

NER Breakfast meeting at NGC Convention, Grand Rapids, MI 5/6/16

The NER breakfast meeting was called to order at 8:00 am at the Hilton Amway Hotel by Director, Vera Bowen, who announced that we had a quorum for the meeting.

The NER Officers were introduced as well as the State Presidents, former Directors, and former NGC President, Barbara May.

The Director asked for committee reports. Nancy Donaldson announced the Fall NER meeting will be held October 17th & 18th at the Doubletree Hotel in New Milford, MA. Dianne Bullock is the Chair of that meeting. The hotel fee is \$129.00/night. A Symposium will follow from Oct. 18th through Oct. 20th.

Becky Linney, Chair of the NGC Fall Board Meeting, announced the NGC Fall Board Meeting will be held in Portland, Maine, September 28th to 30th. The room rate at the Holiday Inn By the Bay is \$199/night.

Director Vera Bowen announced the Publicity Press Books awards, which were judged by Publicity Chairman, Joyce Kimball. See enclosure.

Director Bowen announced that Susan Hinkel, presently State President of the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont will be the incoming NER Director for the next term.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the dissolution of the eight NGC regions. Since the outcome is unknown at this time, speculation could only take place until the final decision comes about, perhaps later this year. The members present expressed unanimously that they want some kind of New England connection if the regions are dissolved and most probably that would be to incorporate the group of 6 states.

Director Bowen will keep the members apprised of the NGC outcome. A motion was made by Cathy Felton, seconded by Pam Hebert, as follows "I move that Vera Bowen and/or her representative/s on the NER Board of NGC, Inc. should be allowed to research and seek all information related to getting a 501c3 and/or incorporation for the NER with a report on this research to be presented at the fall 2016 NER meeting."

NGC President, Sandy Robinson joined us briefly to thank us for our work.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 am

Susan Hinkel, Acting Recording Secretary.