

# Haddonfield Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship for Business

5/1/2011

## MAY MINUTES

Monthly Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship.  
29 Friends were in attendance.

The **Clerk** read: Caroline Fox, 1841, #155, p.131, Faith and Practice

Peace and Social Concerns Committee Annual Report is postponed to June.

The **Clerk** read a letter of application from Melanie Monk requesting membership in Meeting. Diane Snyder reported that members of Care Committee had visited Melanie and that the Committee is recommending that the Meeting approve Melanie's application. According to our practice, the decision will be held over for one month.

**Diane Snyder** gave the Care Committee Annual Report (Attached). The Committee continues its core responsibilities of care for members and attenders of Haddonfield Meeting, including its annual meeting with representatives from Religious Education and Children's Inclusion Committees to review and update the Meeting's *Child Safety/Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures*. (See copy on the bulletin board.) A Committee Working Group was formed to create a website replacement for the long-standing and now laid down "Newsletter". The site has been launched and is in full operation.

Friends accepted the report with thanks.

The Annual Report fom Children's Inclusion Committee is not ready. Some Friends advised the Meeting that this Committee is currently not functioning. The situation is referred to Structures Committee. (Childcare is not affected.)

**John Donch** gave the Quarterly Treasurer's Report (attached). Friends accepted the report with thanks.

Finance Committee's Annual Report is held over until June. The fiscal year ends June 30th.

There is \$1000.00 in the Meeting's Special Concerns Fund. Finance Committee recommends that it be given to **Kitty Mizuno** for the "FRANKLINS" presentation in June at Lawnside School. Friends approved.

**Kevin Heizer** gave us an update on the Caretaker Situation. The Property Committee has developed two possible options:

Option 1: to keep the status quo – The custodian would be expected to open and close the building and put up/take down tables and chairs, as needed, and do everything

necessary to keep the building and grounds in good condition, except for the cleaning and snow removal. We would continue to hire out for these services

Option 2: same as option 1 - except that grass-cutting and spring and fall clean-ups also would be contracted out. There would be no salary paid, but custodian (and family) could live in the house, rent-free. Calculations indicate that there is not a significant difference in cost between option 1 and option 2.

Brian Connelly, Lou Tomassetti and a temporary contractor will cut the grass through the summer or until someone is hired on as the new Custodian and a decision is made between option 1 and option 2.

The Committee, composed of representatives from Property, Finance, Care and Memorial and Grave Committees, decided to start interviewing candidates and assess the available skills to help them decide which option to go with. They are now putting together a committee to do this.

**Bob Brookes** presented a Minute from the Memorial and Graveyard Committee, attached) sharing their concern about the chronic non-care of the Graveyard for the past several years. The efforts of volunteers are appreciated but are not enough. The most obvious result of failure to do seasonal maintenance and needed mowing is proliferation of invasive plants such as poison ivy and poke weed. In short, the Meeting Graveyard looks as if we don't care about it. The Committee recommends that the Meeting hire a professional landscape contractor to care for this part of our property

The Minute was accepted with thanks to the Committee for clearly laying out the problem for us.

There were no decisions made at this time regarding this concern. It will be a part of the continuing discussion about the care and maintenance of the Meeting House and grounds.

**Jake McGlaughlin** gave an updated report for Nominating Committee. There have been some changes since last month's Meeting for Business and more are expected. In addition, Jake has not yet talked with all of the committee members who are phasing out of their committee memberships.

Friends approved the Nominating Committee list as it now stands, understanding that it is not yet final. Jake will bring us up to date each month, as needed.

**Kitty Mizuno** brought us an update on the "Show Me the Franklins" presentation at Lawnside School. Efforts are now shifting toward publicizing the event. She has asked all of us to help spread the word to friends, family and people at workplaces and organizations we might belong to and in any other way we can think of. Friends suggested that she ask Scott Buchheit to take it to the Council of Churches and that she call the "What's On" local Newspaper

The Worship and Ministry Retreat Committee will need to ask for a contribution from individual members to cover the fee for the retreat leader, Pat McBee. It was suggested and approved that, since some other committees had not needed to use all of their budget allowance for this year, the required amount would just be taken from the budget and appropriate notational adjustments be made.

On June 19, during the FDS time, Les Hopton, a member of the PYM Financial Stewardship Committee will be with us to discuss the Yearly Meeting Budget and to explore the Meeting's approach to the Yearly Meeting financial crisis and how we can have an input. This will be followed by a covered dish lunch, with an opportunity, perhaps, for further conversation.

Another source of information is the PYM website, "pym.org" or you may send questions to Deedy Roberts.

The house next to our parking lot is for sale. Because of his past connections with the Meeting and the School, the owner contacted us to see if either we or the school would be interested in buying it. Bob Brookes called a Threshing Session at his home to discuss and consider the offer. Those Friends who attended concluded that considering the multiple needs of the property we already own, buying another one would not be practical at this time. Representing the session attendees, Bob brought the question to Meeting for Business and recommend that we decline the offer. The Meeting agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne R. Hoxie Heizer, Recording Clerk