



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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February 2013 Newsletter

"The imagination is not a state: it is the human existence itself."

William Blake

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 1st Month, 13, 2013

1. Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, gathered the meeting for worship with attention to business together at 11:35 AM after a brief period of silence.
2. Attending: Mark Beck, Molly Burgoyne, Lorraine Claggett, Benita Cooper, Tom Corl, Mary Cotton, Debbie Danser, Ed Danser, Leigh Ann Dodge, Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Mary Ann Hillier, Peter Howell, William L. Lane, Jr., Joyce Macijeski, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Candace Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Sally Vermilye, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, John Winterbottom, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler.
3. Minutes: The Meeting approved the minutes for meeting for business 12th Month, 2012.
4. Query: The Query, "Meeting for Worship", was read during worship. There were no additional comments on the query made at this time.
5. Clerk's Correspondence: Dawn Atwater has written the Clerk of Meeting requesting membership to THFM. She had spoken to Candace regarding requirements for the letter and Candace shared some of her letter with the group. Overseers will attend to this matter with a clearance committee.

6. Overseers Annual Report: (see full report below). After the Clerk of the committee read the annual report, the Meeting approved the report. A Friend shared that one job of Overseers should be to remind members of their obligations to the operation of THFM.



New Treasurer Cynthia Quast

7. Treasurer's Report: see <http://www.thirdhaven.org/reports.php> On the report for the Fiscal Year from July to December, the membership contributions were 52.6% actual vs. budget. It is important to remember that 62% of our member contributions received in the first half of our fiscal year came in December. Also last year we only received another 25% of our total budgeted member income in the second half of our fiscal year. We have already received \$400 more for facilities use since this report was compiled. Expenses appear to be about what was expected for this point in the year. The Balance Sheet has not changed much since last quarter. It is important to remember that the Talbot Bank checking account is our operating fund while the Queenstown account is our reserve fund.

8. Interim Meeting: (see report below). There was discussion regarding the Interim meetings with some expression of frustration regarding nonproductive meetings. However, much information can be gleaned by members reading the representative's report and going online for more in-depth coverage. The Meeting thanked the representatives as it takes a great deal of time and an all day effort to attend these meetings.

9. Property and Grounds report: Clerk of committee gave us an update on the status of the damaged trees on the property. The severely damaged maple near the Old Meeting House has been taken care of. The tree that came down on the back wall has been taken care of. The dying maple near the Common Room and the Brick Meeting House will be carefully taken down in the near future. Experts have been called in to be on site when it is taken down so that as much of the wood as possible may be salvaged for possible projects and art. Meredith will send out an announcement the day before the tree is cut down just to let everyone know.

10. Same Gender Minute: An ad hoc committee comprised of Dee Rein, Doreen Getsinger and Mary Cotton met together this past month to develop a possible minute regarding how THFM addresses marriage equality. The minute they proposed is as follows: "Minute on Marriage Equality- Third Haven Friends Meeting will handle equally all requests for marriage under the care of the Meeting." As Friends shared their thoughts on this, some felt it might not address what we mean by "equal". The procedure regarding handling of all marriages was reviewed. One individual stated that because he personally does not support same-sex marriage he would consider resigning from the meeting. The question was raised whether a minute would allow any who wish to stand aside

(in the case of same gender marriages) the ability to do so. The clerk made clear that any minute speaks for the Meeting as a whole; if an individual feels the Meeting's views and his/her own do not coincide, they can stand aside and not attend any ceremony where they would be expected to sign as witness to the event. Some were unclear on Quaker process. The clerk explained that sense of the meeting unity does not require 100% agreement. It does require that the Meeting as a whole agrees on a course of action, sometimes recognizing that there are those not in agreement. Dissenters may stand aside, or the topic may be held over for further consideration. Under such circumstances, tender listening and acknowledgement of dissenting voices is called for.

A thought was shared that perhaps we should consider retaining the wording of our 2009 minute but adding the words "marriage or" to the minute. If this were to be approved, the revised minute would read as follows: (underlined words represent proposed additions to already approved 2009 minute)

"Third Haven Friends Meeting reaffirms its belief in and support of, the spiritual bond and commitment established by a loving couple in the presence of God, family, friends, and the Meeting. Consistent with our testimonies, Third Haven Friends Meeting gives the same consideration to all written requests for marriages or ceremonies of commitment for a spiritual union under the care of the Meeting. These requests, to be under our care, may come only from Meeting members and those closely related to them or from Attenders who have become part of our faith community."

Several felt that this wording gives a better explanation and allows members who do not feel comfortable taking a couple under their care, the ability to stand aside. The sense of the Meeting was to publish the above changes to the 2009 minute and let this season until the next business meeting when it can be discussed again.

11. New Business: A Carriage Shed Sale has been held traditionally every 18 months. This would mean we are due to have one in May of this year if there is interest in doing so. A prior recipient who felt the extra money for her non-profit was extremely helpful in these hard times gave a testimony regarding the importance of the sale. Others appreciate the tradition of the CSS and the involvement of First Day School that the event allows. One Friend mentioned that we might consider waiting a longer interval before having it again, perhaps in the fall instead of May. A suggestion was made to solicit ideas for projects the CSS could raise money for and see who might be willing to volunteer their efforts and time to co-ordinate the event. All acknowledge that the event takes effort and time but is very rewarding.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 1PM.

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- Dawn Atwater's letter requesting membership turned over to Overseers
- Overseers Annual Report given and approved
- Up to date Treasurer's Report given
- The damaged maple tree will be taken down this month
- Revision to Same Gender Union Minute discussed

Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne

Third Haven Monthly Meeting Overseers Annual Report Calendar Year 2012



During the year 2012 the Overseers Committee, attended to pastoral care, keeping in touch with members via a calling tree by dividing the membership directory alphabetically, publishing that in the directory and online, and also responding to answering machine and website messages. Should inclement weather take place it is agreed that the clerk of meeting and communications clerk will e-mail closing information to the meeting and

Outgoing Clerk Dee Rein Overseers will contact local computer free members and attenders. Friendly support was offered privately to members experiencing a variety of life challenges. Oversight committees from marriages in years past are reminded to continue their oversight as part of the couple being "under the care of the meeting."

The file of Declarations of Memorial Intentions was maintained by Nancy Mullen and Marsie Hawkinson. Members wishing to complete a Declaration of Memorial Intentions for death may complete the form in the upcoming newsletter.

Memorial Meeting for Worship was held for Peggy Paul. John Todd's memorial service while elsewhere was well attended by Friends. Stephanie Bonn requested a plaque for her former husband Wayne, a situation being handled by Dee Rein and Larny Claggett.

Under the organization of John Hawkinson with contacts made by the Overseers the directory is continually updated online. Members and Attenders are encouraged to check that their information is up to date at www.thirdhaven.org, username: 3rdhaven, password: friends

The clearness process as detailed in Faith and Practice was followed for membership requests. Clearness committees may also be used to resolve issues between members in conflict or for confidential clearness around personal discernment issues. Clearness committee volunteers were Aiyana Patterson Zincand, Candace Shattuck, Lorraine B. Claggett, Leigh Anne Dodge, Rob Wieland, Larissa Kitenko, Adrienne Rudge, Norval Thompson, Doreen Getsinger, and Marsie Hawkinson.

New members were welcomed during 2012 were Cynthia Quast and Catherine Cripps. Each was offered a 6-month gift subscription of Friends Journal from the meeting.

A New Members and Attenders recognition luncheon was well attended on March 4th. Speakers included Brandt Bethke, Frank Zeigler and Molly Burgoyne as well as comments by members. The potluck was, as always, delicious and the attendance filled the Common Room to bursting.

Overseers were pleased to see Nathan Mullen, Lucy Bond and Emma Leibman attend Quaker schools, perhaps partially as a result of the visitation by Quaker schools organized the preceding year.

Members were contacted intermittently by phone and mail throughout the year in an effort to keep in touch and encourage participation in the aforementioned events. When an attender's daughter was hospitalized, members organized with the help of Beth Mufson to provide meals for the family. Another member received transportation aid while receiving treatments in Seaford.

During the year the committee thoughtfully considered varied topics, including the needs of senior and disabled member and attenders. This ongoing initiative included a presentation to the committee by Deborah Cox based on her expertise in the area and the decision to sponsor a Focus Group meeting on March 9th to solicit topics of need and the best presentation methods for addressing them. Stay tuned for further information!

Another need of our youngest members and attenders was satisfied by a Soft and Silent Toy Basket initiated by Molly Burgoyne and currently available at the meeting entrance. Families are encouraged to select a toy for use during the early part of the meeting before the children leave for First Day School.

Per Faith and Practice, "A Committee of Overseers is appointed to assume leadership in maintaining a caring community, helping all members to find their right roles as nurturers of others." Overseers goals include providing oversight to the ministry of the life of the meeting and acting as a conduit for clearness, especially in cases of membership, unions (marriage/commitment) or personal discernment. All members and attenders are encouraged to allow Overseers to be of service in times of need. We stand at the ready to help and welcome your ideas for future efforts on behalf of the meeting. We thank all Friends who minister to each other as that is the essence of the Religious Society of Friends.

Respectfully submitted, Dee Rein, Clerk, Nancy Robbins, Assistant Clerk, Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Molly Bond, Larissa Kitenko, Norval Thompson, Adrienne Rudge, Mary Cotton, Ann Williams, John Schreiner, and Molly Burgoyne.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1.12.13 Interim Meeting Report to Third Haven Friends Meeting

Introduction

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) Interim Meeting (IM) now meets 5 times a year and performs the governance functions of PYM between the PYM annual sessions. The Third Haven IM representatives will make an oral report to the Third Haven meeting for business and prepare a brief written report for the minutes following each IM. Those Friends who want additional or complete IM information, can go directly to the IM page on the PYM website - <http://www.pym.org/interim-meeting> . On 1.12.13, Tom Corl and Dee Rein, Third Haven's IM representatives, went to the 4th and Arch Street Meetinghouse for IM. Information and materials are emailed to monthly meeting IM representative before the IM.

Selected Items

- The “Annual Report to Interim Meeting on PYM Funds” (8 pp) was prepared by the Financial Oversight Working Group (FOWG) and Linell McCurry, Interim Associate Secretary for Business and Finance, and presented by Jackie Bowers, FOWG clerk. The report clearly shows PYM financial assets and the many restrictions on the principal of various designated funds and the several trustees responsible. This report makes complex PYM financial information more easily understandable. While PYM has almost \$44.5 million in funds, most of this sum is restricted, not liquid nor available for operating expenses. This report is available on the IM page of the PYM website and may be posted on the Third Haven website.
- The PYM Long Range Planning Group reported. It indicated confusion and lack of progress. It said in part, that the group was not “able to agree on how to proceed after many months of full group discussions of different ways we might approach our task.” IM members were kind and supportive, but the lack of progress after a year a sad commentary.
- The Annual Fund report did not report the annual goal or funds raised to date. Instead, members of the Development Committee led a worship sharing on why Friends should contribute more money to PYM. Third Haven currently contributes about 30% of its annual income to PYM. In addition, Third Haven Friends contribute a good deal more directly to PYM. Your Third Haven representatives find that such worship sharing will not inspire financial contributions to PYM.
- The Financial Stewardship Committee (FSC) and clerk Andrew Anderson proposed that the PYM fiscal year (FY) be changed to October 1-September 30, so that the budget approval at the PYM annual sessions will precede the beginning of the FY. This will entail a 3-month adjustment period, July 1-September, 2014, which will not adversely affect financial management or audit. This was discussed and approved.

Other Items

The meeting opened and closed with silent worship. Several items were routine or for information: introductions, recognitions, General Secretary’s (Arthur Larrabee’s) report, report on Junior IM in February, and approval of the 11.10.12 IM minutes.

IM accepted a recommendation from the Arch Street Meetinghouse Standing Committee and clerk Alan Crosman that the serving of wine be allowed in the Arch Street Meetinghouse. This will allow more rental uses and income. This was discussed approved.

The IM approved regular annual reports to IM from PYM standing committees. This corresponds to the Third Haven practice. The agenda committee will set schedule of standing committee reports. This was discussed and approved.

The recording clerk read 1.12.13 action minutes.

Tom Corl

Third Haven Interim Meeting Representative

Announcements:

please refer to

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

- News from PYM:

- Communications Thread Gathering, Saturday, February 16

Good communication practices can make all the difference in whether members and seekers are connected with one another in the life of our meetings and whether or not we have an effective presence in our communities ... a presence that fosters membership growth and enthusiasm. Please **see below** for more details.

- March 17th, at rise of Meeting: Luncheon for New Members and Attenders.

- Please hold Robert Shattuck in the Light.

- Please hold Tatiana Harrison in the Light as she recovers from pancreatitis.

- Ralph Young writes (as of 2 pm Sunday January 20th), "Today, John Turner visited George McManus and was told by George that he did not anticipate being in the nursing home beyond Wednesday of this week. His plan appears to be to return to his St. Marks Village home for a while until arrangements can be made to go into an assisted living program. Before visiting him at the Caroline Nursing Home it is suggested that you call first to make certain that he is still there. The number is 410-479-2130."



- *UPDATE:* Due to expected bad weather Wednesday the removal of the Red Maple has been pushed back a week to Feb. 6.

The large, old red maple just behind the Common Room was originally scheduled to be removed by Davey Tree on January 30 and 31. This honorable old tree has seen a lot of history and we are all sad to see it go. For your ease of mind, let me recap the events leading to this decision which was conducted in the manner of Friends and under the care and responsibility of Property and Grounds Committee. During 2012 there had been extensive examination and evaluation by experts in tree health, advice from tree removal companies, and woodworking artisans. The Property and Grounds Committee presented the results of the recommendations to business meeting in the fall

and it was approved by THFM and Third Haven Trustees to proceed with its removal. Announcements of the scheduled removal have been made at the rise of Meeting for

Worships and at January's Business Meeting. A crane and trucks will be set up in the parking lot of the Common Room beginning early morning of the 6th. In addition to Davey Tree the woodworking artisans will be present. A better evaluation of the tree's viability in turning it into art work, furniture, stump sculptures, sitting logs and "tables", etc. will be made during dismantling. Also, another "re-purposing" of the tree would be firewood. If you are interested in firewood please give **Meredith Watters** a call right away to discuss methods of removal.

- Cynthia Quast (Third Haven Treasurer) writes, "Here is a recap of the treasurer's financials to go in the announcements. The finance committee and meeting for business suggested this as another way to reach people concerning our financial status."

July - December, 2012:

Member Contributions: \$28,306, 52% of annual budget

Total Income: \$35,828, 58% of annual budget

Total Expenses: \$25,883, 42% of annual budget

Net Income: \$9,945

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

A new printed directory is being prepared. Please check your listing on the Third Haven Website

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

Username is 3rdhaven Password friends (all lower case)

Many thanks to the 15 individuals (and families) who have already sent in their corrections. We appreciate having current telephone numbers, e-mail addresses or mailing addresses for yourself and your family.

Please e-mail your edited information to 3rdhaven@gmail.com

Daniel G. Higgins, Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton, and his wife Jean, have permanently moved to Marietta, GA to be with family. Dan attended Third Haven many times after retiring and had been very active in the Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity. The Higgins' new address is 3444 Orange Wood Ct., Marietta, GA 30062

Services for Seniors: A Focus Group Session

Overseers has been discussing the care of Seniors and others with disabilities for the past several months. There seems to be a yearning to learn more about available services for the aging, disabled and their caretakers. Some of us have personal needs regarding this issue and others have a passion to help those in need of care. We now wish to open up our discussion to a larger group of Friends. We invite all to join us on March 9th at THFM in the common Room from 10 AM to 12pm for a Focus Group discussion regarding this issue. We hope to come away from this meeting with a larger plan of how we may help our Senior Friends and neighbors. The session will be moderated by Molly Burgoyne and Debbie Cox.

Southern Quarter Report THMM - January 19th 2013

There were approximately 27 Friends in attendance from 5 Monthly Meetings.

Representing THMM were Winslow Womack, Frank Joyce Zeigler and Norval Thompson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship. In worship, there were several offerings about Quaker organizations and the importance of the participation of young Friends in the process.

The Quarterly Meeting opened with brief introduction the Lewis Quaker retirement community and its facilities. It is currently 87% occupied and has 3-5 Quaker residents. They hope increase the Quaker participation. It is not Quaker run, though it has a 50% Quaker Board, and operates on Quaker principles. All are welcome to visit for special tours and trial stays.

Each Meeting presented a report re; activities in their Monthly Meeting.

Third Haven's Quarterly Representative was absent so there was no MM report from Third Haven. Norval Thompson, as requested by the Worship and Ministry Committee did report on the proposed minutes "What Do Quakers Believe?" (July 2012 - "Core Beliefs"

"The Worship and Ministry Committee and Third Haven Friends Meeting appreciate and support the paper, "What Do Quakers Believe?" (July 2012) ... We support efforts throughout PYM to identify, articulate and communicate the core of our Quaker Faith and Practice."

It was received as information while each Meeting examines the subject as is encouraged.

Soups, as lunch were served which was followed by a nature bird walk on a nearby beach.

Respectfully submitted,

Norval Thompson.

Friends Historical Association

Minute of Appreciation for Kenneth Carroll

Approved by the Directors on October 3, 2012

The Friends Historical Association expresses deep appreciation to Kenneth Carroll for his dedicated service and leadership. Ken was President of the Friends Historical Association from 1992-2010. His enthusiasm for FHA, his close work with Charles Cherry on FHA's journal Quaker History, and his gifts of time, energy, financial support, and a lifetime of scholarship have profoundly influenced the work of the Friends Historical Association. The Carroll Prize, endowed by Kenneth Carroll, is awarded once every three years to the author of the best article in Quaker History. In addition to Ken's public work, on a personal level, Ken's teaching, advocacy, scholarship, friendship and his sense of humor have encouraged and inspired us as individuals.

Kenneth Carroll is a distinguished and prolific scholar, the author of almost a hundred articles (some published in Quaker History) and numerous books including one book on the history of Third Haven Meeting and another on Quakerism on the Eastern Shore. Topics of study and publication include the world of the New Testament, early Quakers including George Fox and John Perrot, Irish Quakers, the Nicholites, and Quakers in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. Ken's power as a writer and speaker is to bring history to life, and to remind us of its importance in our lives. In Ken's narratives the past, even the early days of the Quakers, or of the New Testament, does not seem so long ago. Ken's passion for history stands at the heart of the mission of the FHA. He inspires us to explore, write about, and talk about the extraordinary

people who have gone before us and have shaped the world in local, national, and international contexts. Ken's scholarship, both written and spoken, his spiritual wisdom, and the depth and quality of his dedication to Quaker traditions and communities places Ken in the lineage of the people whose lives he explores for his readers and listeners.

PYM Today Online

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting now offers an online newsletter that you can receive by e-mail or read at the PYM website. It's a great way to keep up with all the services offered to us by PYM as well as activities, news and other topics of interest. To subscribe or view the newsletter, go to: <http://www.pym.org/pym-today-online>.

Important Activities



Leigh Ann Dodge's return to work in the Talbot County Detention Center's Lending Library is welcomed by the Lending Library staff, Mary Young.



Katie Claggett and Mark Beck gave an interesting presentation about the Bolivia Quaker Educational Fund recipients who some Third Haven members have been supporting.

Consultations:



**Cynthia Quast, incoming and outgoing
Treasurer Rob Wieland**



Sumner and Ken

And Conviviality



Peggy and Joyce



Maeve, Anna Sofia and Jen