

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship for Business
February 8, 2015

MINUTES

The Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship. The Clerk read Query # 2, "Meeting for Business," Faith and Practice, p.206.

32 Friends were in attendance.

Friends approved the minutes of the January 11 Meeting for Worship for Business.

On behalf of the Religious Education and Child Life Committees, Deb Whiting described the current child care services being provided. The only time child care is available is during worship and adult First Day School. Rob and Dan McDevitt are our only child care providers, and they provide supervisory care only. We currently have no backup providers. The Religious Education Committee is currently generating a list of Meeting members and attenders who are willing to step in upon a few days' notice as child care backups. PJ is coordinating child care; contact him by phone or email if you are interested or know of an appropriate person 18 years old or older. We must have at least two adult supervisors of the children. If either Rob or Dan is unable to come on a Sunday, Rob will contact PJ for a backup. If PJ cannot arrange for at least two adult volunteers, PJ will ask Deedy to send an email saying that there will be no child care provided. Parents need to realize that they cannot leave children without two adults there to supervise.

Pam Perry presented the Annual Report of the Memorial and Graveyard Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto. She wanted to recognize the committee's appreciation for the hard work of Bob Brookes, Hiltrud Dodge, Art Dodge and Lois Hinski. There were three interments. The committee assisted the School in locating the unmarked grave of John Evans, an associate of John Woolman. The Clerk thanked the Committee for its hard work.

Virginia Barker reported on roof repairs. Bob Turrin is interviewing possible roofing companies. Two will be needed, one for the flat roof and one for the shingles. Mike Lane will replace the eyebrow windows.

Linda Lotz spoke on behalf of the Peace & Social Concerns Committee. She presented a new brochure for the Garden Project, a copy of which is attached hereto. She also requested that the Meeting approve a letter to the New Jersey Senate and Assembly supporting mental health care coverage without utilization management review. The ACA requires parity in the provision of coverage of physical and mental health issues. A copy of the letter is attached hereto.

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

- Membership Letter, May Weldon – The Clerk read May’s letter requesting membership. She will pass on the letter to Care Committee, which will establish a Clearness Committee.
- Newsletter – March 15 Deadline – Fran O’Neil – Fran has volunteered to restart our newsletter. March 15 is the deadline for the first issue.
- School Program – April 19. Ad hoc committee needed. The State of the School address is rescheduled for April 19 at the rise of covered dish. A small ad hoc committee is needed to help organize the event. The School community will be invited. Drew Biehl, Kathy Donch and Dave Austin will assist.
- Eisenstat Painting on display in Library! It looks beautiful. The Clerk has written to Bob Scattergood and Bob and Connie Brookes to thank them.
- News from Anne Smith in Zambia. Her daughter Beatrice will be attending Westtown School next year. This year will be Anne’s last year working in Zambia.
- February 15 – Haddonfield FDS, “Stereotypes and Misperceptions” – Linda Shockley. She is the President of the Lawnside Historical Society. A copy of the brochure for that event is attached hereto.
- February 15 – Moorestown MM, “Islam Explained.”
- February 21 – “Climate, Race and Justice: We’re all in this Together.” Eco-Justice Working Group conference, Arch St. Meeting House, 9:30 – 4pm. Register on-line. A copy of the brochure is attached hereto and will be posted on the bulletin board.
- February 22 – Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting, Newton MM. The agenda has been posted, and a copy is attached hereto.
- March 1 – we are invited to Medford Meeting, where Christie Duncan-Tessmer will be speaking. A copy of that invitation is attached hereto.

Inspira announced that the FGLBTQ Concerns Committee is meeting at Burlington Meeting House on _____. [PYM website] Also, Interim Meeting will take place next Saturday, Feb. 14.

Friends discussed the “Crisis in Meeting” letter, including themes and ideas for a process to address these concerns. Are there additional themes that we should address? Can we agree on a process to maintain the impetus we have on the life of the Meeting? The Clerk re-read the letter, and a copy is attached. The themes that the Clerk has been hearing are children’s needs, process for committee and business meetings, are we overlooking younger or newer attenders, how we retain members and check in on those we haven’t seen for a while. Hospitality and covered dish. Should we be trying to simplify and ask less or energize and ask more? Eldering – improving the awareness of vocal ministry. Are we welcoming and accessible to disabled members/attenders and those of other races? How will the combining of committees work and will we lose valuable functions? One Friend added the need for more fund-raising. Another raised the question of how we see ourselves in the wider Haddonfield community. Outreach is another theme. More social activities to increase the sense of community. Communication among committee members is a problem. Fundraising is a primary concern, but it must be handled tenderly so that individuals who cannot afford to contribute significantly are not discouraged from seeking membership.

The Clerk visualizes listening posts, where a group of people will meet and listen to those who have concerns on one or more of these problems. That small group can also work on solutions. We could brainstorm at a business meeting, although many people do not attend business meeting.

One Friend suggested that we reach out to PYM resources to assist monthly meetings with fundraising. Another suggested that it might be helpful to work with other meetings in Haddonfield Quarter on this issue.

The Clerk suggested that committees coordinate a special meeting to discuss one theme, to which Meeting members would be invited to focus on solutions. Also we will brainstorm about solutions to the fundraising problem at the March Meeting for Worship for Business. Friends approved.

March's Meeting for Worship for Business is scheduled for March 8. The following reports are due:

- Nominating Committee Annual Report
- Treasurer's Quarterly Report
- Finance Committee Report on Friends Fiduciary Investment
- Proposed Covenant Contribution to PYM and Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting
- Food From Friends Report

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.