

## Connections Membership Meeting

September 17, 2024

Attendance: 70

Zoom Attendance: 0

Recorder: Linda Bakian

Jacquie Hinrichs welcomed members to the first General Meeting since the summer.

### Nomination

Donna Singer announced Marilyn Chuebon has agreed to run for Second Vice President. The slate of officers will be presented at the October general meeting and voted on in November.

### Pastor Bruce

Jacquie Hinrichs introduced Pastor Bruce of FPC and thanked him for having the church host Connections. He responded he was happy Connections was back, and it's a wonderful group. Jacquie presented him with a donation for the new kitchen and the latest donation for the church. The pastor thanked the group.

### President's Information

- There are 20 available places on the Caramoor Trip.
- Dues are due by November 1, and if not received by Dec.1, the member will be deleted from the roster. This change is necessary to know the number of places available. At present there are 250 members and a space problem. There are women on the waiting list, and we would like to admit them. Jacquie asked the group to vote on the change and it was accepted.

### Treasurer's Report

Lee Atieh reported the August's ending balance was \$20,371.

### Membership

Jacquie introduced the new members:

- Abbe Dolobowsky (Sponsor: Janet Daly)
- Dorinda Angelo (Sponsor: Delores Laronca)
- Loretta McKenna (Sponsor: Carole Beiter)
- Marian Rutherford (Sponsor: Susan Cassell)
- Jean McDonough (Sponsor: Michele Summa)
- Linda Keesing (Sponsor: Danielle Manis)

### Activity Leaders

- Luncheon: Denise Santora Mosher reminded everyone the next luncheon is on Tuesday, September 20, at Fino's. Today is the last day to sign up. The next luncheon will be on October 30 at Andrea's in Waldwick, and Denise will send an email with the information.
- Trips: Carolyn Seibel told the group the Brooklyn Tour on October 23 is sold out, but there are still seats available for the trip to Caramoor. It includes a tour of the house,

a one hour concert by an opera singer, and tea. Carolyn is trying to arrange a trip to the Culinary Institute for the spring.

- Hiking: Sue Robertson invited all new members who are interested in joining the group to see her. Two hikes are held each month, the first includes a climb and the second is on a flat surface. Sue recommended using insect repellent and hats are helpful.
- Writing Group 2: Lauren Salvani spoke for Lisa Banta, the Writing Group leader. The group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 1-3. A prompt is sent before to give members a chance to think about what they want to write. The first twenty minutes of the meeting is spent writing, and the rest of the time is used for sharing.
- Canasta: Donna Singer, the co-leader, reminded everyone the group meets on Thursdays, from 1-3, at the Ridgewood Village Hall.
- Cooking Club: Donna Singer announced a theme will be selected for October, and the women will meet in member's homes. There will be a cookie exchange in December.
- Opera Group: Brenda Brunelle told members the Opera Group meets at the AMC Theater, at the Shops at Riverside, in Hackensack. The next opera is *The Tales of Hoffman* on Saturday, October 1, at one o'clock. Attendees are welcome to bring friends.

#### Birthday Recognition

Jackie Hinrichs informed the group Danielle Manis has offered to send birthday greetings from Connections to members who would like to receive them. Also, member's birthdays could be posted at the General meeting. Additional information follow.

#### Activities

Marianne Siccardi told the group October's activity will be bingo, and today's is games followed by lunch. A desert table is set up.