

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 # 2, "Meeting for Business," p. 206, Faith and Practice.

30 Friends were in attendance.

Friends approved the minutes of the January 2014 meeting for worship for business.

Drew Biehl presented the Recorder's Amended Annual Report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Kathy Fastiggi and Christian White are new members. Karin Sannwald and Bill Schmidt transferred out. Bonnie Drago and Howard McKinney died. We have 212 adults, 38 children, down 2 from 2012.

Drew Biehl presented the Care Committee Report. Care Committee received a request for reinstated membership from Jackie Doster and heartily recommends that the Meeting approve. Mary Noland stated that Jackie has cared for many of our older members. Friends approved the application.

Kathy Fastiggi mentioned FCNL's call for monthly meeting priorities for the 114th Congress. Kathy will collect Friends' surveys and aggregate them. She asks that we pray over this issue. Kathy circulated the questionnaire, a copy of which is attached hereto. Friends may respond on line and/or on hard copy. FCNL in particular wants young people to participate.

Christian White presented the Young Friends Report. Young Friends met in our meeting this weekend. Any adult can be a Friendly Adult Presence. Christian has a list of coming activities

Mary Noland presented a report on Young Adult Friends Spiritual Formation. PYM has a working group called Spiritual Formation. The working group has not met the needs of Young Adult Friends (18-35) as much as it wishes. There will be a planning meeting to consider the program on March 22, described on the attached flyer.

PJ Bielavitz presented on behalf of the Child Life Committee. Julianna [PelligrinoPeligrino](#) has indicated interest in assisting with day care. Another care provider will assist in scheduling. Julianna is a special education teacher in the Toms River school system, and the committee will confirm that her credentials are up to date with Toms River. Child Life Committee is requesting a waiver of the criminal background check requirement. Friends approved.

Sarah Greenblatt and Michelle Tartar presented two draft letters recommended by Peace and Social Concerns, copies of which are attached hereto. There is a legislative initiative in New Jersey to assist first offenders to obtain jobs. The proposed legislation would permit employers to ask about criminal background only if they are otherwise

ready to offer employment. This would make it easier for employers to consider life experience since the applicant was released from prison. The current system allows all former offenders to be screened out from employment. An Assembly committee is scheduled to consider this bill in May. The draft letter would go to each member of this committee. Bob Brookes suggested that the first sentence identify the meeting as an active faith community in New Jersey. Friends approved the letter with this one addition.

Linda Lotz presented the letter requesting that the Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission end the use of solitary confinement of juveniles. It was suggested that the letter include a statement that this policy is damaging juveniles psychologically, socially and spiritually. Friends approved the letter with this change.

Deedy Roberts and Rose Ketterer reported on the most recent Interim Meeting, including a report on PYM's Long Range Planning process. Deedy circulated a small notice about PYM thread gatherings. Rose spoke on the recommendations of the Long Range Planning Group, starting with the issue of PYM's not following through on minutes approved at Annual Sessions and interim meetings. Arthur Larrabee suggested that a process be adopted for proposed minutes to be seasoned at the monthly and quarterly meetings before adoption of a "foundational minute."

PYM Nominating Committee has a dreadful time filling even the most basic positions, indicating insufficient interest in PYM activities. The intent of the Long Range Planning Group is to reorganize the PYM structure so that it is more responsive to all members' needs. Rose presented an illustration of what the reorganized yearly meeting might look like. The illustration does not include staff. Around the circle for yearly meeting members is a Networking Committee, which would comprise a reservoir of friends who would help the yearly meeting communicate and network. Within the Community Committee are the current thread programs, clusters, sprints and youth programs. "Sprints" is the name of groups interested in single issues, which would meet as needed. Planning annual sessions is grueling for staff, and a cluster or sprint might handle those tasks instead.

Most committees and interim meeting would be laid down. Instead of Interim Meeting there would be two continuing sessions per year, two Saturdays per year, probably in October and March. There would be one representative from each quarter, and attendance would be open to all PYM members. Continuing Sessions are meant to be concerned with Yearly Meeting business in an atmosphere of celebration, with worship sharing and a full day of community.

There would be two councils, Administrative and Quaker Life. Administrative Council would handle important business of PYM, such as finances, real estate purchases, etc. Quaker Life Council would be responsible for seeing that minutes adopted at Continuing and Annual Sessions be implemented. Rose expressed her personal endorsement of the plan and hopes that friends will get actively involved in the planning process.

Virginia Barker asked about the timing of implementation of the plan. The new General Secretary will begin in the fall, and it will take two to three years to implement this plan. The new General Secretary will be very important in that process. Pam Anderson questioned whether there will be funding for monthly meetings to network with the

yearly meeting. Rose encouraged her to submit that question to Long Range Planning Group. John Sheffield suggested that PYM expand its written communications, such as reinstating a newsletter. The PYM website, as well as Haddonfield Meeting's, are difficult to navigate. Friends discussed the benefits and disadvantages of print v. online media. Rose requested that monthly meeting members send their comments to her, and she will share them with the Quarter. The hope is that the new structure will help us to carry out our testimonies and spiritual concerns.

Rose mentioned that it might be good to invite Arthur Larrabee to come to Haddonfield Meeting to discuss the long range planning process. Friends thanked Rose for bringing the news to our meeting in such a thoughtful manner. John Donch urged friends to embrace change.

Connie Brookes presented the Finance Committee report, a copy of which is attached hereto. 56% of the year has elapsed. Total income is at 62% of budget, and expenses are at 46%. However, contributions are only at 44% of budget, at a time of year when contributions are usually more than 50%. The reason we are over budget on income is that we received several thousand dollars of dividends from our participation in Friends Insurance Group. Also, we received a \$10,000 gift from The Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Mount Laurel. The president of the board of trustees of that church is the husband of Ventina Hershey, Director of Finance and Operations at the School. He clarified that the funds are intended to be used for property and reconditioning. So far it appears that there was no specific use of the funds intended. Connie recommended that Property Committee consider how the \$10,000 gift be used

Expenses are lower than budget because our contributions to Quarterly and Yearly Meetings have not yet been paid. Finance Committee will send out letters encouraging members and attenders to contribute and to contribute in greater amounts. Committee expenses are on track.

The Clerk reported on correspondence she has received:

- Haddonfield Historical Society contributed to Haddonfield Meeting a signed copy of Elizabeth Haddon Estaug 1680-1762.
- The Clerk received a Call for Workshop Proposals for Annual Sessions, with particular interest in multi-generational activities.
- She wrote Letters of Transfer for Karin Sannwald to Medford Meeting and Bill Schmidt to Central Philadelphia Meeting.

The Clerk reminded Friends of the calendar change this month. Covered dish will be held on Feb. 23 instead of Feb. 16. Quarterly Meeting will be held here, and we will provide the covered dish lunch.

Linda Lotz reported that our Traveling Minute for Kitty and Takashi Mizuno helped them in their travels among California meetings.

The Clerk received a request for a copy of the Meeting's minute on same gender marriage. She does not remember the date of the minute.

The next Meeting for Worship for Business will be held on March 9, 2014. We will consider the Annual Report of the Worship and Ministry Committee.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.

January 12, 2014
Amended 2/9/2014

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Recorder's report for 2013:

The figures contained in this report are based upon the following changes in 2013:

1. Kathy Fastiggi and Christian White were approved for membership. Christian will be listed as a "Member Child" until he reaches 21 years of age.
2. Karin Sannwald transferred to Medford Meeting and Bill Schmidt transferred to Central Philadelphia Meeting.
3. Bonnie Drago died.
4. Meeting Member children reaching the age of 21 (Born in 1992):
Melissa Carpenter 09/17/92

Respectfully submitted,
Drew Biehl

Do You Seek Deeper Spiritual Experience

Are You Led to Intergenerational Community?

We Invite You to a SAMPLE SESSION of our

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM

- Participate in worship sharing groups
- Grow in spiritual practice and faithful experience
- Move together in witness to the Eternal in our lives

YOUNG ADULT and Other Interested FRIENDS

Explore a Deeper Connection to One Another in the Spirit

SATURDAY MARCH 22nd, 11 AM – 12:30 PM
Arch Street Meeting, Hannah Penn
Room

If you are interested and want to learn more, talk with:
Amelia Diamond, aediamond7@gmail.com,
Jane Keller, janeckeller102@gmail.com,

Elizabeth Piersol-Schmidt, epiersolschmidt@pym.org,
Wade Wright, w9a8d7e6w@epix.net

Feb. 11, 2014

Assemblyman Gilbert Wilson
Camden City Hall
520 Market St., Suite 104
Camden, NJ 08102

Dear Assemblyman Wilson,

The Haddonfield Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, a Quaker meeting located in Camden County, is writing to express support for A3837. We hope that you will endorse this important legislation when the Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee considers it in May.

We support the Opportunity to Compete Act for several reasons. First, it gives state residents a fair chance to secure a job and contribute to the economy of their communities and the state. By removing barriers to legitimate forms of employment for those who have a previous criminal history, the law would discourage former offenders from returning to criminal activity that undermines the safety of our communities. Enabling former offenders to support themselves and their families through legitimate means would lessen the financial burden that taxpayers now bear for maintaining prisons and paying for social services.

We believe it is only fair to encourage constructive economic activity and unfair as well as counterproductive to promote practices that discourage it.

Sincerely,

Judith Owens
Clerk, Haddonfield Monthly Meeting

Cc:
State Rep. Charles Mainor, New Jersey-031B
State Rep. Samuel Fiocchi, New Jersey-001A
State Rep. Daniel Benson, New Jersey-014A
State Rep. Raj Mukherji, New Jersey-033B
State Rep. Joseph Cryan, New Jersey-020B
State Rep. Sean Kean, New Jersey-030A
State Rep. Gregory McGuckin, New Jersey-010A
State Rep. Erik Peterson, New Jersey-023B
State Rep. David Rible, New Jersey-030B
State Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, New Jersey-015B

February 11, 2014

Kevin M. Brown
Executive Director
Juvenile Justice Commission
P.O. Box 107
Trenton, NJ 08625-0107

Dear Director Brown

We are writing to support the Petition for Rulemaking in which the ACLU of New Jersey and other organizations have encouraged your agency to end the use of solitary confinement of juveniles.

As members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), we understand that earlier Friends felt solitary confinement would provide an opportunity for quiet reflection and personal growth. In practice today, it is used as a cruel form of punishment and is deeply harmful for people of all ages. Placing children and youth in solitary confinement damages them psychologically, socially, and physically.

As you must know far better than we, other states have demonstrated more effective alternatives to solitary confinement, which provide a more appropriate environment for children and youth while still protecting the public safety.

Signed,

On behalf of
Haddonfield Monthly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends