

## Connections General Meeting

May 20, 2025

Attendance: 63

Zoom Attendance: 4

Recorder: Linda Bakian

### Marianne Siccardi: President

- Changes to Policies and Procedures
  - Photos of Connections' members at Connections' activities should NOT be posted to websites, Facebook pages, Instagram, or other social media platforms. It is our aim to protect the privacy of our members.
  - The board endeavors to resolve issues by consensus, however in the unlikely event an emergency presents itself, after fully discussing the matter, if it is impractical to carry such an issue to a future date, any member can call for a vote. Such a motion must be carried by a two thirds majority of whoever is in attendance.
- Fellowship Luncheon
  - The Fellowship Luncheon will be held on June 27. This date was chosen because Ridgewood High School is out and there will be lots of parking available.
  - This is an opportunity to meet people and the chance to chat.
  - Everyone is invited to attend.
- Emergency Form
  - Members who have not filled out the form were asked to do so.
  - Forms are available at the table at the back of the room

### Lee Atiah: Treasurer

- The starting balance was \$27,791.55. The final balance is \$24,417.04.

### Activity Leaders

- Denise Santora-Mosher
  - The next luncheon is on June 19 at Due Fratelli. The cost is \$30 and checks are due by June 12.
  - There will be a luncheon in July but not August.
- Donna Singer
  - Canasta
    - Twenty women attended a session.
    - If you would like to join the group and don't know how to play, we'll teach you.
    - The group will play in July but not August.
  - Cooking Group
    - The Northern Italian luncheon was a success.
    - A virtual cooking class with a Greek chef is being planned.
    - On Monday, June 30, there will be Mocktails and Appetizers, from 11:30 to 2:00.

- Nominating Committee
    - A new Second VP is needed. Responsibilities include finding space for activities and the monthly calendar.
    - If you know someone you can recommend, please do so.
    - Your help is needed to keep this organization running so step up.
- Janet Daly
  - Connections' Website
    - Janet gave an overview of the website including the:
      - Roster
      - Calendar page
      - Activities
      - Resources
    - If anyone is interested in learning or helping with the website, please contact Janet.
- Sue Robinson
  - Hiking
    - There will be a three mile hike on May 27, at the Saddle Brook Park, 760 Saddle River Road.
    - On June 10, there will be a hike with a bit of a climb, at Ringwood Manor.
    - The Hobbyists have invited the Hiking Group to join them on June 24 for a hike at Skyland Manor. If members would like to attend, there is a barbecue afterwards.
- Brenda Brunelle
  - Opera Activity
    - *The Barber of Seville*, by Rossini, is the next opera. It will be shown at the AMC Theater at the Shops at Riverside, and members are welcome to bring friends and family.
  - Zoom Book Club
    - There are eight members in The Zoom Book Club.
    - It meets the fourth Thursday of the month, at 7pm. May's book is *Here One Moment*, by Lianne Moriarty and the one for June is *Go as a River*.
  - Mah Jong Facilitator
    - Monday's Mah Jong group meets from 1-3, at the Riveredge Library.
- Diane Paoli
  - June 24 trip to the Botanical Gardens
    - There are two openings and a member can bring a friend. Email Sue Cassell if you're interested.
    - It's good to be on a waiting list but keep the date open.
  - October 26 Trip see *Just in Time*.
    - The cost is \$157 and money will be taken at June's general meeting.
  - December 11 trip is to Radio City to see the Rockettes

- Debbie Dziubinsky
  - Pickle Ball
    - Beginners and experienced players are invited to join.
    - The group will play until the end of June.
- Donna Singer
  - Connections emails.
    - Do not click on unsubscribe. If you do so, you will be taken off Constant Contact and no longer receive any Connections' emails. It's cumbersome to be put back into the system.
- Linda Brophy
  - Book Group 7 is having its first meeting on June 7, from 1-3, in the FPC library.
    - Members are asked to bring book suggestions and a summary of the plots.

Speaker: Carol Lafond  
The Roaring 20's: A Golden Age of Fraud