

Third Haven Friends Meeting  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
Fourteenth Day Sixth Month 2020

**Opening Silent Worship** Molly Brian, Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:30 a.m. with a brief period of silence.

**Attending:** 29 attended: Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Molly Burgoyne Bryan, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Catherine Cripps, Robert Day, Stephanie French, Whitley Gray, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Joyce Macijeski, Steven Meixner, Priscilla Morris, Beth Mufson, Amy Owsley, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Jonathan Slocum, Dona Sorce, John Turner, Kevin Walsh

**Comments on Sixth Query,** (read at Meeting for Worship)  
Social justice under current circumstances is especially powerful.

**Approval of minutes** from Fifth Month business meeting- Approved

**Clerks Desk**

Received Homewood Friends Meeting letter of transfer for Ellen Silbergeld. Referred to Pastoral Care for welcoming committee: Marsie Hawkinson, Katharine Bangart, Beth Mufson, Dona Sorce

*Meeting for Worship on Meeting Grounds Discussion*

Background:

Worship and ministry: *Gwen Beegle*

DRAFT—Ideas for Guidelines for Third Haven Outdoor Meetings

General guidelines for out of doors gatherings

1. Maintain physical distance of 6 feet as a general rule
2. Wear a face mask, unless you have a medically necessary reason not to do so.  
Don't touch your face.
3. Bring your own chair
4. Be aware of others' needs and ask if you can assist before approaching them
5. Wave, greet and talk from a safe distance.
6. If you are giving vocal ministry, come to the center of the circle to speak. You may remove your facemask if you are a safe distance from others.

*If you need help to set out a chair, or if you don't have one, please call XXX at XXXXXXXX so they can work it out with you.*

Considerations: Dress appropriately for an hour long out of doors meeting. Bring an umbrella to shield you from the sun. Wear sunscreen and insect repellent as appropriate. Bring water.

#### Arriving/being seated/getting settled

1. Bring your own chair, wear your mask, stay 6 feet apart
2. Sit with your partner or family, be aware of how this affects the spaced seating
3. Be willing to pick up and move if it helps someone else get seated easily
4. Fill seating spaces from the inside of the circle outward. Don't walk close to others while setting up your chair.
5. Be willing to move to a further seating location if a person with limited mobility needs to sit closer to their car

#### Closing/leaving meeting

1. Persons at the outside leave first, persons toward the center will wait till space to leave opens up
2. Be aware of your location if you stop to greet or talk—don't block others pathways to their car or the common room

#### Common Room Bathrooms (if needed)

1. Only the bathrooms are open in the Common Room (not the kitchen or seating areas)
2. Stay 6 feet away from anyone else waiting for the bathroom. Outside is best.
3. Use hand sanitizer before you enter.
4. Don't touch your face.
5. Use the toilet as usual.
6. Wash your hands 20+ seconds.
7. Use the paper towel to turn off the faucet and to open the door.
8. Discard towel in can outside the door

This is a start for various situations: seating, restrooms, arrival and dispersal. The key factor is maintenance of physical distance, safety and comfort outside.

#### Technical approaches-*Dee Rein*

We seek one unified meeting, by improving digital access to facilitate members not attending in person to attend by Zoom. Experimentation with a new WiFi extender placed on the bench in front of the Old Meeting House provided a signal almost all the way to the caretaker's driveway. Currently the extender is plugged in atop the cabinet in the Common Room corner closest to Old Meeting House for safekeeping. Other connections and locations are under consideration and a trial run will occur next week. As Ben Tilghman pointed out, it doesn't need to be pretty. Participants in this effort have been Molly Brian, John Turner, John Hawkinson, Ben Tilghman, Gwen Beegle, Clay Owens, and Tom Corl.

#### *Comments on a physical in person meeting with simultaneous Zoom:*

Excited to try. Likes concentric circle idea. Speaking from center OK.

Concern: fellowship part. How will we do that?

We are very adaptable. Outside personal interactions require sensitivity to boundaries.

You could drive to Third Haven and Zoom from your car.

We may have a resurgence of Covid and may be tempting fate since science does not yet indicate it's safe to interact more.

It's a personal decision about whether or not to attend.

Semicircle may create projection of voice toward the group.

Moving to center of circle to speak creates difficulties. Semicircle amphitheater style might work better. Stand and speak where you are prevents more possible transmission of the virus by movement.

Some families indicated they may not attend until there is a vaccine.

Families would sit in their own group with their own children who are used to staying inside lines.

Zoom will continue for the long term, like a couple of years, so everyone can participate on some level of comfort.

Heat indices may preclude sitting outside at a certain point in the summer.

How do we do Zoom and live hospitality and check in with each other. Might be easier to keep the physical groups and Zoom groups separate for check in. Packing an individual snack for hospitality and check in time might work.

The most important thing is to be aware of each person's comfort with this situation.

People will "vote with their feet." Some will not come; some will come to see how it works, some may not come back. Many have learned the new distancing strategy for the virus situation.

Linking Zoom and physical meeting may be a challenge. This is an experiment.

Pendle Hill has some specifications that may help us.

Thanks to everyone trying to get the technology set up for this.

What about other groups meeting on the grounds if they follow distancing and sanitizing rules? To date we've ignored any folks who have done this. Groups outdoors would need to police themselves. Small groups, fewer than 10 would be acceptable to some. Face to face and Zoom components would be appropriate for them too. Use of bathrooms could be an issue to keep indoor rooms uncontaminated.

If everyone had their cell phone they could log into Zoom and speak on their cell phone rather than moving to speak. Reverb could be a problem.

Add Luke's comments

Conditions and people's willingness and technological abilities to participate will change over time.

Details in writing and a method to monitor is important.

Maybe we need to limit attendance. Maybe attendance will be naturally limited by people's interests in attendance. We need to be strict and control the physical meeting.

Groups that are not part of the Meeting proper should not be on the property at this time.

Sitting in the car and calling on a cell phone may be another way of being connected.

Running cars could be an environmental issue.

Use of insecticides should occur at home since some people are sensitive to them.

Some people could form small groups to join the Zoom meeting.

Keep the buildings sanitary.

Bathrooms ventilation is important.

As an organization we should be leaders in safety and cannot be too conservative in that regard.

Use of the grounds by individuals on own responsibility has not been limited and is not possible to control.

Safety is high priority.

Registering to attend adds complexity. We need to keep this simple.

A list of who plans to come might be publicized and people who are not comfortable with that many might choose to come or not.

People who are not comfortable with Zoom may use the physical meeting environment to attend.

Wednesday Meeting for Worship may try the physical in person process with Zoom and try it out.

### **Minute:**

People want to explore the option of a physical in person meeting for worship simultaneously with Zoom. We could further explore the guidelines, staging and signup sheets, then move ahead with careful planning. Other groups might be incorporated later with appropriate scheduling.

**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will occur in July**, contrary to normal scheduling, to continue this discussion and decision process.

### **Treasurer's Report** – *Cynthia Quast Accepted*

As of 5/31/20 we have the following financial results:

Member contributions total just over \$50,900 or 96% of our annual budget. Attender contributions total \$14,680 or 229% of the expected amount for the budget. Total income is over \$69,700 or 106% of the budget. Expenses are about \$61,600 or 94% of our expense budget. This gives us a net income year-to-date of \$8,064.

On the Balance Sheet as of 5/31/20, we had over \$65,800 in our operating checking account and over \$67,900 in our Invested operating funds at Friends Fiduciary.

In comparing to the prior year, Member contributions are up by over \$18,000 and total income is up by over \$18,000. Ordinary expenses are about \$7,500 more than last year giving us a net ordinary income of about \$10,700 more than last year at this time.

### **Budget & Finance:** Approval of Budget for FY 2020-21 – *Bill Lane Approved*

Next fiscal year's budget (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2020) is posted on the website. The increase is 5%, from \$66,000 this year to \$68,900 for next year. One concern is the use of facilities income from First Day School outdoor schools/Summer camps may fall short.

**First Day School Annual Report** – *Amy Owsley, Co-Clerk of First Day School-Accepted* with a lot of gratitude for all the hard work.

First Day School hosted two “mindfulness in nature” summer camps in June and July, bringing together two batches of a dozen kids each who climbed and explored every inch of our grounds

while taking in lessons about centering, community and Quaker values. All this energy fueled Third Haven's Family Open House on September 21, which welcomed twenty children and their families. Everyone enjoyed a kid-friendly supper, then the children scampered off with teachers for a dusk-time bug hunt while parents engaged with our guest speaker, PYM's Melinda Wenner Bradley, to discuss "How to Raise your Children in the Light."

The fall schedule for First Day School offered a regular rotation of themes: nature seekers (Cherie Baron and Kristen Hanlon), Queries and Reflections (Jeanne Halpin), and Faith & Play stories (Susan Claggett). In addition, other Meeting members shared their talent, passions, and time including puppetry with Kevin Walsh, Marilla's Lunches with Cynthia Quast, and Climate Change with Dona Sorce. As is our custom, the Christmas season was filled with the traditions of wreath-making for the Meeting buildings, telling of the Christmas story, and our Christmas Pageant (this year featuring the Virdee/Whalen family as the Holy Family).

First Day School also continued this fall our popular outreach program, Little SPICES. The six-week session seeks to give parents genuine opportunities to center and connect with their babies and toddlers. From October 18 through November 22, with a special nighttime dinnertime potluck session on November 8<sup>th</sup>, the program offered themes and discussion for each class will be based upon key Quaker values of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Stewardship (SPICES).

In the spring, we added in series led by Kulveen Virdee and Lisa Kluepfel called Peacemakers. Every lesson the children added a new tool for their toolbox of techniques for understanding and managing their emotions. Faith & Play evolved into Godly Play stories with Susan, with the goal of building Bible story literacy among our children. Unfortunately, First Day School and Little SPICES offerings were cut short by COVID-19. This change, however, gave us the opportunity to join West Chester Meeting in their virtual First Day School offerings, and eventually to host our own lessons through Zoom.

In June, First Day School will help honor young Meeting members who are "Moving Up" in their education. The Ceremony will be held virtually with gifts from the Meeting sent to each child (Maevie Mufson, Nathan Mullen, and Atticus Leibman). Also, led by Dee Rein, First Day School has a summertime activity for kids (and kids at heart) of the Meeting. Based on the Flat Stanley children's books, all will be invited to take cardboard cutouts of Margaret Fell and George Fox on a summertime treasure hunt, looking for places where they see Quaker values and ideals. This project is organized by PYM's Faith & Play group, and First Day School will be sharing photos from everyone in the weekly announcements.

Additionally, First Day School was asked to join a planning group that is helping to form a Resource Friend practice area for Religious Education and Youth Work for PYM. Further, our First Day School spoke at a Religious Education and Youth Work Thread Gathering at the Wilmington Meeting in December. Finally, we have fielded requests for information and ideas to other Meetings within PYM to help grow other children's programming.

In summary, First Day School successfully attracted about 5-12 kids weekly, Little SPICES was at capacity with 14 children, and each summer camp (June and July) was enjoyed by 12 kids.

First Day School Clerks wish to thank the Meeting for the abundance of love, support, time and guidance. So many young lives have been touched because of you.

### **New Business**

The Zoom account will be Zoom Pro using the Meeting's email address, a password, and scheduled through Larissa to allow meeting conveners to use it to host meetings. Cost is \$149.50.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 1:10k p.m.  
D. Rein, Recorder