



MINUTES

American Quilt Study Group Executive Committee

March 19, 2026

Zoom

Executive Committee members present: Millie Kehrli, Joanna Evans, Kristin Barrus, Sharon Pinka, Selina Toedter (taking minutes), Nancy Bavor (past president) and Carrie Dell (Executive Director)

Millie Kehrli called the board meeting to order at 6:03PM EST.

Motion to accept the agenda was offered by Joanna Evans, seconded by Millie Kehrli. None opposed, the motion passes.

January 19, 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed. A few typos were adjusted.

Motion to approve the minutes with changes was made by Sharon Pinka. Seconded by Selina Toedter. Motion passed with none opposed.

Endowment Fund Policy

The Executive Committee reviewed the original draft of the Endowment Fund Policy written by Nancy Bavor during their December Meeting. There were a few suggested changes which were incorporated and presented in this version.

The suggestion is to integrate 4-7% of the Endowment Fund into our annual budgets going forward, based on the market and economy. If we do not start taking funds out, we may not be in alignment with Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds (UPMIFA) recommendations.

Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to send our recommendation that the full board review this updated draft made by Millie Kehrli, seconded by Joanna Evans. None opposed, the motion passes.

The draft will be sent to the full board for discussion and approval at their next meeting. If approved, the Executive Committee will meet again to decide an amount we recommend be withdrawn.

Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation Update

Millie has received emails from Ronda McAllen (member, bylaws committee member) and Elizabeth Eynon Kokrda (nonprofit attorney) with their recommendations for changes to the bylaws. Some of the recommendations do not align with the results of 2025 Strategic Planning and are not open to change.

More clarification of the charge of the Bylaws Committee will be necessary. We will also have to communicate the recommendations from the attorney. For example, we need to remove the requirement to publish changes in *Blanket Statements* from our bylaws. This was a recommended change from our attorney and is an outdated mode of communication.

We will also clarify that any changes the Bylaws Committee recommends will have to be approved by our attorney and the board of directors. Millie will send these notes to the Bylaws Committee in addition to an agenda for their first meeting.

The Articles of Incorporation will need to be amended as well, with the assistance of the Bylaws Committee, Executive Committee, and board of directors. The exact process for this is unknown at the moment.

Offering a place for feedback about internal operations is still under discussion. Town halls are a promising place, but we anticipate continued friction with the mission statement change etc. 'Highest standards of research' is especially difficult as we are an interdisciplinary organization that draws upon a wide range of methodologies.

Millie will be putting together an email to the Bylaws Committee with a simplified version of Elizabeth's email so the board can discuss before the next *Blanket Statements* release.

Strategic Planning updates

Airtable is the most promising platform to track progress on the 2025 Strategic Planning objectives. There are no further updates at this time.

Quiltcon and Winter Virtual Seminar

We recruited 52 new members at Quiltcon in Raleigh, a continued growth over the last two years of attendance. Attendance at Quiltcon this year was a record high.

Prospective members seemed very enthusiastic about our offerings and the team representing AQSG did very well presenting what we do. The quilts that Alicia Thomas brought from Virginia Quilt Museum were a draw. Getting a 10x20 booth and doing a quilt turning are promising ideas for next year. Some potential sponsors (Accuquilt, HandiQuilter, etc.) were met with and industry connections (The Dairy Barn, Quiltfolk) were made.

Winter Virtual Seminar was a popular draw at Quiltcon. We have 196 members and 17 nonmembers registered at this time. Some members have just signed up for the free offerings.

Our social media following continues to grow, which helps with WVS attendance and overall membership.

Remaining business

Carrie updated us on health insurance status for her and Becky. There are tax credits and plans available according to our tax accountant and insurance broker. Carrie will send the different scenarios for cost/coverage via email for us to address before her health insurance is terminated on March 31st.

Seminar committee met ahead of Lincoln, 2026. Carrie will be the point-person for collecting physical donations. We are still missing show chairs, so Leslie and Carrie are acting as co-chairs. Silent auction and study center chairs are also unfilled positions. Study centers and lunch speakers were briefly discussed.

Next Meetings

Second Wednesdays continue to work well. Next meetings will be May 13, July 8, September 9, and November 11.

Move by Joanna Evans to conclude the meeting was seconded by Kristin Barrus and opposed by none. The meeting adjourned at 7:19.

Respectfully submitted,

Selina Faulkner Toedter
March 11, 2026

