

President Fannin called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Chaplain Jean Hemphill gave the invocation, followed by the pledges to the flags.

The minutes of the January 8th meeting have been approved, and a copy is available for review at the Membership table. The minutes have also been posted on our website.

Melinda Mantel invited three members to introduce their guests. Following the introductions she welcomed our newest member, Janet MacLaren to our club.

Marcy Riordan reminded members of the cut-off date for reservations for the March 5th meeting is February 28th. All reservations or cancellations must be received by that date.

Paula Lindsay thanked all of the volunteers for the Meals on Wheels deliveries. She noted there were a few slots still open for February and then circulated the sign-up sheets for February through April.

D' Stone briefly outlined the purpose of the Sunshine Committee and invited new members to join the Committee. President Fannin noted the passing of the husband of Joan Morris and a long-time former member Nancy Morton.

President Fannin thanked members who participated in the Student Art Festival: Pat Donnelly, Anne Harman, Selma Piner, and Betty Knapp.

Liz Maravelas gave the treasurer's report: The checking account balance is \$1,576.38. The money market balance is \$17,988.71, which includes \$6,419.21 received from Wells Fargo representing dividends from our bonds. In addition, our dues to State were \$2,520 and to District were \$340. She then reported on the Arts Festival and thanked all of the Arts CSP women who helped with it.

June Boyd, Education CSP Chair, reported this year's Sally Southhall Cotten Scholarship recipient is River Bondurant.

Sherry Springer reported that Home Life's next meeting will have a guest speaker from Peletah Ministries, who have resurrected the operation of the Little Red Bookmobile under Nikki Ingianni's tutelage.

President Fannin announced the proposed budget for this year will be presented to the membership at the March meeting. She will send a copy of the proposed budget via e-mail to the membership for their review prior to the meeting, and it will be on the website.

Mary Brown asked the membership to give President Fannin a "great big hand for the wonderful website."

President Fannin outlined the various options suggested at last month's meeting regarding the Ruth Harper Award. As there is no more room on the bowl for the engraving of any more names a decision is required as to how to proceed. Members contacted her with their thoughts and as a result of all the discussion, the Board voted to recommend we dispense with the engraved bowl and go to an individual engraved award for the recipient. A motion was made by Melinda Mantel to dispense with the bowl and present future recipients with an individually engraved memento. The motion was seconded by Joyce Weller and unanimously approved.

The Board also moved to recommend that the Ruth Harper Award name be changed to the New Bern Woman's Club, Club Woman of the Year. Mary Jo Fox moved to approve the name change and the motion was seconded by Franky Waters. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board also moved to recommend that in the future the Club Woman of the Year Award would be presented only to one woman each year. Linda Cotten moved for the award presentation to a single individual. Anne Harman seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

The District Arts Festival is scheduled to take place in Beaufort on Saturday, February 21st. The NBWC is responsible for a continental breakfast and a door prize. She invited members to attend and said the club will pay the \$5 registration fee for members wishing to do so.

The NBWC has agreed to accept the Preservation Foundation's invitation to participate in the Saturday, April 21st parade commemorating George Washington's Southern Tour.

It was decided that next month we will invite members to bring items to be donated to MERCI Clinic. Suggested items will be listed in next month's newsletter.

The North Carolina Clubwomen's quarterly newsletter has begun sending it via e-mail. After discussion it was determined that the newsletter would be sent to one e-mail site and it would then be forwarded to our membership.

Mary Lynne Desmond introduced Priscilla Miller of MERCI Clinic, who spoke on the role of MERCI Clinic's role in New Bern and how women can take better care of themselves.

Following the program the membership rose to recite the Collect. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Rawlings, Recording Secretary