

NOTE: Dues for 2021

Please mail your \$50 check for 2021 guild dues to our Treasurer, Barbara Farrell, 73 Elm Street, East Longmeadow, MA 01028 **by December 31, 2020**. As always, a sliding scale or dues waiver is available for anyone for whom this will be a hardship – let us know.

Dues may also be paid via Venmo (<https://venmo.com>) but not by credit card: @Barbara-Farrell-29. If you have questions about using Venmo, please email Barbara Farrell: bjfarrell73@charter.net.

In order to be eligible for the UFO drawings in January, your 2021 dues **must be received by December 31, 2020**.

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**Northampton Modern Quilt Guild
Minutes & Meeting Notes**

December 6, 2020

Via Zoom due to Covid-19

Attendance: 26 Members

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Connie Lentz, seconded by Beth Russell-Smith, and unanimously approved.

Election of 2021 Officers

All of our 2020 officers are willing to serve another year, so Lee Sproull moved that the following slate of officers be approved:

- President - Julie Bermant
- Co-Vice-President - Betty MacLeod
- Co-Vice President - Sally Wright
- Treasurer - Barbara Farrell
- Secretary - Barbara Haugen

Betsey Wolfson seconded the motion and the slate was unanimously approved.

President’s Report

The text of Julie Bermant’s report for 2020 follows these minutes.

Treasurer’s Report

Barbara Farrell’s Treasurer’s Report for 2020 follows these minutes.

2021 Budget

Barbara Farrell presented the proposed 2021 budget, a copy of which follows these minutes.

She clarified the following items:

- \$150 for Zoom
 - We are grateful that Julie Bermant has allowed us to use her paid Zoom account thus far, but using her account requires that she be present for all our Zoom events.
 - We would like to free Julie of this responsibility & make it possible for other members of the guild to host Zoom guild events.
 - Barbara Farrell is researching two options:
 - Setting up a NMQG Zoom account
 - Using the Modern Quilt Guild’s account, but this requires that we sign up for the dates and times in advance.

- \$35 for Attorney General: Annual fee for registration as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Massachusetts.
- WIX: Our website builder and platform.

Before approving the budget, Sally Wright moved that the board come up with a proposal to partially reimburse Julie for the use of her Zoom account. Barbara Farrell seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Sherry Morgan moved that the 2021 budget be accepted as presented. Jane Nestel-Patt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Sharing member phone numbers within the guild

It has been suggested that we add our phone numbers to guild contact information so that members can call or text each other. Barbara Haugen will email our membership list requesting our personal phone numbers. No one should feel obliged to share, but all who wish to may reply to that email with their phone numbers, keeping them all on one email string.

Committees for 2021

Our guild board (the officers) have been meeting monthly to plan and keep things running smoothly. This is service and a time commitment, but it has also been a lot of fun – that’s why we are all willing to do this for another year!

We have really enjoyed the closer contact and getting to know each other better, and urge everyone – especially newer members – to consider joining a committee as a way of becoming more connected with the guild.

Program Committee

Current members are Sherry Morgan, Lauren Price, Julie Bermant, and Betty MacLeod. As both Julie and Betty are also officers, they would like to step back from this committee when there are others to take their places.

This committee oversees both the program part of our monthly meetings and the outside workshops we offer once or twice a year.

Betsey Wolfson volunteered to join the committee, and Debbie Lovejoy may have time to join as well once her leadership term with the Hands Across the Valley Guild is concluded.

Charity Committee

This committee will work to inspire us to make quilts for donation, and will gather and provide us with information on where we can donate, quilt dimensions preferred, etc.

Denise LeDuc volunteered as she has already been acquiring this kind of information. Connie Lentz and possibly Barbara Christ will join her.

Tech Committee

This committee will provide tech support during our monthly meetings (so Julie doesn’t have to juggle managing the tech while she is leading the meeting), and will work to improve our use of Zoom technology.

Nancy Bronstein and Whitney Gecker have volunteered.

Outreach Committee

Donna Thibault-Wong suggested reaching out to younger folks, especially teens. We have no formal plans for an outreach committee at this point, but will keep it in mind for the future.

PLEASE CONTACT JULIE (julie@jbermant.com) OR REPLY TO THIS EMAIL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN ONE OF THESE COMMITTEES.

Program Calendar for 2021

The 2021 calendar follows these minutes. We still need programs for May and June, as well as for the Fall.

As a result of Timna Tarr's suggestion, Julie has been in touch with the Phoenix Modern Quilt Guild about the possibility of a joint meeting to learn about each other's guilds.

Later in Spring, as we see where we are with the Covid pandemic, we will decide whether we want to meet in July and August. We will also wait until later in 2021 to decide whether or not to move our September meeting to the second Sunday so as not to conflict with the Labor Day weekend.

Spring and Fall Workshops

Both Julia Avery and Maria Shell have specified only 20 participants, but both are willing to expand that number a bit for an additional fee. \$35 per person will cover the complete cost of the Avery workshop, and \$45 per person will cover the Shell workshop.

For Julia Avery's March workshop we will ask for a fee of \$30-\$40 per person, but as always, we don't want the fee to be a barrier to participation. Contact Julie Bermant (julie@j.bermant.com) if you need a scholarship – no questions asked!

The Program Committee will open registration for the March workshop in January.

Suggestions for possible programs for the rest of the year

- Phoenix Modern Quilt Guild
 - As a result of Timna Tarr's suggestion, Julie has been in touch with the Phoenix Modern Quilt Guild about the possibility of a joint meeting to learn about each other's guilds.

- Machine Quilting on a Domestic Machine
 - Both straight line and free motion
 - Two separate programs – possibly tip-sharing panels rather than one presenter

- Designing with Negative Space
 - Tip-sharing panel – Diane Wespiser and Audrey Hyvonen interested.
 - This program should come before the machine quilting one. Design first, then sew.

PROGRAM

Quilters Trivia Game – Betty MacLeod and Lauren Price

What a great time we had!

Lots of laughter and silliness and experiencing each other in a whole different way. We also learned a bit. My personal favorites were the acronyms NESTY (Not Even Started Yet!) and WOMBAT (Waste of Money, Batting & Time!).

Members of the winning team – Sherry Morgan, Jane Nestel-Patt, Lauren Price, Lee Sproull, and Timna Tarr – will each receive an extra ticket for the UFO drawings in January.

Because Covid made our usual in-person Holiday Potluck and Fat Quarter Yankee Swap impossible this year, we were looking for something to somehow foster a festive camaraderie via Zoom, and Betty and Lauren's game absolutely fit the bill!

It also challenged us to learn how to share a PDF in the main meeting that could then be used in the trivia team breakout groups. Many thanks to Betty and Lauren (and Lauren's daughter, who supplied behind-the-scenes help!) for developing the game, and to the little practice group that met with them to iron out the tech logistics.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all of us for hanging in with Zoom, stretching our limits, and making this a wonderful guild year!

Barbara Haugen
Guild Secretary

President's Report for 2020

What a year this has been!

We started out 2020 not having had an annual meeting in December 2019 because of a snow storm, so decisions that are being made at today's meeting were delayed.

Our secretary, Barbara Haugen, was in Seattle with her brother for the first few months of the year, so Betsey Wolfson, who had been the previous treasurer, took over those duties until Barbara returned in March.

Barbara Farrell agreed to take over the role of Treasurer.

Sally Wright and Betty McLead agreed to co-lead as Vice Presidents.

Jeff was willing to stay on as President, but preferred to step down. It was not until the February meeting that I agreed to take over as President.

In February, we had visitors from the Material Girls Quilt Guild in Leominster and we talked about string/ scrap quilts.

In March, We talked about Quilt Con and those of us who had attended shared our thoughts. We also talked about the retreat that was scheduled for the beginning of May at the Fullerton Inn. We talked about being offered space for quilts at World Quilt New England that was scheduled for August, and decided against doing another raffle quilt. .

We talked about donating to the NEQM, and agreed to donate \$100.

And we made plans for future meetings.

And then....the world shut down.

We were able to pivot pretty quickly into an on line zoom format. Our first On line Meeting was in April.

Obviously, there are losses associated with not meeting in person. We don't get to enjoy each other's company and create moments of connection in the conversations that happen before and after a meeting. We don't get to see each other's work in person. We don't get the energy of sharing space.

But there are things that we DO get, that are unseen benefits.

We have been able to venture into each other's work spaces, and understand how different people set themselves up for creativity. Lee Sproul and Jeff Rutherford, Timna Tarr and I shared our space and our quilting journey. We have been able to share screens and see quilts more clearly than is possible on a large shared screen.

We were able to tour EQ8 while screen sharing with Diane Wespiser, understanding the program more readily in that format.

We have been able to be taught by people who live in other parts of the country, without having to leave our homes, or they theirs. We co-sponsored a workshop with the Twin States quilt guild to present a workshop with Sherry Lynn Wood.

We were able to discuss racism together, and connect the events occurring around us with our own understanding and lack of understanding. We were able to learn about quilting history from our own members, Carson Converse and Sherry Morgan. And then we were able to meet the Heritage Quilters, an African American quilting group from North Carolina and hear about their quilting journeys.

We connected with each other by sharing tips about the tools we like best. And we shared our creativity with each other by sending each other quilted postcards.

I want to acknowledge the hard work our board has done.

Barbara Haugan has kept us on track, keeping excellent minutes and creating the agenda each month. She reminds me of all the little pieces that need to be addressed, and makes my job so much easier! She also organized the Meet the Quilters section of our meeting, which we hope to continue in 2021. Feel free to email her suggestions!

Sally Wright has been our tech guru. She has organized our documents in google docs, and made the transition to online functioning so much easier, adding her organizational and tech understanding at every juncture! She also found and connected with the Heritage quilters to bring their stories to us.

Betty McLeod has brought creative ideas and willingness to follow through to the group. Thanks to her, we shared our favorite tools, and the quilted postcards, among other ideas. She worked hard with Lauren Price to bring the trivia game to fruition.

Barbara Farrell has kept our banking and accounting in order. She stepped in last year to do the mountains of paperwork needed for the quilt raffle, and then worked with Betsy Wolfson to transition the accounts. She keeps the big picture of finance in mind, while taking care of all the little pieces that keep us legal!

I also want to thank the people who worked behind the scenes in programming, especially Sherry Morgan and Lauren Price.

I am looking forward to 2021. A New, Different year. There have been benefits to this new way of being that we will likely carry into the future with us, even as this virus loses power.

We will continue to meet online for the foreseeable future.

We are hoping to expand our programming committee, and to restart a Charity Committee and create a tech committee. We also want to keep issues of racism in mind as we move forward.

Here's hoping 2021 brings us the opportunity to meet in person!

Julie Bermant
President NMQG

In January, we will share our UFO's (get them done and photographed by the end of December ! And don't forget to pay your dues before the end of this year to be eligible for raffle entries!) We will also talk about quilting goals for the year.

In February, we will have a presentation by Lee Sproul on mini scrap quilts/ exploring color and design.

In March, we will talk about Quilt Con online.

In April, Sally Wright will lead a workshop and discussion about color.

We will sponsor two 2-1/2 day workshops next year. Both online

Julia Graves will lead a workshop 3/13 and 3/20 from 1-3:30

Maria Shell will lead a workshop 9/18 and 9/25 in the afternoon.

Annual Report of the NMQG Treasurer

Bank Balance 1/1/2020 \$4,763.40

Bank Balance 12/1/2020 \$5,084.91

Petty Cash Balance 1/1/2020 \$ 7.98

Petty Cash Balance 12/1/2020

Income: Total \$1,812.75

YTD December 1, 2020

Membership dues

Bank Deposits \$1,807.50

Name Tag fines \$5.25

And guests

Expenses: Total \$1,528.74

Rent \$100.00

National Dues \$660.00

New England Quilt Museum Membership

 \$100.00

Blue Host (Domain Registration) \$17.99

WIX (Web Site Host) \$280.50 (2 years coverage)

Bank Charges \$24.00

Atty General Filing (MA) \$35.00

Mailings \$7.75

Purchase of Name Tags \$3.50

Heritage Quilters \$300.00

Profit/Loss YTD \$284.01

Prepared by Barbara J. Farrell Treasurer NMQG 12/01/2020

2021 Budget (For Discussion)

Current Bank Balance as of 12/1/2020 is \$5,084.91

Expenses

Rent	\$ 100.00	
Nationa Dues	\$ 660.00	
NE Quilt Museum	\$ 100.00	
Blue Host	\$ 20.00	
Atty General	\$ 35.00	
Mail	\$ 20.00	
Mthly Speakers	\$ 600.00	\$50 per month for members program presentation
WIX	\$ -	Paid through April 2022
Workshop Graves	\$ 700.00	Two sessions of 2.5 hours each with 20 participants @ \$35 fees would cover
Workshop : Shell	\$ 900.00	Two sessions 3 hours each with 20 participants @ 45 fees would cover
Prizes	\$ 100.00	
Zoom	\$ 160.00	Cost depends on # of hosts \$160 one host \$302 two hosts
TOTAL	\$ 3,395.00	\$ 1,795.00 if workshop participants pay the \$1600

Income

Members	\$ 2,200.00	if all members renew <i>44 as two members are waived</i> What is a good number to plan with ? Currently 26 members have renewed \$ 1,200.00 Received to date two are waived because they provided programming and chose not to take the cash
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2021 Program Calendar

DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
Jan 3	UFO Show & Tell & Prize Drawings + Personal Quilting Goals for 2021	
Feb 7	Mini Scraps	Lee Sproul
Mar 7	QuiltCon Recap: Reports from members on the QuiltCon workshops & lectures they attended	
Mar 13	1-3:30pm "Amazing Abstracts" Workshop	Julia Graves
Mar 20	1-3:30pm "Amazing Abstracts" Workshop	Julia Graves
Apr 4	Hue-Saturation-Value & Julia Graves workshop report	Sally Wright
May 2		
Jun 6		
<i>Jul 4</i>	<i>We can decide in Spring whether to have July and August meetings</i>	
<i>Aug 1</i>		
Sep 5	<i>Change to the 12th because of Labor Day?</i>	
Sep 18	"Making Prints Out of Solids" Workshop	Maria Shell
Sep 25	"Making Prints Out of Solids" Workshop	Maria Shell
Oct 3		
Nov 7		
Dec 5	Annual Meeting	