

Rug Braiders International

February 7, 2026 General Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – President Rissa Moore called the meeting to order at 1:03pmEST. There were 34 attendees.
 2. **Approve/Add to the Agenda** – Mary Ragno requested adding information about the leadership retreat to the agenda. Rissa Moore added it under New Business/Old Business. Christine Manges made a motion to approve. Mary Hibbard seconded. The agenda was approved.
 3. **Amend/Approve Minutes for November Meeting** – Patsy Simon asked for clarification regarding future classes. Gail Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Ragno seconded. The minutes were approved.
 4. **Treasurers Report** – Sherry Chilcutt presented the treasurer's report which is attached to the agenda. She reported that we are in conference season so we have a high balance in our account right now. She also reported that she has finished 1099's for 2025.
 5. **New Business/Old Business** – Karen Levendusky discussed the Leadership Conference to be held at Oneida Community Mansion House March 12-15. All board members, committee chairs, and committee members were invited to help plan the future of the guild. Any members who have ideas or topics they would like us to consider can email Karen at klevendusky@gmail.com.
 6. **Committees**
 - a. **Conference** – Sherry Chilcutt discussed the upcoming conference at the Seabeck Conference Center in Seabeck, Washington on April 30-May 3, 2026. Registration has been going well thanks to our conference registrar, Gail Stephens. There are still four double rooms available. Gail encouraged braiders who would like to attend to register soon to while classes still have availability.
 - b. **Education** – Christine Manges discussed classes to be held at the conference and upcoming Zoom classes which are on the website.
 - c. **Exhibit** – Rissa Moore reported for Pam Rowan that the exhibit Committee has funds available for shipping rugs and chair pads to exhibits and to Seabeck for the braiding challenge.
 - d. **Finance** – Rissa Moore reported for Rhonda Beaupre that all is going well.
 - e. **Fundraising/Scholarship** – Kris McDermet reported that the committee is working on a rug and chair pads to raffle at the conference. Donna Dunn commented that we need to register in each state where we solicit donations.
 - f. **Media** – Christine Manges presented the initial website pages for each committee on the website.
 - g. **Membership** – Marlene Breitenbach and Mary Ragno reported that we are up to 208 members. Mary has posted on social media that half price memberships are available after February 1 which has boosted membership.
 - h. **Nominating** – Mary Hibbard reported that we have a candidate for secretary for next year. Anyone who would like to be considered for the position can contact Mary at mhibbard@frontiernet.net. The slate of officers will be presented in April to be voted on in May.
 - i. **Programs** – Christine Manges presented the upcoming Special Event on the Lincoln Rug which she will be presenting on February 21.
 7. **Demo** – Yvonne Iten-Scott and Christine Manges presented a demo on Photographing Braids and Altering Images.
 8. **Adjournment** – Show and Tell was postponed until next month. A motion to adjourn was made by Gail Stephens. Patsy Simon seconded. President Rissa Moore adjourned the meeting at 2:50pm.
- Submitted by Karen Levendusky 2/11/2026