

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
September 27, 2014

MINUTES

The Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship. The Clerk read Query # 3, "Spiritual Nurture, Ministry and Religious Education," p. 207, Faith and Practice.

19 Friends were in attendance.

Kathy Fastiggi presented a questionnaire for Friends to use to list their priorities for Friends Council on National Legislation to choose for the 114th Congress. FCNL lobbies for legislation that reflects Friends' testimonies. She also circulated FCNL's Legislative Priorities for the 113th Congress, which can be found at <http://fcnl.org/about/govern/priorities/113/>. A copy of the questionnaire is attached hereto. Friends completed the questionnaires and gave them to Kathy.

The Clerk announced that Meeting has received a \$10,000 bequest from the Estate of Bonnie Drago. Use of the bequest was referred to Finance Committee for recommendations, which it will share with Meeting in the next few months.

Inspira Williams presented the Annual Report of Worship and Ministry Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto. She thanked Mary Anne Gaffney for the assistance she gives in organizing the work of the Committee. On March 2 Mary Noland presented a First Day School discussion on the "Gathered Meeting." In home worship has been provided for homebound Friends. Meetings for Worship for Healing have been held bi-monthly, which the attendees report as very meaningful. Thanksgiving Day worship was held here. The Committee will contribute to the coordination of future Christmas Eve meetings for worship. It is planning a retreat for all members and attenders on April 26. Bob Brookes rotated off the Committee in June 2013 and Karen Dillon began service.

The Clerk presented a Care Committee recommendation on the marriage of Drew Biehl and Ken Jones. A Clearness Committee for Marriage has met with them. They will be getting married on May 31, 2014 at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware. Care Committee recommends that the marriage go forward under the care of Haddonfield Friends Meeting and requests approval. Friends approved.

The Clerk reported on the correspondence she has received. Ann Miller requested that her membership be transferred to Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. The Clerk also presented an update on Ann's family. Her daughter Audrey is a senior at Reed College and thinking about veterinary school after a year off. Dana is a senior in high school and will be going to Bowdoin College this fall and playing volleyball there. Carmen is happy with her job, and Ann is happily working in a private practice. Carmen and Ann were married under the care of Haddonfield Meeting in June, 2007. They will be getting married "legally" at Haddonfield Borough Hall around March 13. At Judy's request, Ann included in her note the Meeting's draft minute regarding same-sex marriage, which was approved sometime after October 1994. Judy noted that Meeting records are

unclear on the exact text of the minute or the date it was adopted. The draft minute provided by Ann reads as follows:

Friends recognize that spiritually enriching relationships are those that are enduring and unselfish and provide mutual support and tenderness. To affirm equal status and equal recognition of a loving commitment made between any two individuals supports our own testimonies of equality among us all. It is our belief that committed love shared between two persons of common gender can be the same as committed love shared between two persons of opposite gender. The very nature of our beliefs often prompts difficult moral dialogue within ourselves and among our membership.

The current Quaker marriage process is a product of one of these ongoing dialogues. Establishing clearness offers individuals, engaged to each other, an opportunity to examine, along with other members of meeting, the future role they will play as a married couple and how that role extends to the meeting community. Clearness also provides the meeting an opportunity to help the couple understand the spiritual evolution in which they are about to engage. In agreeing to work through clearness and the marriage process, we accept an obligation of ongoing spiritual support of the commitment the couple have made to each other, and recognition that two people are living as one new entity. Because we are committed to the spiritual growth of all who attend Haddonfield Friends Meeting, we affirm our willingness to celebrate marriage with all couples, regardless of sexual orientation.

The Clerk also presented an update on the family of Anne Smith, a daughter of David and Carolyn Smith. Anne has been working towards peaceful, just and resilient communities in African countries for more than 20 years and was married under the care of the Meeting in September of 1997. She says that her two children, Beatrice and Benjamin, have benefited from wonderful life and educational experiences throughout their time in Africa. However, the family has begun to explore Westtown School more seriously for them as they move into high school. They have spent the past several months moving through the application and financial aid process for Westtown School.

The Clerk advised Friends of the called meeting of Haddonfield Quarter to discuss long-range planning on March 23 at 10 a.m. at Moorestown Meeting. Worship & Ministry Committee will hold a retreat on April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a progressive pot-luck dinner on March **29**. If anyone desires child care for that evening, he/she should advise Jake McGlaughlin. Today is the World Day of Prayer; service will be at 3 p.m. at the Christian Science Church in Haddonfield. Dan Gottlieb will be speaking at Medford Leas on March 29 at 11 a.m. Friends who wish to attend must RSVP to Medford Leas.

The next Meeting for Worship for Business will be held on April 13, 2014. We will receive Finance Committee's report on Friends Fiduciary Corporation and the Meeting's balance sheet. Care Committee will also present a membership update.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.

Please list your priorities for Friends Council on National Legislation's 114th Congress. See FCNL's website (www.fcnl.org) for information about projects. Kathy Fastiggi will be using our priorities to prepare a report for FCNL.

Priority One

Priority Two

Priority Three

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Worship and Ministry Committee
Annual Report
March 9, 2014

- Members of W&M committee attend the Religious Education Committee Meetings regularly to keep a continuation in the care of the quality of worship. In addition the committee presented a first day school on March 17, 2013 on “Vocal Ministry” facilitated by Bob Brookes. On March 2, 2014 Mary Noland facilitated a first day school on the “gathered meeting”.
- Peace Prayers have been held at HMM and led by Judy Barnes three times a year at the change of the seasons. Judy has laid down this responsibility as of the December Peace Prayers.
- In-Home visiting for worship to a few home-bound Friends have been continuing, particularly to Ranan Banerji and Judy Kruger. Judy has moved to Medford Leas and is attending meeting for worship there.
- Meetings for Healings are occurring bi-monthly. Although attendance is usually light, those in attendance report that the meetings are important to them.
- Joint committee meetings between Care and W&M are held twice a year.
- Thanksgiving Day worship were supported and held by W&M. The committee discussed their role in Christmas Eve activities and feedback on the 12/24/2013 meeting for worship and will contribute to coordinating the activities in the future.
- The committee is engaged in the planning of the April 26, 2014 spring retreat. The topic will be “Spiritual Gifts.
- The clerks from Worship and Ministry throughout the quarter have been meeting regularly to support each other’s work. One outgrowth of this was a Spiritual Formation group with members from several meetings which ended its work in November with a final retreat at HMM. The members of the group worshipped with us and our meeting provided lunch.

In June, Bob Brookes rotated off the committee. Karen Dillon began service on the committee in July. Continuing members of the committee are Linda Lotz, Inspira Williams, Francie Pagell, Mary Anne Gaffney, Lois Hinski, Melanie Monk and Karen Dillon