

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
4/1/2012

APRIL MINUTES

Monthly Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship. The Clerk read a quote from Faith and Practice.

28 Friends were in attendance.

Diane Snyder presented Care Committee's recommendation of Elena Lahr-Vivaz for membership to the Meeting. The recommendation was held over for a month.

Friends discussed the called meeting of Quarterly Meeting. At the end of that meeting a process was established to come back to the Quarterly Meeting with proposals for contracts that set forth the tasks for paid staff to accomplish. Medford and Haddonfield Meetings were excluded from the list of monthly meetings expected to contribute financially to this purpose.

Connie Brookes presented a report on a loan from Friends Fiduciary Corporation. In the spring of 2011 Meeting approved a \$40,000 loan from Fiduciary for the new boiler. The Meeting did take out the loan, but contributions for the boiler exceeded the actual cost. Finance and Property Committees considered whether the loan should be repaid or the proceeds used for capital improvements. The interest rate on the loan is just at prime, and certain improvements must be made as soon as possible. They are the leaking foundation pier in the atrium, the front walkway bricks and curb, potholes in the parking lot, repointing of bricks in several locations around the building and repairs to the roof. Fiduciary would automatically debit the interest earned by the Meeting on Fiduciary investments. Finance Committee will work principal reduction in the budgets until the loan is repaid. Contributions to the General Fund are less than this year's budgeted amount. Meeting approved change in the use of the loan proceeds.

A few years ago Meeting approved a change in the tuition assistance policy for Meeting children at HFS. Aid is given to families who request it, rather than being automatically granted to Meeting families. Since then the Meeting has paid 1/3 of the tuition of Meeting children. However, the investment income allocated to that purpose is less than that amount. It is anticipated that the requested assistance next year will be \$21,134, and investment income is expected to be \$13,169. The recipient families are active Quakers. It was noted that Meeting/School relations have improved significantly. One Friend suggested that in the past some Meeting members resented the financial strain the former tuition policy imposed. To avoid that we might want to commit only to use the investment funds allocated for that purpose. Meeting approved using only the income from the Education Fund for tuition assistance.

John Donch noted that the relationship between the Meeting and the School has improved tremendously. If people are available to attend Meeting for Worship with the School on Wednesday mornings, they are encouraged to do so.

Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business concluded with a period of worship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.