

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
January 11, 2015

MINUTES

The Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship. The Clerk read Query # 1, "Meeting for Worship," Faith and Practice, p.206.

23 Friends were in attendance.

Friends approved the minutes of the December 14 Meeting for Worship for Business.

Drew Biehl presented the Meeting Recorder's Annual Report. Membership dropped from 254 last year to 252 this year, 214 of whom are adults. Care Committee will assist the Recorder in identifying child members who reach the age of 21 in the year.

Deedy Roberts presented a report on the Interim Meeting held yesterday, a copy of which is attached hereto.

The Clerk read the minute that was approved yesterday at the PYM Called Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on racism and other –isms among Quakers. It is posted on the PYM website and is set forth below:

Friends tested and affirmed the work of our clerks and our elders, since being tasked during Annual Sessions in July 2014, to help discern a way forward in addressing many '-isms' including-racism, sexism, genderism and classism. Friends also heartily affirmed that as a Yearly Meeting we:

- Commit to increase our consciousness as Friends about the intersection of privilege and race in our culture and spiritual community. We know our knowledge is often limited by our own experiences and that we have much to learn from each other and from outside resources.
- Commit to move forward with our entire community. The yearly meeting is the community of all our individual Friends and monthly meetings and this work needs to be done with the involvement of all of us.
 - Commit to integrate this work into what we do in an ongoing way at the yearly meeting level. We want this work to become part of the fabric of what we do whenever we get together as yearly meeting members and attenders.

She noted that there is already another meeting planned to continue this discernment. Friends discussed their impressions, such as the inspiration from the 4th & Arch Streets Meeting House.

The Clerk read the Annual Report of the Library Group, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Kathy Fastiggi presented an update on the activities of FCNL. If anyone has a particular interest, go to the website of FCNL or talk to Kathy. FCNL has initiated a new opportunity for lobbying. It is a letter-writing program. Every month she will receive a template for a letter on a particular issue. The vocabulary for that issue will be included in that letter. The first issue is repeal of the authorization for the use of military force. The law was enacted right after 9/11, and since then the country has been involved in continuous war. FCNL wants to keep this issue alive. Peace & Social Concerns decided that the template letter for February should be copied and be available at the pot luck luncheon. Kathy will bring all supplies. Kathy receives many emails from FCNL, and those dealing with peace and racial justice she sends to Deedy for circulation meeting-wide. Each one contains a link to enable one to send a pre-composed lobbying email to Senators Booker and Menendez. She circulated a sheet for attendees to sign up if they want to receive each email from FCNL. FCNL wants to create a relationship with senators and representatives of all parties. Booker and Menendez have stated publicly that they want an engaged citizenry. Kathy has posted the latest newsletter of FCNL on the bulletin board. Bills to which FCNL is devoting attention are:

- Smarter Sentencing Act;
- Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act;
- End Racial Profiling Act.

Kathy will monitor these bills. Kathy also discussed a Saudi Arabian blogger who has been sentenced to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashes for the content of his writings. His attorney has been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. Anyone who wants to communicate his opposition to these injustices can go to the website of Amnesty International.

John Donch reported for Property Committee that the key lockbox has been installed. The Committee continues to discuss roof issues. Virginia Barker reported that the School will contribute \$3,000 to the cost of roof repair.

Pam Perry presented the preliminary report of the Nominating Committee. There have been some changes in committee staffing. Sheryl Harrison has resigned from Nominating Committee. Scott Buchheit has agreed to work with Memorial Service & Graveyard Committee and Priscilla Pharo from Finance Committee. David Austin has agreed to work with Religious Education. At the Quarterly Clerks meetings, recommendations were made that Care Committee be combined with Worship & Ministry, Religious Education be merged with Ministry of Child Life and Membership and Community be combined with Communication and Outreach. Pam will send the descriptions of the charges of each committee to the clerks of each committee. Members of each should consider whether each committee is functioning according to its mission and if not how the mission should be changed. Also, each committee should consider their personnel needs (which members are not actively serving on the committee, additional resources that are needed). Meeting members who feel that they are serving on the wrong committee should communicate that to Nominating Committee.

There are specific issues relating to Finance Committee. First, the Treasurer needs the committee to provide checks and balances to her work. Second, additional individuals need to be recruited to help increase contributions.

The Clerk reported on correspondence that she has received as well as upcoming calendar events.

- Letter from Clerks re “State of Meeting”, a copy of which is attached hereto. It is an alarm call. We are facing a crisis. Although our spiritual life is deepening, our financial situation is such that we may have to cease providing child care and/or heat. Each member must consider whether she is actively participating in the three aspects of meeting life: 1) attendance at meeting for worship; 2) financial support; 3) participating in committee activity.
- Update on Eisenstat painting, letter from Bob Scattergood – the painting may be ready for display next week. She read the letter, in which he discusses some memories of Haddonfield meeting and his life in South Jersey.
- The school wide rummage sale will be held on Jan. 19. Bring items for sale.
- Jan 24 Worship & Ministry Thread Gathering at HMM – Following are the workshops currently scheduled for the Thread Gathering:
 - **Can Art be Ministry?** Joey Hartmann-Dow will share the significance and struggle of being an artist in the context of her spiritual journey. Participants will be invited to reflect on their relationships with their own creativity, and its role in how we ask big questions, and find peace.
 - **The Ministry of Encouragement and Eldering in Meeting for Worship** with Brent Bill. One of the most blessed and important roles of an elder is that of being an encourager. How do we recover the Quaker way of supporting and nurturing members’ vocal ministry? At the same time, how do we provide spiritual and mindful care for those who need instruction or more direct intervention lest worship be completely derailed? We’ll explore together ways that we can be effective elders for the benefit of all.
 - **Mi Casa Su Casa** with Keira Wilson. Old friends are full of nostalgic stories, laughter, and fun. It always feels good to reconnect as if no time has passed. This workshop is about flexing our skills in the art of introduction and the creation of spaces where our new friends feel welcomed. The group will work on building their personal strengths as friendly faces in their community, as well as identifying and creating simple orientation practices they can share with their meeting or place of worship. It’s not every day that we understand someone else’s inside joke, but every day that we can share the stories and laughter that make the joke ring true.
 - **The Presence in the Midst** with Thomas Swain and the Middletown Monthly Meeting Men’s Group. “For, when I came into the silent assemblies of God’s people I felt a secret power among them which touched my heart; and as I gave way unto it I found the evil weakening in me and the good raised up; and so I became thus

knit and united unto them, hungering more and more after the increase of this power and life, whereby I might feel myself perfectly redeemed....” Robert Barclay, 1678. How can we encounter the Presence in the Midst in our Meetings today? How can we be guided by this Presence and Power in our worship and in our lives today?

- Feb 15 Moorestown MM, “Islam Explained,” Zahida Rahman – CD available on the furor that arose when Muslims attempted to build a mosque in Voorhees. This event conflicts with Peace & Social Concerns’ presentation on the Peter Mott house in Lawnside.
- Feb. 22 – Haddonfield Quarterly meeting at Newton.

The Clerk presented a list of resources on developing a dialogue about gun violence that her son Greg put together and shared with meetings in California. She has a few copies available for those who are interested.

February’s Meeting for Worship for Business is scheduled for Feb. 8. The Annual Reports of the Nominating and Memorial and Graveyard Committees, the Treasurer’s Quarterly Report, the Finance Committee’s Report on our Friends Fiduciary investments and our proposed Covenant Contributions to PYM and Haddonfield Quarter and an update on the Food from Friends program are due at that time.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.

January 10, 2015

PYM Interim Meeting

General Secretary, Christy Duncan Tessmer presented her report:

- She visited sixty-five monthly meetings, meeting three hundred Friends, covering 600 miles in five regions in ten days.
- She asks us to visit TWO meetings asking the questions "How does the truth fare with thee, Friend." Invite the meetings to share their stories. What's vital and/or where they are blocked. Log your visit at pym.org/visit
- She went with the World Council of Churches to Ferguson. She says we need to know our neighbors and to know the youth of the community.
- Share our monthly meeting's story on the PYM web site

Tricia Coscia has developed a Child Abuse Prevention Policy to comply with Pennsylvania law. It can be downloaded at [Handbook for Volunteers and Committees | Child Safety Practices](#)



Handbook for Volunteers and Committees | Child Safety Pr...

PYM Staff created a guidebook to help monthly meetings develop sound policies and navigate the laws and best practices related to caring for children in our meeting...

[View on www.pym.org](http://www.pym.org)

Preview by Yahoo

Hollister Knowlton asks us to save the date: February 21st from 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at Arch Street Friends Meeting House. All are welcome. There is no cost. Registration required.

In the afternoon Philadelphia Yearly Meeting had us reflect on how racism has been present in our lives. Many of our members were there and perhaps might like to share.

Respectfully,
Deedy Roberts

Haddonfield Friends Meeting

Library Committee Report

January 2015

Members: Veronica Salaam, Ruth Podolin, Jacquelyn Stevens

The library committee met on November 5th for our last official meeting before the holidays. Veronica shared what happened at the clerks meeting with the other committee members. Ruth reported that Lucy Savarese expressed interest in becoming a member and it was decided that we would invite her to our next meeting.

Jacquelyn continues to add books to the library's online catalog and she is adding new labels. The committee has purchased "Go Stand upon the Rock" by Samuel Michael Lemon, and we have renewed the Pendle Hill Pamphlets and the Friends Journal. There are also new purchases pending the New Year.

We continue to maintain the book swap cart in the library and have recently collected \$2.00 to put toward book purchases. The committee continues to take recommendations for the library from other committees as well as Meeting members.

Veronica Salaam January 9, 2015



Haddonfield Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

January 7, 2015

Dear Members and Attenders,

We are facing a crisis in Haddonfield Monthly Meeting.

Many of us feel that our Meeting has developed a deepening spiritual life and finds ways to serve as a valuable witness in the lives of its participants and in the larger life of the community.

However, at our current level of financial and committee participation, we may soon be forced to limit crucial but expensive functions of the Meeting, such as childcare and heat.

The disappearance of babysitting would diminish our ability to attract and retain young families since we would be without the services necessary to make our Meeting comfortable and attractive to them. Many of us would be uncomfortable in worship or committee meetings without heat. We fear that a day may come when one of us will call for help in dealing with the death of a loved one, and no one will answer. There are many other functions our Meeting currently provides that may no longer be available if we do not commit ourselves, individually and collectively, to the life of our community.

What is Haddonfield Meeting providing for you? Are you getting what you need from the Meeting? If you find spiritual nourishment here and our community is an important part of your spiritual life, are you actively participating in all three areas of our spiritual home: committee work, attending Meeting for Worship, and giving financial support to the best of your ability?

Please take the time to contemplate what Haddonfield Meeting means to you and then take a long look at how you are supporting the three crucial foundations.

The time to act is now.

Please make a financial contribution soon, and consider which Committee or project your energy could support.

In Peace,

Judy Owens, Clerk

Pam Perry, Assistant Clerk

Lisa Boyell, Treasurer

Justin Loughry, Clerk of Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Jake McGlaughlin, Clerk of Community Committee

Drew Biehl, Clerk of Care Committee