

NORTHAMPTON MODERN QUILT GUILD

Minutes – June 7, 2020

Via Zoom due to Covid-19

Attendance: 20 Members and 2 Guests

QUILTING AND RACIAL JUSTICE

Guild President Julie Bermant began the meeting by inviting a discussion of the pain and conflict that our country is experiencing around issues of race and how they affect our quilting community, and particularly the modern quilt movement, which owes so much to African American quilters like those of [Gee's Bend](#).

We spoke about the need for greater exploration and acknowledgement of the history of Black quilting in America, as well as for creation of pathways to greater inclusivity in our local guild.

Inclusivity will be a continuing agenda item, and we are compiling a list of ideas and resources [here](#). If there is something you'd like to add to the list, please email Charlotte Davenport cdavenport847@gmail.com. Feel free to post them to our Facebook page as well.

BUSINESS MEETING

Sherri Lynn Wood's Improv Layered Curves workshop was a positive experience for those who attended, several of whom have taken and/or would like to take [another online workshop with her](#).

Mancuso's World Quilt New England in August has been cancelled for this year. We expect to have the same opportunity for engagement next year, and for this year can attend their [Online Quilt Festival](#), June 25-29.

Do we want to consider joining with the Twin States MQG for programming? Yes! Julie is a member of both guilds & can liaise. They are currently planning an online workshop with [Amy Friend](#).

Vote on motions regarding spending for members who present programs and for workshops by outside presenters. We forgot to discuss or vote on this issue (probably because we were all focused on the racial discussion), so it will appear on July's meeting agenda.

Vote on whether to have Zoom meetings in July & August, and or a Zoom retreat.

Yes! to meetings in July and August.

Program for July meeting: My First Quilt. See details below.

Possible program for August: My Most Challenging Quilt.

We didn't discuss a Zoom retreat.

MQG pins are available. They have improved the design so the “pins” are now actually 2-piece magnets. Email Barbara Farrell bjfarrell73@charter.net if you want to pick one up or have it mailed to you.

Treasurer’s report: End of April funds on hand: \$4,520.41 in checking account and \$6.73 in petty cash. No income or expenses for May.

Up Close and Personal

Many thanks to Lee Sproull and Jeff Rutherford for sharing their quilts, quilting journeys, and studios with us during our April and May meetings! This is such a lovely way to get to know each other better.

Jeff mentioned his new sewing machine and also the sewing table he thinks is really great. Here are links for those interested: [Juki TL-2010Q](#) and [SewEzi Portable Sewing Table](#).

Program: Quilt Inspiration

Sally Wright’s inspiration came from African American quilter Rosie Lee Tompkins. *[Secretary’s Note: Check out this 2013 [Sherri Lynn Wood blog post discussing Rosie Lee’s quilts with Eli Leon](#). Their discussion incorporates many of the critiquing tools we learned from Carson.]*

Julie Bermant was inspired by fabric collage artist Susan Carlson. Susan offers online teaching including her “[Thursday Night in My Studio](#)” sessions which are presented live and then on video for \$5 per session.

Barbara Haugen drew inspiration from a string quilt “attributed to Aunt Etna” which is featured in Roderick Kiracofe’s book [Unconventional and Unexpected: American Quilts Below the Radar 1950-2000](#). Several photos from the book are available on the [author’s website](#) and also in blog book reviews by [Amy Friend](#) and [Rita Hodge](#).

My First Quilt – July 5th meeting program

Please **reply to this email with a photo of your first quilt**. We will put all the photos together in one presentation and when your quilt is shown, we’d love to hear why and for whom you came to make it.