



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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May 2018 Newsletter

“And as many candles lighted, and put in one place, do greatly augment the light and make it more to shine forth so when many are gathered together into the same life, there is more of the glory of God, and his power appears, to the refreshment of each individual, for that he partakes not only of the light and life raised in himself, but in all the rest.”

Robert Barclay 1678

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Eighth Day Fourth Month 2018



Opening Silent Worship Molly Brian, clerk, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business with a brief period of silence at 11:42 a.m.

Attendance: Molly Brian, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Benita Cooper, Connie Crow, Jeanne Halpin, Marsie Hawkinson, Martha Holthausen, Bill Lane, Connie Lewis, Amy Owsley, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Bill Schauer, Jon Slocum, Dona Sorce, Ben Tilghman, Bob Wack, Winslow Womack

Comments on Fourth Query – note that the queries now are from the new Faith and Practice, hence the new wording. It was noted that there were a lot of comments and offerings during worship in response to the query. A question from the query will be posted on the new whiteboard in the Common Room for people to read and think about.

Approval of Minutes from March business meeting – Recently, Maryland State Dept. of Taxation requested confirmation of the THMM Trustee Corporation’s status as a non-profit. The Facilities Use document approved last month contains wording about “fees”. An amendment is requested on the minutes from March 2018, specifically the wording of the Facilities Use document, to delete the words “fee” and “charge” from the document and use “suggested donation” instead which comports better with a non-profit designation.. “Charge” and “fee” are more problematic terms when an entity is a non-profit, thus the need for a change to the terminology. – this was AGREED. Minutes from last month were APPROVED with this change.

From the Clerk's Desk – On April 15 2018 there will be a called meeting with attention to business focused on the egress from the second floor of the Brick Meeting House.

Treasurer's Report – *Cynthia Quast (Bill Schauer)* – Our total income is 77% of the budget, which is normal for the Third Quarter. The assistant treasurer explained the largest variances in our expenses. One new expense is account sharing between the treasurer and assistant treasurer, which accounts for a slight amount over in General Admin budget. Another overage is the Meeting approved increase in Charitable Contribution giving. Basically we are on track for predicted expenses and rarely exceed it by very much. The balance sheet reflects a healthy amount in savings. Available cash is \$103K. Total assets and liabilities are \$270K. We are on par with last year as far as contributions. Committees are doing a good job staying within budget. Budget and Finance will be meeting in May to produce a preliminary budget for approval for the upcoming year. A Friend asked whether the Peck Family Foundation contribution will be used for the general budget or for a specific use. The contribution was not specifically designated/restricted. The contribution does add to the income column in the budget to date, which is why our contributions are on par with last year. There was a question about unrealized gains which are unrealized until securities are sold. Spreadsheets are available on the website. Report was APPROVED with thanks and a suggestion that the membership be encouraged to send their contributions.



Annual Report from the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting *Adrienne Rudge, President of the Trustees*

Who are the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting and what is their relationship with Third Haven Friends Meeting? That is a question that we answer annually in this report to the Meeting. The Meeting traces its beginnings to the Betty's Cove Meeting, which was established in the 1660's. Our Old Meeting House was completed in 1684. Two hundred and sixty-four years later, in 1948, membership in THFM had dwindled and there was concern that the Meeting could be laid down. If that occurred, the normal practice would be that the property and grounds would revert to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Friends wanted to be sure that the care of Third Haven would remain with the people who had been involved through the years and where generations of Quaker family members were buried. The Trustees were incorporated to insure that the property and grounds would remain in our control in perpetuity. The Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting are the owners of the buildings and property at Third Haven.

This year, a distinguished scholar and teacher retired as a member of the Trustees. Kenneth Carroll had served both the Meeting and the Trustees with his inspired leadership for decades. We are grateful for his long service and sorry to lose his counsel. However, we recognized his request to resign and asked the Nominating Committee to propose three candidates for the vacancy. I am delighted to announce that Bill Lane has joined the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting.

Our thanks also go to Allan Mielke, who has served as treasurer for many years and handled the demands of investing our assets with diligence and expertise. Allan has resigned his office but will remain on the board. Diana Rein has become treasurer and Larny Claggett is the new secretary. Other Trustees include Marsie Hawkinson, Sumner Parker and Adrienne Rudge.

The Annual Meeting of the Trustees was held on March 29, 2018. The assets managed by the Trustees have accumulated through legacy and other gifts and are currently invested with Friends Fiduciary Corporation in Philadelphia as well as in a smaller account with Vanguard. We also maintain a checking account at Shore United Bank. Members are encouraged to consider a legacy gift to Third Haven Monthly Meeting by designating the Trustees in their estate plans.

The Trustees' responsibility is preservation and maintenance of this historic property. This is accomplished in cooperation with the Meeting. Traditionally the Trustees pay or help to pay for capital expenses such as a new roof, a new heating system or the removal of hazardous trees. The Meeting covers operational expenses. We work with the Property and Grounds Committee to cover needed improvements to the buildings and grounds. In 2017, the Trustees supported several projects, such as the functional update of the Common Room, for a total of \$23,000.

This report is given for the information of the Meeting each year and requires no action.



Children's Summer Program -*Amy Owsley and Susan Claggett* The proposed children's Summer program summary and associated request that Carriage Shed Sale funds be allowed to go to the proposed summer program to be held this summer were presented. The program would be a nature-themed inward-bound type of program for up to 12 kids. A separate program, called Little SPICES, for smaller children and their caregivers would be associated with River's Edge

Forest School in Annapolis. Additionally, Mindfulness Sundays would be a once-monthly opportunity on Sundays as an extension to the summer camp, which would run September-December as part of First Day School for children ages 5 and older. It is asked that the budget for these programs be funded by \$4K from the CSS, with some of that to go toward ongoing programs in the future. A friend from Property and Grounds suggested that P&G be looped in as to property-related requirements for the programs. It was clarified that the Mindfulness Sundays would not be charged for/budgeted. A Friend asked what the anticipated expenses are; figures are attached to these minutes. There was a request that the budget be submitted with more contingencies spelled out on attendance/fees paid/possible changes; it was explained that the budgeting erred on the generous side and that it would be unlikely that more rather than less funds would be needed. A Friend wondered whether the camps would generate enough interest to fill up; because the teachers have "followings" this was not a great concern. Two of the teachers have experience at the local Christ Church day school. A Friend asked that Outreach be looped in on the execution of this camp. In response to a question it was explained that

background checks will be done for teachers/volunteers, and that the Trustees have insurance covering liability. There has been communication with the state requiring licensing requirements and none are required at this point but as time goes on and the if the program grows this issue may need to be addressed. The Budget and Finance clerk wondered if the First Day School budget should be increased going forward to anticipate increased camp-related expenses down the road; this brought up whether the money for the summer and extended programs were part of or separate from the First Day School budget and expenses, with a note that the sale does not occur every year (hence the \$1500 contingency portion of the \$4000). This is partly an accounting issue as well as a prioritizing and proper-categorizing issue. The clerk of Outreach suggested that either FDS or Outreach ask for additional budget funds. Because this is a new idea and there is no precedent for expenses/income, it was asked if it might work for B&F to budget for contingency over and apart from the sale funds. A Friend offered that it does seem that the Meeting is supportive of the idea and the funding, and the Meeting's ongoing contribution via committee budgeting. The Meeting was thanked for its support of both this proposal and their general support of the life and needs of the children in our community. The clerk mentioned that if more than \$4000 is raised by the sale that Testimonies and Concerns could decide what to do with the overage; possibly forward funding of the summer programs would be considered. The Meeting approved going forward with the proposed children's programs. Further funding details will be discussed.

New Business – Nominating Committee (*Dona Sorce*) passed out a survey for the Meeting Committees to indicate what is working/not working; membership needs of committees; how members intersect with the nominating process; budgetary issues; and other requests for concerns or comments. Changes to the form itself were suggested, including changing the nominating year to match the budget year.

Meeting closed at 12:51 p.m. with silent worship.

Nancy Robbins, Recording Clerk

<http://www.pym.org/faith-and-practice/guidelines-and-procedures/general-queries/deepening-faith-meeting-worship/>

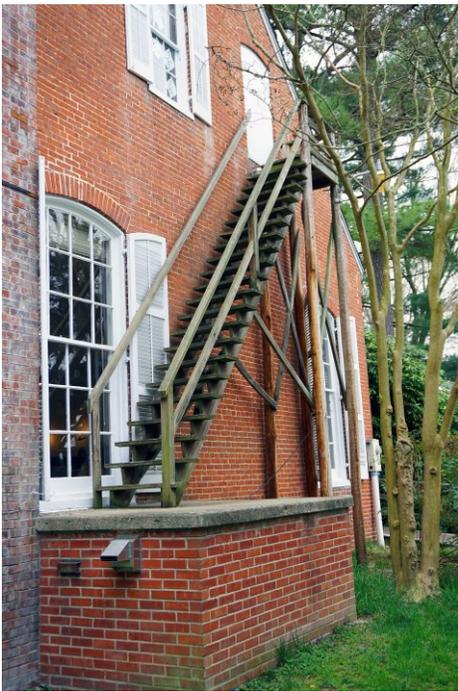
Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Worship

- Are our meetings for worship held in stilled, expectant waiting upon God?
- As we worship in the living silence, are we drawn together by the power of God in our midst? Do we experience a deep reverence for the integrity of creation?
- How does our worship nurture all worshippers, creating a deeper sense of community?
- How does our meeting encourage vocal ministry that spiritually nurtures the worshiping community?
- *Do I faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?*
- *Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationships with other persons and with all of creation?*
- *Does worship enhance my capacity for attentive, non-judgmental listening to others?*
- *How does participation in meeting for worship contribute to my life-long spiritual journey?*

**Third Haven Friends Meeting
Called Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Fifteenth Day, Fourth Month 2018**

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. She introduced the purpose of this meeting as limited to discussion of egress for the brick meeting house.

Attending: 27 attended: Gwen Beegle, Molly Brian, Lorraine Claggett, Larny Claggett, Susan Claggett, Bob Day, Susan Dickinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Priscilla Morris, Beth Mufson, Sumner Parker, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Bill Schauer, John Schreiner, Robert Shattuck, Candace Shattuck, Ben Tilghman, Bob Wack, Joan Whitmore, Winslow Womack, Ralph Young, Harvey Zendt



Topic: Brick Meeting House Safe Egress/Fire Escape

Property and Grounds committee presentation: Consideration of the fire escape stairway on the back of the brick meeting house has evolved. A fire marshal visit indicated what is and is not allowed per building codes. He was very helpful. Considered were \$15-30,000 in renovations to make the entire structure compliant with fire code, regardless of how many people are using the second floor space. A visit to the trustees yielded the general idea that while the chances of an incident are infinitesimal, the consequences are extremely serious should it occur. The trustees indicated a willingness to fund egress improvement. Addressing the front stairway as well raises the potential cost to \$40,000. P&G suggests the meeting advise them as to the intended use of the space upstairs before a renovation decision is made. That is the purpose of this meeting.

Discussion points included:



The fire marshal's suggested that the window past which the fire escape passes be removed. A fire escape may not pass a window. A specific design is necessary to get approvals from all authorities involved and then contractor estimates. Once an historic building is altered it must meet code requirements. Anything over \$5,000 requires permits. The historical society does not have to be involved.

Numerous possibilities have been considered. A spiral staircase was ruled out because tread depths would make it so large as to be untoward.

If we want a first day school upstairs, we have to look for solutions. As good Quakers we want younger people to be included to build our community. That determines what we do on this issue.

As a vibrant meeting we need room for meeting space as well as first day school. The front stairs are steep and hard for some people to use, so renovation is appropriate. We don't want to lose that space.

There are other places to put a first day school.

We do have lots of property. Consideration of expansion complicates this discussion.

Some wondered why first day school is not in the Common Room.

Friends remembered their own life experiences with and without first day school over the years.

Trustees prefer to maintain usable space that is accessible and safe as well as being as useful as possible. The trust corporation will pay for whatever is required to maintain this space.

Alternative solutions include just refurbishing and waiting for the city to come to us and require renovation.

The space is a financial asset at an estimated value \$240,000 (approximately 1200 square feet at \$200/sf). Investing in a solution is a better strategy than mothballing the space.

The armory with the same problem installed a fireproof elevator, increasing egress.

An elevator would have to be self-contained and exterior to the building. One investigated cost \$54,000.

As stewards of an historic building, rather than change the brick meeting house, we should make the Common Room newer by enlarging it.

Trustees supported making this building completely usable. Their fund is for maintenance not to be used for building new spaces, which would have to be done at the expense of Third Haven Monthly Meeting.

Clerk's Summary:

The sense of the Meeting is a desire to continue to use the second floor space as well as do the right thing by making it safe and accessible to all. Those present indicated unity.

Therefore Property and Grounds is asked to find solutions.

Property and Grounds is happy to accomplish that task with the understanding that they make no aesthetic decisions and will be back to discuss such considerations in the future.

Continued Discussion:

Improvement of both ends of the building access was requested.

Regular use of the second floor for meetings would be most beneficial.

Doing nothing is an option. Doing just the fire escape is another. Doing the front access is a third.

We need to consider both the young and the old, allowing access for all. That should be a priority.

How much longer will we expose our children to this risk upstairs?

Maybe the Brick Meeting House and the Common Room could be linked together to accomplish both egress and space considerations.

As Chestnut Hill meeting did, we may raise money for improvements.

The trustees have expressed an interest in us moving forward on both ends of the building. At the moment we all need to be aware of the situation, including having fire drills. Positive comments honored all views expressed today. Currently suggested were fire drills and improvement of the current wooden fire escape by removing wood splinters and adding bottom stairs. Perhaps in the future we will have preschool here. Consider our future. Creative thinking was encouraged. Technical assistance will be sought by P&G.

Conclusion:

Property and Grounds are asked to develop specifics to move ahead for safety and accessibility for all ages. John Schreiner will work on the steps and spear head fire drill plans. The meeting closed with silent worship at 12:20 pm.
D. Rein, Recording Clerk



Southern Quarter

On Sunday, May 20, 2018 Third Haven will be hosting Southern Quarter. 10 am is worship. At 10:45 we will have a guest speaker, George Shaeffer from PYM, speak to us on "Formation and Use of Care Committees". A luncheon will follow. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share.

First Day School Moving Up Day

Amy Owsley writes, "Moving Up: Call for Kids! As is our tradition, First Day School would like coordinate the meeting's honoring of the Third Haven children who are "moving up" to a new level in school! If you know of a child you is moving up - e.g., graduating from HS, college, graduate school; or moving up from middle school to high school - would you please notify Amy Owsley ASAP. We would like to select a date in June that works best for the most families, and the Hospitality Committee. Thank you!"



photo by Krissy Venosdale on Flickr

Outdoors Mindfulness Camp

Mindfulness is not just for adults! Even the youngest among us can be overwhelmed by our noisy world and crave genuine connection with inner peace and the simplicity of nature. As part of Third Haven Quaker Meeting's children's programming, we are excited to offer a set of summer nature camps for kids! The camps help young ones develop a toolbox of mindfulness techniques. The camp will be held outdoors on the beautiful grounds of Third Haven, where sweet moments of **peace** can be easily found, **curiosity**

cultivated, and connections of **kindness** and **love** for each other and our world grown. Led by two talented and experienced teachers, Cherie Baron and Kristen Hanlon, it will weave in themes of nature through art, music, math and science, and be focused on child-led queries and hands-on, roll-up-your sleeves experiences. All participants will leave the camp carrying a new bundle of ideas and tools that help them find inner connection through being outdoors.

Children 4-9 years old. 2 Camp Sessions: June 4-7: 9-11 AM, July 30-Aug 2: 9-11 AM

\$100 per child/ per session For more information and to register, please contact:

Amy Owsley or Susan Claggett

Registration deadline for June camp is 05/26/18 and for July camp is 06/21/18.

Space is limited.

Carriage Shed Sale Successes

The 2018 Carriage Shed Sale benefited not only First Day School and other causes, but also the Meeting community as it drew us together for a common effort. So many people contributed, organizing, hauling, auctioning, Quaker dogging! The sale was both hard work and good fun. Thank you to all who made it a success.







Announcements

<http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

Calendar of Activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

Online directory <http://www.thirdhaven.org/members/dir.php>

May 5 (Saturday)

Clean up Day

Please join us to clean up Third Haven's property and grounds: we plan to start by 9 am and continue into the afternoon if necessary. Projects include cleaning windows and benches in the Old Meeting House, raking, gardening and pruning. If you have ideas for things you would like to see done please share those with the Property and Grounds Committee, but be sure to save the date.

May 6 (Sunday)

First Day Conversation will meet Sunday, May 6, 8:50 am - 9:50 am, in the Common Room.

The topic is "Accountability". The conversation will be led by John Schreiner. Please come. Everyone is welcome. Coffee and cake are served.

May 6 (Sunday)

Spiritual Journeys

On May 6, Heidi Wetzel will discuss her own personal spiritual journey at 11:30 AM in the Common Room. The presentation will last about 20 minutes including some time for questions. This program is offered by Worship & Ministry, monthly. If you would like to share your own journey please email Mark Beck

Katherine Johnson shares Spiritual Journey

Katherine Johnson discussed her own personal spiritual journey following hospitality a week ago. Her conversation was well received by those who enjoyed her insights. This program is offered by Worship & Ministry, monthly. If you would like to share your own journey please email Mark Beck.



Friends connect and reconnect

Glad to see Robert and Leigh Anne with the much traveled mobile home and other Friends!





Quakerism at its birth was a fresh attempt to recover the way of life revealed in the New Testament, to re-interpret and re-live it in this present world. Its founders intended to revive apostolic Christianity. They did not intend to create a new sect. They carefully avoided calling themselves a “Church.” They were content to be a “Society of Friends.” George Fox said: “The Quakers are not a sect but are [a people living] in the power of God which was before sects were.”

Rufus M. Jones
1937