**CSR/SC Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, INC**

**Chapter Advisory Board Meeting – February 22, 2018**

**The Red Pepper, 752 Silver Bluff Rd., Aiken, SC**

**Meeting called to order:** by President Judie Travis at 11:35 a.m. Thanks to Material Girls for hosting. Absent were Anita Drennon, Sally Klutz, Marge Mitchell, Lenaya Raack and Louise Schmidt. Introduction and welcome to Erin Stoudemire as the chapter’s new Social Media Coordinator.

**Present:** Judie Travis, Erin Stoudemire, Cheri Dowd, Chris McDowell, Sandy Costanzo, Joyce Bowers, Ellen Macklin, Joyce Sinclair, Tammy Newman, Lesly Owings, Kristy Granberg and Kathy McCartney.

**Secretary’s Report:** The December 7, 2017 CAB meeting minutes were posted online. No changes were recommended. Kristy Granberg made a motion to approve. Joyce Sinclair seconded – all in favor. A get better soon card was sent to Lesly Owings for her knee injury. Sympathy cards were sent to Joyce Sinclair and Lesly Owings.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Beginning balance was $15,619.60 as of December 7, 2017. Income was $530.00 from membership rebates, $300.00 from newsletter ads and $5441.22 from special events. Expenses were $73.87 for programs and special events and $146.10 for newsletter costs. Checkbook balance as of February 22, 2018 was $21, 670.85. Funds earmarked for events are $3260.00 for Rae Cumbie and $5531.10 for the 2018 retreat. Funds available are $12,879.75. The Rae Cumbie event has 20 enrolled for the full event and a total of 23 for the trunk show. The 2018 retreat if full with 26 attending.

Kristy Granberg, Sandy Costanzo and Joyce Sinclair met in February 2018 to plan the budget. The proposed budget has a total income of $15,722.00 and total expenses of $15,956.79 with a deficit of $234.79. The deficit is due to the chapter paying for the Chapter Give Back as well as some expenses for the annual meeting and picnic.

Joyce Sinclair and Marge Mitchell reviewed the proposed budget and found no errors.

Kristy Granberg made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Ellen Macklin seconded – all in favor.

**President’s Report:** Everything for the Rae Cumbie event is moving along smoothly. The caterer is secured with the requested menu at a cost of $8.00 per person per meal. Ashland Methodist Church in Columbia, SC is reserved and the meeting room will be set up the morning of the event.

A break was called for lunch at 12:02 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:25 p.m.

Judie Travis has given event flyers for the Rae Cumbie event to House of Fabrics in Columbia, SC who will also post the information on their website. An attempt was made to email members at large in our area to inform them of this event but National can’t release member information due to privacy restrictions. Reservations for Friday evening dinner have been made at Bistro on the Boulevard in Irmo, SC at 6:00 p.m. for 22 people.

The rules for Part 2 of the ASG fabric contest were in Notions magazine this month and are also available online at the ASG website. An article from our chapter was also in the latest issue of Notions magazine.

We now have a Social Media Coordinator, Erin Stoudemire, and the chapter is paying her membership fee this year as a trial to determine how beneficial this is to the chapter.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership** - (Lenaya Raack) - Lenaya was not present. There were 92 members in the previous quarter ending November 2017. There are currently 97 members. We have 2 new members, 8 renewed memberships, 5 expired memberships, and 1 transfer membership. Lenaya has sent thank yous to those members renewing their memberships.

**Retail Liaison** - (Kathy McCartney) - Kathy has made contact with those businesses who purchased advertising last year to get renewals for the newsletter. We currently have $340.00 in advertising funds. Kathy plans to contact a new business in Orangeburg, SC as well as A Place in Time Again which has reopened in North, SC.

**E-Mail Coordinator** - (Chris McDowell) No news. Chris is no longer having problems with returned newsletters.

**Education Programmer** - (Anita Drennon)

Rae Cumbie event: Cheri Dowd is finishing the planning of the event. It will be held at Ashland Methodist Church in Columbia, SC and hosted by Sew Little Time neighborhood group. Rae has provided Cheri with a list of things she needs to have available: risers for the cutting table (various members have volunteered to bring what they have), 4 irons and ironing boards (Judie Travis will bring 3 of each and Cheri Dowd will bring 1 of each), a flipchart or chalkboard and easel (Chris McDowell can get a flipchart and Joyce Bowers has an easel), extension cords (Judie and Kristy Granberg will bring). Cheri will bring 2 large cutting mats. The church will have the tables set up the morning of the event and Sew Little Time and other chapter members will complete the event preparations. A final email reminder will be sent to attendees on February 23, 2018.

2018 retreat: After discussion, it was agreed upon that the mini workshops would continue. Judie Travis, Joyce Sinclair, Anita Drennon and possible Kristy Granberg will lead them.

Picnic: A picnic site has been reserved for June 2, 2018 at Gibson Lake Park in Lexington, SC. The Moonlight Stitchers will host. The décor will be minimal and there will be no theme. The food will be potluck and dessert will be strawberry shortcake provided by the chapter.

Sulky event: Will be held September 22, 2018 in Aiken, SC at Cedar Creek Clubhouse. It is a chapter give back and a nominal fee of $10.00 will be charged for those attending. There will be a limit of 25 attendees. Participants will need to bring a sewing machine and a brown bag lunch.

Bling event: Will be held October 13, 2018 with Linda Barrett-Hanslip as the educator. There will be a trunk show, a presentation on when, where and how to “bling” items and a small sewing project. A location to hold the event is still needed. Anita Drennon will check the availability of Cumberland Village in Aiken, SC and Chris McDowell will check the availability of Fairview Presbyterian Church in North Augusta, SC.

Annual meeting: Has been confirmed for November 10, 2018 at Lexington Country Club in Lexington, SC. The authors of The Tunic Bible have been contacted as possible special guests and are checking their calendar. We don’t know their availability or cost as of now. There will be a scrap challenge with 3 categories: garment, lap or baby quilt, and other project. Sewers must limit scrap size to under ½ yard and fabric needs to be scraps from another project. Three prizes of a one year membership renewal will be awarded for best in each category. Members must be present to win.

Judie Travis will look into options for future national educator events for our chapter. She will try to make contact with Pam Damour whose specialty is home dec and purses as well as other educators present at the Expo in Atlanta, GA in March.

**2nd VP – Neighborhood Group Coordinator** - (Ellen Macklin) – Ellen held a Neighborhood Group Leaders Workshop in January. It went well with 7 members in attendance. Ellen plans on making the meeting an annual event. She will also make monthly contact with the Neighborhood Group leaders. She plans on sending information to those that the chapter made contact with at the fair to encourage them to visit a neighborhood group. She is planning on scheduling 3 recruiting events per year (this year possibly at a new store in Orangeburg, SC and also in Blythewood, SC).

**Website Coordinator** - (Marie Lussier) – Marie was not present. The website is still out of date. Go Daddy has already been paid $509.00 for 3 years. Judie Travis has someone who is willing to assist Marie if she would like assistance and will contact Marie to see if this would be of help. Erin Stroudemire has removed the old Facebook page. She will send Sandy Costanzo the link to the new Facebook page for publication in the newsletter.

**Newsletter** - (Sandy Costanzo) – The next newletter will be published February 28, 2018. Sandy has only had 2 neighborhood groups submit articles for the newsletter and is having continual issues in getting that information. She would like these write-ups to include approximately 5 good pictures of what the group is working on. The newsletter is 21 pages with the current advertisers. There will be 2 member articles and a video review article from a neighborhood group. Sandy recommended we drop the Yahoo group and move everything to MyGrove and also to add Erin Stoudemire as Social Media Coordinator to the ASG site information.

**1st VP** - (Kristy Granberg) – Kristy is open to suggestions for a chapter fundraiser to replace the silent auction. She suggested a 50/50 raffle. Gift baskets have been suggested but Judie Travis has received some negative feedback on that idea. Another suggestion was a yard sale where either all of the proceeds go to the chapter or a 50/50 split between the chapter and the donating member. Kathy McCartney suggested selling any vintage patterns that might be in the traveling pattern box.

**Old Business** - Judie Travis

Kristy Granberg suggested tabling the idea of moving the 2019 retreat to a new location as St. Christopher Retreat Center is still available and ready to book for 2019.

Erin Stoudemire presented her thoughts as the new Social Media Coordinator on ways to grow our chapter. She has been pushing posts on the chapter’s Facebook page and views have increased 500%. She asked members to interact more by liking, following and sharing as this will cause the page to become more visible to prospective members. She would like the neighborhood groups to send her group events to post. She suggested posting for new members on For Sale/Wanted pages. For now she is focusing on Facebook and MyGrove but would like to utilize other media such as Instagram and Twitter to draw in younger members. She suggested the possibility of organizing “Sip and Sew” events. Erin and Ellen Macklin will try to coordinate an event and present a proposal at the next CAB meeting. Sandy Costanzo suggested asking Becca Robinson from Sew Suite Studios in Lexington, SC to possibly host an ASG sewing event for junior sewers.

Judie presented the Revision to the Chapter’s Standing Rules. Lenaya Raack, Anita Drennon and Judie reviewed and added revisions to the 2017 Standing Rules. Kristy Granberg made a motion to accept all changes. Joyce Sinclair seconded – all in favor.

**New Business** - Judie Travis

ASG Fabric Contest Part 2: The chapter wishes to participate in the contest in which the winner is based strictly on percentage of participants. The winning chapter will win a national educator event. It was decided that those within the chapter who participate will be guaranteed a free space at that event should the chapter win. Also, the submitted projects will be showcased at the annual meeting in November. Kristy Granberg will send Sandy Costano information on the contest for publication in the newsletter.

**Neighborhood Group Updates** - See newsletter for details

**Connecting Threads**  - Louise Schmidt - Charleston

**Garment Group** - Diane Lackey - West Columbia

**Material Girls** - Cheri Dowd and Marge Mitchell - Aiken

**Moonlight Stitchers** - Sally Kluttz - Lexington

**Rockin Bobbins** - Mary Plexico - Columbia

**Seaside Stitchers** - Mary Corsaro

**Sew Little Time** - Ann Mace - Summerville

**Sew-n-Sew -** Eve Hutchinson

**Sewn Together** - Margaret Shearouse and Tammy Newman - North Augusta

**Stylish Fit** - Margaret Tuck - North Augusta

**Next CAB meeting:** Saturday, May 19, 2018 at Nick’s House of Pizza in West Columbia (after Garment Group) at 12:15 p.m.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.