking Group : Janet Daly reminded everyone the walking group meets on Mondays, at 10am, at the last parking lot of the Ridgewood Duck Pond. The round trip walk is four miles, but a member can turn back at any time.

Presentation: Lorri Steinbacher, the director of the Ridgewood Library, Roberta Panjwani, assistant director, and Stacey Loscalzo, a literary consultant, talked about Great Spring 2024 Reads. The information will be posted on the Connections website.