

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
5/6/2012

MAY MINUTES

Monthly Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship.

28 Friends were in attendance.

Diane Snyder presented Care Committee's recommendation of Elena Lahr-Vivaz for membership to the Meeting. Meeting approved the recommendation.

Diane Snyder presented the Care Committee Annual Report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Friends accepted the report as offered.

Connie Brookes presented the preliminary budget, a copy of which is attached hereto. The final budget will be presented in June. Suggestions from members of the Meeting are welcome. The Finance Committee used as a base its expected results for fiscal year 2012. It estimated 2013 contributions and based expenses on that number. Expenses for 2012 were down from the budgeted amount because of the warm winter. That cannot be anticipated for next year. Reductions were made in the amounts for PYM and Quarterly Meeting. Insurance expenses will increase because workers compensation premiums will increase. The value of Kevin Heizer's home is included in salary and therefore must be included in the workers compensation coverage. Also higher limits in liability insurance coverage were elected. The 2012 amount reflected in the budget report does not include the last insurance payment. Approval of the budget will be held over until the June Business Meeting.

Priscilla Adams presented for Children's Inclusion Committee. The Meeting has more children than in the prior year, including more babies. Therefore we need more child care providers. The Committee's budget is ½ of actual expenses. Maria Alvarez has been a loving Meeting caregiver for many years. She can only be here every other week, however. Rob McDevitt is filling in and is helping the Committee with coordination and social media communications. Child care is also being provided at more events than previously. The Committee wants Meeting to consider a few queries. How does the Meeting feel led to provide child care? Do we want to limit the ages of children in the child care room to seven and under during worship? Do we want to provide child care during business meeting or First Day School? If during First Day School, do we want to limit coverage to the ages of children not old enough to participate? Do we want to provide child care during committee meetings? What about other events, such as Work Day? Priscilla asked that this be a prayerful discerning process to consider these important questions. What is our corporate leading as a Meeting?

One member noted that when children come to meeting for worship and leave early often the parents leave. Finance Committee did not reduce the child care budget because discouraging the presence of children would harm the Meeting.

One member supports encouraging parents to bring children to meeting for worship and First Day School. She also encourages a discussion with parents about why they put children in child care instead of Meeting for Worship and/or First Day School

Would it be possible to review trends and parents' desires over the next year? Anything we do for our children in an investment. Perhaps the process would encourage additional people to serve on the Children's Inclusion Committee?

There may be good reasons for a child to attend child care rather than Meeting events.

Can we do a formal survey on the web and on paper to determine what the Meeting values? Will people consider having a donation process to finance child care, such as a donation box during refreshments?

Often children do not attend First Day School because they are involved in a project during the child care session.

Can we say that the Meeting supports the budget line item for child care? Friends indicated agreement.

Priscilla asked whether the Committee should continue providing care as it has for the balance of the fiscal year. Meeting agreed.

Pam Anderson agreed to work on a Survey Monkey project to determine the facts concerning child care, as well as the desires of parents. Priscilla will work with her on drafting the survey questions.

Judy Owens praised the Meeting's shift to embracing children and families in a loving way.

Connie Brookes presented the first draft of recommendations of Nominating Committee for next year, a copy of which is attached hereto. New committees begin on July 1, the same as our fiscal year. Quite often clerks will invite new members to attend committee meetings for a month or two before July 1. A Librarian and Assistant Librarian will be appointed and the Library Committee laid down. The librarians should feel free to call on Meeting members for assistance. Kate Varevice will join Religious Education Committee, although her name is not on the report. Linda Lotz will be leaving Religious Education Committee. Inspira Williams and Mary Anne Gaffney will clerk Worship & Ministry.

David Austin presented the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee concerning the "Travelling Friends," a copy of which is attached hereto. Initially Traveling Friends wanted to know if they can meet at our Meeting for certain activities, such as extended worship. They also said they needed a space for an informal loose program, such as Bible study, discussion, etc. However, they do not seem to want these things now. The Committee recommends that they be invited to attend, as everyone is. If they wish to have an extended session, that can be requested. Space can be requested for specific activities in the same manner that Meeting members and attenders follow. One family has

children, one with special needs, which may continue to burden our child care services. The family however has agreed to work with the Meeting to meet their children's needs.

Inspira Williams wants to bring Christian White to the FGC meeting this year. FGC will match Haddonfield Meeting's assistance for Christian to attend. The Meeting has not spent anything this year for conference assistance, although \$500 is budgeted. Meeting approved \$255 in financial assistance.

Linda Lotz discussed the financial problems of PYM. One proposal is to lay down the Burlington Conference Center. PYM does not contribute to the PA Unemployment Compensation Program, and questions have been raised about the adequacy of PYM's severance packages. There is a desire among some for PYM to contribute to the Unemployment Program. Some people think that not much attention is being paid to the impact of layoffs on the people involved.

One member thought it would be appropriate for the Meeting to express its concern for the staff who have been laid off and the personnel process. A few members will draft a minute for communication to PYM on the human issues involved in these problems. They will bring it to the next Business Meeting.

Members discussed the conclusions of the last Quarterly Meeting. Priscilla Adams will serve as an independent contractor. Separate incorporation of the Quarter will proceed. Quarterly Meeting will purchase insurance to cover participants. The next year will be a transition year while the Quarter adjusts to the new reality.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.