

**Haddonfield Monthly Meeting**  
Meeting for Worship for Business  
March 13, 2016

MINUTES

The Meeting for Worship for Business began with a period of silent worship. The Clerk read Query # 7, "Spiritual Nurture, Ministry, and Religious Education," Faith and Practice, p.207.

30 Friends were in attendance.

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

Bill Patterson and John Donch gave an update on Giving from the Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Stewardship, a copy of which is attached hereto. We do not pass an offering plate or have fundraising events for the Meeting. John pointed out some highlights in the report. The Committee takes the number of adult members and divide that into the budget to come up with a suggested contribution. We receive donations from only 30% of our membership. \$555 was the suggested contribution per adult member. In 2015 51% of the money received was donated by 11% of the members. 40% of donations were less than 7% of the budgeted amount. If that 11% of members can no longer give or decide not to give, the Meeting will not be here. Page 6 of the report sets forth the statistics that back up the graphs. Each of us needs to weigh where we fit in the overall process of financial stewardship of the Meeting. Lisa Boyell suggested that this information be emailed to all members and attenders who use email. It was noted that most donations are made in the month of December. Some suggestions for increasing giving included putting a notice in each newsletter and telling people how to contribute. Many attenders do not know how to contribute. Just because we don't have a minister doesn't mean we don't need money for the Meeting. Friends thanked John and Bill for their presentation.

Lois Hinski presented the Annual Report of the Community, Outreach and Membership Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto. The Committee prepared for the Tri-Quarter Gathering. Rose Ketterer taught Quakerism 101. She sent out articles on basic Quakerism topics, such as clearness committees. That group is transitioning to discussions about Quakerism through a Quaker lens. At the last meeting attenders did not want to leave at the end. The Committee has engaged in worship sharing and scheduled a fund-raising dinner at Ariana Restaurant for Afghan children. There will be an ice cream and games social in April. The Historical Society of Haddonfield will be holding a book signing here on April 17. Trish Prete will welcome attenders. The Committee is considering a retreat at Pendle Hill next spring. The Committee welcomes suggestions and volunteers to work on suggested events. Lois will be visiting other meetings that have schools to learn about how they strengthen their relationships with their schools.

John Donch presented a report on the meeting of Haddonfield Quarter on Feb. 28, a copy of which is attached hereto. John Sheffield will be the Rising Clerk. The Quarter decided to hire Linda Lotz as an independent contractor to serve the Quarter. This role will incorporate the work she has been doing as clerk of the long range planning

committee of the Quarter. We are encouraged to visit monthly meetings within the Quarter once every other month. Intervisitation is very important. There are some very small meetings that need visitors. In turn, we learn from seeing how other meetings handle common issues.

Ginny Barker presented an updated report from Property Committee. It is awaiting approval from the Haddonfield Historical Commission on installation of our second floor shutters.

Justin Loughry presented a proposed minute on the refugee crisis from Peace & Social Concerns, a copy of which is attached hereto. Some are being settled in this area. There is formulaic funding available for them, but it is inflexible. It is the Committee's sense that there is an urgent unmet need for some of these individuals. It proposes that an emergency Refugee Assistance Fund be created. Donations will be solicited from individuals, not the Meeting itself. The funds will be accounted for separately in the Meeting's records. Justin is on the Committee for the Funds for Suffering of PYM, so he is familiar with these types of operations. This fund will carry out an important testimony of Friends. Next week's First Day School will have some people who are working with refugees to discuss ways that people can help. Friends approved the proposal.

The Clerk discussed recent correspondence and calendar reminders:

- Ted Jones of Barnegat Meeting has passed. His memorial service will be there on May 14 at 2 pm.
- We are encouraged to attend Continuing Sessions. Our average attendance at Yearly Meeting is four, and current registration for Continuing Sessions is three. The event is next Saturday at 4<sup>th</sup> and Arch.

David Smith announced that his son Eric and his wife are, with other Friends, starting a new meeting in Western Massachusetts.

The next Meeting for Worship for Business is scheduled for April 10.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kane Williams, Recording Clerk.

## DRAFT PRESENTATION TO MONTHLY MEETING

Haddonfield Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

### **Analysis of contribution patterns**

#### INTRODUCTION

This analysis is to help our members and attenders to understand how their contribution fits into the whole. In it we look at donation in a different perspective that we hope will help donors better understand how each of us is a part of the whole.

#### HISTORICALLY

We rely on our donors to make individual private judgements about what their level of contributions should be.

In our annual letter to our members we provide a copy of the approved Meeting budget. This letter gives a recommended contribution based on the amount of the approved budgeted general contribution, divided by the number of adult meeting members. In the 2015 letter this amount was \$555.00 per adult member.

We ask each member to give more or less of the suggested amount as their own budget and spiritual leadings would allow. Our budgeted amount for contributions has been short of the budget each year.

We have sometimes ask for special help to fund a particular concern that is not covered by our budget. When this happens some people give to the special concern and reduce the amount of their contributions to the meeting.

There are members that give the recommended annual general contribution and have made contributions to our Fiduciary Accounts i.e. Meeting House Rehabilitation Fund, Education Scholarship Fund (for member children that attend HFS) Graveyard Fund and other meeting fiduciary accounts.

#### UNDERSTANDING THE BREAKDOWN OF DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Bill Patterson agreed to do an analysis of the contributions that were made to the meeting for the last four years for the committees use.

The committee felt that these graphs, that Bill generated, should be a part of this report and are attached as Exhibit "A".

## GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF DONATIONS MADE TO MEETING

The Exhibit "A" graphs are for the calendar years 2015 to 2012. They breakdown the contributions that have been made and the percentage of donations made.

The graphs only represent the donations made to the meeting by members and attenders. They do not represent the number of our members that do not donate to our meeting.

In 2015 we had 217 adult members and we received 117 donations from members and attenders. Obviously, this is a reason that the \$555.00 is not a realistic amount of the recommended contribution to our meeting. Also, this is why our budget is short of its annual goal.

These graphs show the giving characteristics of our meetings members and attenders.

The left side of the bar represents the percentage of the total contributions made to the meeting. The adjoining bar represents the amount of money, as a percentage, was made by this percentage of donations.

The percentage of contributions are distributed according to the level of dollar categories. The categories are in \$500.00 increments. Exhibit "B" lists the categories of money received to the percentage that gave this money.

In the last four years, most of the money given to the meeting, was given by a very few donors.

*In 2015, 51% of the total money received was donated by 11% of the donors!!*

*In addition in 2015 40% of the donors gave less than 7% of the money for the budget!!*

## CONCLUSIONS

The Ad Hoc Financial Stewardship Committee has attempted to reach out to our members to advise them and inform them that we need financial support from our Members and Attenders. We hope that our donors will be more aware of our Meeting financial position.

We have a situation in which we are greatly dependent on a very few of our donors that give large contributions that sustain our Meeting.

The demographics of these few members would suggest that the Meeting's financial condition would be in great peril when they no longer would be able to support the Meeting with their very generous contributions.

Each of us need to weigh where we fit into the overall process of financial stewardship of the Meeting. The giving of financial support to the Meeting is not only a spiritual support of the Meeting but a practical application of money to keep the Meeting property maintained and provide the support for the cost associated with the requirements to continue the viability of the our faith community.

This analysis is presented in the hopes that many of us will have a better understanding of our financial responsibility to our Meeting. We hope that you will help us to continue to provide a place of caring, spiritual enrichment, and support to all of our members and attenders.

# Annual Report for Community, Outreach, and Membership Committee

**John C. Donch, P.E., P.L.S., C.P.E**  
**605 N. Atlantic Ave., Unit 202**  
**Collingswood, NJ 08108**

March 2, 2016

Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting held 28 day 2nd month 2016

The Nominating Committee reported on the nomination of all positions. Of note to our meeting is that there is a new position called "Rising Clerk". The Rising Clerk will be the new Quarterly Meeting Clerk. This position was created so there would be a smooth transition of the clerk and to learn the duties of the standing clerk. The Rising Clerk will be John Sheffield from our meeting. The only position not filled is the Assistant Treasurer.

A discussion was held concerning the establishment of a Quarterly Worship and Ministry Committee.

All present were given a handout concerning "Let's go visiting our Friends!" that listed all of the quarterly meetings with addresses and times for Meeting for Worship. It was recommended that we should try to visit another meeting every other month.

There was a report of the Garden Project.

A long discussion was held concerning the hiring of Linda Lotz as a contractor to coordinate activities in the quarter. It was approved that she would be hired for one year.

Les Hopkins gave the Treasurers report. Not much money has come in from meetings in the quarter. The budget is sound if the meetings give the pledges.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Donch

## 1Minute/Proposal

Peace and Social Concerns Committee has considered and approves a proposal that Haddonfield Monthly Meeting create and oversee a Refugee Assistance Fund (RAF). The membership of the P&SC Committee would serve, as the Committee serves with Friends Transition Support Services and the Garden Project, as oversight on this RAF.

The mission of the Refugee Assistance Fund would be to help individual refugees and refugee families with needs their personal resources cannot meet, and for which community resources are not available in a timely way.

Assistance would respond to a range of purposes and needs, including, but not limited to the following:

- daily needs: for rent, utilities, food, transportation, clothing, phone, household needs,
- medical needs: medical care, therapy, counseling, and equipment uncovered by insurance, personal care, elder and special needs services,
- educational needs: tuition, testing and application fees, school supplies, field trip expenses
- enrichment programs: artistic, athletic or camp programs
- family contact: moving to be near family, or transportation to visit family
- other needs to be discerned on a case by case basis

The Refugee Assistance Fund would function as a project of Haddonfield Friends Meeting. Grant requests would be received by a contact person, and then circulated to other committee members for review; response will be needed within 72 hours. All grants would require the approval of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Regular financial reports would be made on activity, grant requests and grants to Haddonfield Friends Meeting. Fundraising for the RAF would be the responsibility of Friends working on the project and would not come from the Meeting itself..

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee has reviewed the proposal with HMM Treasurer to verify that any funds received by the RAF can and would be segregated or accounted for in the same manner that fund donations for Friends Transition Support Services/Garden Project are handled in the meeting accounts.

The Treasurer has given the Committee members assurances that she could accommodate this project without significant burden and in the same manner as FTSS is accounted for in the HMM account.

P&SC deems this matter, if approved by Meeting for Business, a part of HMM's ministry.

Justin Loughry, Clerk, P & SC Committee  
March 12, 2016