



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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June 2013 NEWSLETTER

Don't build walls, build bridges.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 5th Month, 12, 2013

1. **Opening Moments of Silence:** Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:25AM.



2. **Attending:** Molly Burgoyne, Debbie Danser, Doreen Getsinger, Norman Hackland, Peter Howell, Katherine Johnson, Larissa Kitenko, Bill Lane Jr., Joyce Macijeski, Cynthia Quast, Adrienne Rudge, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, Anny Williams, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler.

3. **Query; Additional Thoughts:** The Query "Education" was read aloud during meeting for worship. Two different Friends remarked that Quaker education is known for a focus on teaching students "how" to think and is often unique in that approach. A mention was made of a new book "How Children Succeed" that deals with proven aspects of successful education that is often used in Quaker schools.

4. **Minutes from previous Meeting for Business:** Minutes from 4th Month meeting for business were **approved.**

5. **Budget & Finance- Presentation of Proposed Budget for FY 13-14:** The proposed budget is published on the website as well as this newsletter. One of the information sheets is presented in a new format showing the Budget vs. Actual 2012/13 and 1011/12 (updated July 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013). The Balance Sheet and the Expenses and Income Sheet Budget vs. Actual YTD format is unchanged. These sheets may be referred to while following the discussion below.

The Clerk of B&F, Bill Lane, Jr., informed us that the cost to run the Meeting is about \$1200 per week. It is currently costing more to run than we have brought in to date. At the present rate, we could be about \$10,000 short at the end of this fiscal year June 30th unless sufficient donations come in before then. The proposal for next fiscal year takes this into account and is more conservative based on income and expenses. The committee understands that PYM has requested a 4% increase in their covenant this year but proposes that we keep our covenant at the current amount. Most committees do a good job keeping expenses under control. Where we seem to fall short is on the income side especially in regards to our member contributions. Several Friends weighed in on this matter. A letter will soon be going out to all members and attenders informing them of the current situation and asking that they consider year-end contributions. The idea of forming a group who would consider taking on a development role was again discussed. We currently have two members of Meeting who have strong backgrounds in development work. The Clerk of Meeting felt that looking into the process of development might be a task to take on in the summer when our workload is generally lighter.



Bill reminded all present that committee clerks should give B&F their final requests in the next 10 days. The Property & Grounds committee wants to work on making sure their budget request of \$30,000 is adequate before next business meeting. The Clerk of P&Gs asked for clarification regarding requested improvements to the Common Room. These requests include: upgrading lighting fixtures, partitioning off the kitchen from the main room, installing doors in the bathroom stalls and baby changing tables and perhaps other small improvements that have yet to be completely priced out. It was clarified that these improvements are not part of the P&G budget and have yet to be discussed and presented to the Meeting for approval. A Friend raised the issue of holding our donations until the end of the fiscal year to make sure that we have the money to give. This seemed to be agreed upon. Several committees made reductions to their expense requests. Overseers reduced their request to \$250. Library reduced their request to \$150. Some Friends asked about the \$4000 requested from Scholarship. In 2011-12 the budget for this was \$2000, which was increased to \$4000 this year on a “one-time basis” after a special request for it was made. The problem for the Scholarship Committee is that the promises for financial aid are given before it is known how much money will actually be available. The deadline for scholarship requests is June 1st; but there is no budget until July 1st. Because the number of requests for aid will likely change from year to year, and the budget could change depending upon available funding, a member of the scholarship committee will suggest to Scholarship for consideration, that disbursements be made from the previous year's budgeted amount which is a known quantity, divided among the requests for aid. The amount available for aid may change from year to year based upon what Meeting can afford to budget. She is willing to discuss this with her other committee members. Bill told us that during a recent PYM Financial “Thread” session, he found that some Meetings have no budget and some have active development focus and there are all types of programs in-between. Not being fiscally responsible in this Meeting will have eventual consequences to THFM. Our reserves have been “eaten into” the past two years. On the other hand, a Friend

noted, the reason we keep substantial reserves is to enable the Meeting to handle occasional shortfalls in income. Next month, the budget will be discussed further and confirmed.



6. **Overseers:** Overseers wished to inform the Meeting that there are plans to send out a letter and questionnaire. The next phase of this project is to get further input from Meeting. Overseers will compile the data and hopefully be able to plan a program of action to reach out and help those in our Meeting who are dealing with issues of aging and disabilities. Please contact Adrienne Rudge (410-822-4959) with questions and suggestions.

7. **Worship & Ministry:** This committee has proposed several new adult education programs. In the Fall of 2013, W&M may offer a Quakerism 101 course again, with outside facilitators, or a similar

course called “Exploring Quakerism”, which could be facilitated by members. The committee has also suggested worship sharing sessions on selected topics. The dates and subjects of these are to be determined. As a follow up to the previously successful Spiritual Formation group, there has been a suggestion to consider “Spiritual Friendship” groups. Other Meetings have tried this and there are two available Pendle Hill pamphlets dealing with this subject called, “There is a Hunger: Mutual Spiritual Friendship” and “More than Equals, Spiritual Friendships”. This committee welcomes any suggestions or comments regarding upcoming programs.

8. **Outreach:** The Clerk of committee also gave information re: Welcoming Packet. Please read the below information sheet. The Clerk encouraged all to take a close look at the work they have done and pass these packets out to those who may be interested in further exploration of our Meeting.

9. **PYM Interim Meeting:** Our Representative to PYM expressed significant disappointment in this month’s meeting. Much time was given to reading aloud information that had already been sent out and there was little time left to discuss material afterwards. Since this past year’s financial picture has improved, there was pressure placed on PYM to again spend money on Burlington Friends Meeting. The amount spent previously on this has been an area of contention before and a huge drain financially on PYM. The full report is detailed below.

10. **New Business:** Drawings for a possible handicap ramp were sent to the Maryland Historical Trust in order to get feedback on what might be acceptable. MHT responded by saying that no ramp will be acceptable, despite encouraging us to look into it in the past. P&G will discuss this matter further at their next meeting.

Paige Bethke has stepped forward to chair the Carriage Shed Sale. Three possible dates have been suggested; September 14, September 21, October 12. [Note: a further date, October 5, was later added.] We will need to commit to a date by next business meeting. We will also need to decide how to use the funds raised by the sale.

Not enough people showed up on May 11th to clean the Old Meeting House. Meredith was given permission to use discretionary funds from P&G to have a cleaning service in.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 12:40PM

Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- Proposed Budget was presented and discussed
- Overseers to send letter and questionnaire out re: Helping Hands for Aging Friends

- W&M informed Meeting of possible upcoming Fall programs
- Outreach has completed Welcoming Packets and they are now in use
- Paige Bethke has volunteered to chair CSS. Dates and donations to be determined

Outreach Welcome Packets

As you're already aware, we have chosen to set up a display rack for visitors, seekers, and out-of-towners which displays five specific pieces in the Brick Meeting House lobby ...in a custom rack just to the right of the entrance door. This rack is for visitors of all types. [We ask that Friends please to not add to, take away from, nor re-arrange that grouping.] Our Library committee has assembled a wide array of other Quaker literature for display and use elsewhere, in the back of the BMH, in the common room, and the Old Meeting House.

Because of the focused needs of the first time seeking visitor, we have assembled a compact, tailored Newcomer's Welcome Packet. It's a work in progress, containing four pieces in an envelope. These four items are:

- Your First Time in a Quaker Meeting? ...originally published by the Quaker Home Service in the UK. It's concise and deals with our distinctive way or worshipping such as silence and speaking from the heart; in a way to allay any nervous expectations. It's a charming little piece; in process of reprinting.
- Your Guide to Quakers.... our very own signature booklet delineating simply how we Friends form a community, some of our beliefs, and our goals; presented amidst evocative photos or our setting here.
- Third Haven Friends Welcomes you to Participate in our Activities.....This simple letter delineates how one may become more engaged in our community.
- We'd like to Become more Connected to.... A small card enabling individuals & families to submit their personal data and spell out their interests.

This packet, as it evolves (with some editing and a new envelope) is for each of us to directly present to appropriately interested guests/visitors and encourage their perusal and further questions. These packets can be found in the small wicker basket* against the back wall of the brick meeting house (to the right when facing the rear). We encourage each of you to examine the contents and to judiciously distribute them to newer seekers. First Day outside greeters are also asked to have a couple packets handy to augment their welcoming mission when newcomers arrive. The dozen or so pieces there will be periodically replenished.

PYM Interim Report

Interim Meeting: May 2013

Peace and Concerns Standing Committee and its Eco Justice Working Group addressed the Yearly Meeting's treatment of adopted minutes with particular reference to minutes on gun violence and climate change. A number of minutes addressing climate change have been adopted by the Yearly Meeting but it is not clear to what effect. As in every other failed effort to change the way things are, the question was whether the flaws were in the plan or its implementation. Further details are available here: <http://www.pym.org/interim-meeting/files/2013/05/Peace-Concerns-Minute-Climate-Change.pdf>

General Services Standing Committee Sessions Planning Working Group discussed the upcoming annual sessions and the session a year hence. The important point seemed to be the preference for a “campus” venue, as opposed to sessions sprinkled throughout Philadelphia. Their report is available here: <http://www.pym.org/interim-meeting/files/2013/05/Sessions-Planning-Group-Report.pdf>

The Alternate Clerk Steve Olshevski reported from a group who have been evaluating IM’s shrunken meeting schedule, adopted as an experiment early in the current fiscal year. Their proposal was to add one more meeting to the schedule such that IM would meet on the third Saturday of Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., April and May. This was approved.

The General Secretary Oversight and Evaluation Committee reported positively on Arthur Larrabee and the IM members present concurred.

The Worship and Care Standing Committee requested comments on Arthur Larrabee’s piece on Quaker beliefs. A Friend made the point that if you google “Quaker Beliefs” you get a statement from a Quaker Church in Ohio that is not so much in line with beliefs of our Yearly Meeting. Meetings and members are requested to reply to Lane Taylor (lane.liz.taylor@gmail.com). (Action for TH’s Worship and Ministry.)

The meeting was scheduled to end at 1 PM but at 12:40 the general secretary reprised the history of the Yearly Meeting’s support for the Burlington Meeting House and Conference Center with focus on last year’s decision to discontinue financial support after a one year transition period. A group of Trustee’s for the facility was appointed by Yearly Meeting and in the intervening period enthusiasm for a further four years of funding has developed among some. Annual transfers would be around \$70,000 with half of that coming from PYM’s general fund. (This is where our Covenant goes.)

I am not sure what was decided on this issue. I left while the idea was being promoted from the facing bench. I left because, 1) it was 1 PM, 2) to agree with what was being suggested would have required quite a bit of information that it did not seem likely I would get, and 3) the strong sense that IM was backsliding into the practices that landed it in a difficult financial position last fiscal year. Regardless of the merits of funding Burlington for the next four years, presenting this idea at the end of a long meeting seems an imprudent approach that could only lead IM to agree (or, disagree) to things that they do not very fully understand.

Rob Weiland

Announcements:

- June 2 at rise of Meeting: Celebrate "Moving Up Day" with our First Day School students! We'll be enjoying lunch together with a pot-luck picnic if weather allows.
- If you would like to make a public statement of your commitment to our Peace Testimony, the opportunity to do so exists each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Peace Vigils are held each Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. The Tuesday vigil is held in Centerville in front of the Queen Anne’s County Court House and the Thursday vigil is

held in Easton in front of the Talbot County Court House. You are welcome to come at any time during the vigil and stay as long as you wish.

Third Haven website <http://www.thirdhaven.org/>

To receive e-mail communications send an e-mail to 3rdhaven@gmail.com

Please include your address and phone number

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

Calendar of Third Haven activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

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

Username is *3rdhaven* Password *friends* (all lower case)

Please send new information to 3rdhaven@gmail.com

We encourage your participation in the Meeting's annual operating budget.

Mail your contribution to: Third Haven Monthly Meeting, PO Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601

Credit card: please use the secure website link <http://www.thirdhaven.org/donate.php#top>

Inward Bound Quiet Day June 19, 2013

This JUNE Quiet Day will provide the opportunity for a weekday retreat and time for reflection



as we move into the season of Spring. Katherine Johnson and Candace Shattuck will facilitate "Inward Bound", a day of listening for the Light within, contemplation, reading, walking the grounds, writing, and self chosen art activities in community with a shared, silent pot-luck lunch. The session will run from 10 am until 3 pm, ending with Worship Sharing. Participants are welcome to come for part of a day, entering with respect for the silence of the group. This is a perfect occasion to savor the beauty of the Third Haven grounds and buildings and take time to think and be inward in community of Friends.

Facilitators: Katherine Johnson & Candace Shattuck,

Date: Wednesday JUNE 19, 2013

Time: 10:00a.m-3:00 p.m.

Place: Third Haven Friends Meeting

Begin in BRICK MEETING HOUSE, 405 S. Washington St.,

Easton, MD

Lunch: Bring a pot luck item for shared lunch

To register: Contact Katherine Johnson or Candace Shattuck with questions or to register: katherinekai@goeaston.net or Candace.shattuck@gmail.com

Or leave a message at 410-820-0341

Migrant Ministry

Third Haven Friends are again participating in a locally coordinated effort to aid the migrant agricultural workers in our area. Along with Easton Church of the Brethren, Unitarian Universalists, Holy Trinity Oxford and Grace Lutheran, Friends are asked to collect needed items and bring them to Meeting. Please put your donation in Ralph Young's white pick-up. A team led by Testimonies & Concerns Committee will sort and re-sort these items and then deliver them to migrant camps in Caroline County the first week in August.

This year, the list of needed items includes hats and handkerchiefs, men's sneakers & workboots, sizes 7 to 11; men's t-shirts, sweatshirts and long-sleeved shirts, size medium and large; men's pants, preferably sizes 30/30, 30/32, 32/32, 34/32 and 36/34. Also, we are collecting women's clothes sized medium or large. No adult small sizes of anything, and, please, make certain that your donations are clean and in good shape.

Besides clothes, we are looking for blankets, washcloths and towels; handi-wipes, shampoo, insect spray, body lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Also, checker and dominoes sets, soccer and basketballs and Frisbees; crossword puzzle and find-a-word books in English and paperback books in Spanish and English.

If you would like to participate in this effort, or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Leigh Anne Dodge (lad.dodge@gmail.com) or Lorraine Claggett (claggett@goeaston.net).

Africa Travel

At 7PM on Wed June 12, John Turner will be giving a presentation of my recent trip to Africa the the UU Fellowship on Rt50. Nancy and John went to 6 countries, but will focus on Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia. Come see lots of baby elephants! For more info call 410-739-1910



Exhibit

James Turrell stands beside two of his holographic images. This is part of his unique exhibition called "James Turrell Perspectives" at the Academy Art Museum in Easton. The exhibit runs through July 7th. Don't miss it!



Wednesday Meeting Pot Luck

Most of the people in this photo regularly attended together the Wednesday Meeting for Worship some years ago (note: Frank and Joyce Zeigler are absent from the photo). A reunion of these people, including a Meeting for worship and a pot luck meal was organized by Peggy Walbert. A great time was had by all.

Southern Quarterly Meeting at Third Haven

