



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

(410) 822-0293

*Info@thirdhaven.org*

## NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples, no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple. The philosophy is kindness.”

*Dalai Llama*

### Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Ninth Day Tenth Month 2016

Molly Burgoyne Brian, Co-Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:35 a.m. after a brief period of silence.



**Attending:** 18 attended: Gwen Beegle, Molly Brian, Larny Claggett, Susan Claggett, Jeanne Halpin, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Bill Lane, Connie Lewis, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Bob Wack, Robert Wieland, Ralph Young.

#### **Reading and the following comments on Tenth Query, Stewardship of the Environment:**

Recent Washington Post news stories about the mining of cobalt and graphite with poorly treated laborers were mentioned.

The fresh water stream originally bordering Third Haven has been influenced by building and town growth and is an opportunity to teach awareness of environmental effects caused as unintended consequences.

Perhaps installation of solar panels on the Common Room roof would help us reduce our carbon impact. Property and Grounds has investigated this in the past.

Hospitality is also seeking to use environmentally friendly materials and supplies.

### **Approval of minutes from Ninth Month business meeting-** Approved

#### **Clerks Desk**

Common Room Renewal continues to season. As requested clerks are checking with committees to assess common room uses and suggestions for improvements.

Arthur Larrabee's clerking workshop is Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with seats for 40 people. Please contact Candace by October 15th if interested so we can open remaining seats, if any, to Southern Quarterly meeting.



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

for fiscal year-end 2015-2016, as of 6/30/16 and for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of our fiscal year 2016/2017 presented at Meeting for Business on 10/9/16.

In our year-end Budget versus Actual report, our member income is almost \$49,000 or 96% of the budget and our total income is over \$61,000 or 103% of the budget. However, for the year we spent over \$62,000 giving us a year-end deficit of \$677.

On our Balance Sheet as of 6/30/16, we had just over \$36,800 in our operating bank account, and over \$52,000 in our operating investment account at Friends Fiduciary. In the “Unrealized Gain/Loss-Investments” account as of 6/30 we had an unrealized gain of over \$2,400.

On the Prior Year Comparison report as of 6/30, our total income for the year was almost 3% more than last year however our expenses were almost 16% more than last year. This gave us a net income of \$6,800 less than last year.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of our 2016/2017 Fiscal Year on our Budget vs Actual report, we have received just over \$4,700 in member contributions which is about 9% of the annual budget. Our total income to date is just over \$7,100 or 11% of the budget. Our expenses to date total over \$16,000 which is almost 26% of the budget. In comparing this year to last year at this time, we have received 44% less in member contributions and 28% less in total income. Our expenses to date are just over \$16,000 which is about \$2,200 more than last year and our net income is a negative \$8,800 which is \$5,000 better than last year.

The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Balance Sheet is not being presented with this report since the bank statements from Shore United Bank were not available and reconciliation with the Scholarship accounts could not be done. However, these will be completed soon and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Balance Sheet will be posted on our website.

All ramp expenses are booked: \$17,000 total: \$9,000 came from Trustees, \$2,787 from carriage shed sale, \$4200 from Property and Grounds budget and an anonymous \$500 donation designated for the ramp.

Copies of spreadsheet accounting details supporting this report may be found on the Third Haven website.  
Report accepted.



### **Property & Grounds Annual Report** – *Robert Wieland*

Third Haven Property and Grounds 2016 Annual Report

The Property and Grounds committee has an active membership that has by and large performed its expected duty over the past year. With the assistance of other members of the Meeting who are not members of Property and Grounds Committee and with good fortune, we can say that the property and grounds have remained in good order over the past year.

Last October we were petitioning the Maryland Historic Trust following the Meeting's approval of Meredith Watters and Mark Beck's design for a handicap access ramp into the Old Meeting House. We got that approval and approval from the Talbot County Historical Commission and contracts were arranged for the work - Meredith Watters oversaw this - and, ultimately, we got the handsome ramp currently appended to the rear of the building.

Fall of last year we also began the process of redoing the Common Room bathrooms, to make them more easily accessible. Using design ideas provided by Mark Beck we hired plumbers and tile installers and this work was completed in the Spring. Through those efforts, we have made our facilities more accessible to people with constrained mobility. Also beginning in the fall of last year, the idea was floated that P&G undertake more active management of what we have come to call the "back four acres". Our intention was to make that space more "naturally amenable" with that phrase being threshed as we proceed. We agreed to involve people trained in the creation and maintenance of natural landscapes and meetings and walk-about were convened in early winter with Ginna Tiernan of Adkins Arboretum and Sylvan Kaufmann, an independent forester. We also met with UMD Extension's Regional Watershed Specialist for the northern Shore, Eric Beuhl and we have continued meeting with him through the year.

Although our intentions were originally focused on the area behind the row of hollies north of the graveyard, that focus shifted to the eastern boundary where the vines had already killed the trees and where there was a definite need for more active management. A subcommittee was formed and Priscilla Morris was the convener of that group. In order to do anything along that boundary we first needed to get rid of the vines that infested it. Thus, in March, we engaged a contractor to remove the vines above ground along part of the boundary. Over the spring and early summer, the roots that remained set new growth and in July we hired a licensed herbicide applicator to kill the vines at their root. That process seems to have been somewhat successful, although it is likely that we will continue to fight vines in that area.

In early summer, the boundary plantings sub-committee engaged other outside specialists, and Liza Ghezzi, a Master/Bay gardener provided a planting list and some recommendations. Work continues to create a more amenable mix of plants along this boundary and members and attenders are invited to involve themselves in this process. If funds are available, the Committee hopes to continue efforts to clear the remaining

portion of the eastern boundary of vines and to endeavor to improve the mix of plants there as well.

Property and Grounds organized clean-up days in November and again in April. Both of these clean up days were well attended by willing members and attenders. In the spring clean-up, we enjoyed the service of a Friend's frontend loader which allowed us to make use of the leaves that we had been stockpiling for the previous few years. We moved them onto the newly cleared boundary area as a mulch and they were effective that way. Property and Grounds committee has provided oversight of the Meeting's caretaker and management of property maintained for the caretaker's use. Noteworthy in that respect, the committee recommended a salary increase for the caretaker at the start of the current fiscal year. This salary increase was staged and, in part, contingent on performance, so a subcommittee was formed to manage that. Ed Danser is convener of that sub-committee. With respect to property maintained for the caretaker's use, one of the heating and air conditioning units in the caretaker's cottage expired last winter and the committee initiated plans for replacing the unit. Before this could happen, however, a private firm contracted by the state government let the Meeting (and, Meeting Trustees) know that public funds were available to help improve the energy efficiency of the cottage. Background study of that effort took place over the summer. Very recently, the caretaker has been notified that work will begin soon to replace the existing heating and air conditioning system and to improve the energy efficiency of the cottage. This past week two new heat/air conditioning units were installed by Total Home Performance. Removal of the old units is under discussion.

Discussion about plants as a visual screen, tree purchases and installations ensued. P&G will discuss this at the next committee meeting.

Caretaker evaluations have approved the previously agreed upon incremental salary increases.

Report accepted.

### **Testimonies and Concerns- *Jeanne Halpin***



Peace Pole Project- After visiting the peace pole in Idlewild Park as well as others and considering involving the children, Testimonies and Concerns proposes creating a peace pole as other meetings have done. The mock 8'x8"x8" model anticipates using white pine, carved, stained and finished for weather resistance. Winslow Womack may help create this pole, so the committee is mindful of the time and energy required. The proposed message would be May Peace Prevail on Earth on two sides and the word Peace in 12 languages on the other sides. Another possibility is putting flora and fauna on the pole to relate to nature. Since the pole represents the meeting, the committee proposes putting it in the driveway oval. The

committee is open to suggestions on all phases of the project. Suggestions should be submitted to Testimonies and Concerns members by November 5<sup>th</sup>.

New Business- none

Meeting closed at 12:45p.m. with silent worship.

*D. Rein, Recorder*

**Announcements:**

Third Haven Monthly Meeting Announcements online:

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

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

Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform here is the link for their current newsletter:

<http://us11.campaign-archive2.com/?u=84940125e5984f437a77f49a3&id=7ec32c08a9&e=4ffb3ec4a1>

**November 13 (Sunday)**

Meeting for business

**November 20 (Sunday)**

Spiritual Formation Program

Do You Seek a Deeper Spiritual Experience?

Intro session: Nov 20, 2016 at the rise of Meeting for Worship

Spiritual Formation Program will be offered to Friends of Third Haven Meeting through Worship and Ministry Committee. This program will help participants deepen their spiritual lives, develop spiritual practices, and enrich the spiritual life of the Meeting and community.

Members of the Spiritual Formation Collaborative of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will be visiting on November 20 to introduce us to the Spiritual Formation Program. They will share sample activities as well as information about the program. A light lunch will be offered. All are invited!

The Spiritual Formation Program offers retreats, personal spiritual disciplines, readings, devotional groups, and prayerful support. These are combined to provide a structured community in which each member may discern God's call and prepare to follow it. Throughout the nine months many insights and deep relationships are forged in this intimate exchange.

Retreat dates are:

Intro session: Nov 20, 2016 at the rise of Meeting for Worship

Weekend of March 24-26, 2017

June 3, 2017 all day

Weekend of November 17-19, 2017

Questions or information, please contact:

Gwen Beegle: 410-820-7303 or [gwenpb27@gmail.com](mailto:gwenpb27@gmail.com)

Katherine Johnson 410-820-5103 [katherinekai@goeaston.net](mailto:katherinekai@goeaston.net)

### **November 24 (Thursday)**

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. Third Haven Friends Meeting, along with nine other Easton Faith Communities, once again will be preparing and delivering about 150 full Thanksgiving dinners to needy persons in our community. The Third Haven current unfilled share of food donations is as follows:

Two turkeys

One tray of sweet potatoes

Two trays of stuffing

Two pies.

We also need volunteers to help both assemble and deliver the dinners. The guidelines for this effort are as follows:

Food should be delivered to Asbury Methodist Church between 9 and 9:30 a.m

Thanksgiving morning. (18 S. Higgins St., Easton – left rear entrance).

Persons helping with the preparation are asked to be at this location at 9 a.m.

Delivery people should report to the same location at 10 a.m.

Sweet Potatoes, String Beans and Stuffing: Fill a large disposable lasagna pan with your own recipe. Food must be cooked and may be brought either hot or cold. Simple is OK. For stuffing, some people simply use packaged stuffing mix.

Turkeys: Slice a cooked 20 lb. turkey and place the slices in a disposable lasagna pan. Please bring the turkey bones with you. They will be used later in the winter season for soup.

Pies: 9" with seasonal filling.

*You may indicate your food and/or time donation either on the sign up poster in the common room or by calling or emailing Leigh Anne Dodge 410-822-5998 or [lad.dodge@gmail.com](mailto:lad.dodge@gmail.com)*

### **Testimonies & Concerns**

This Committee has been following news from other meetings within Philadelphia Yearly Meeting as they attempt to find ways to support new immigrants and refugees coming to the Mid-Atlantic region. <http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

Testimonies and Concerns would like to thank those from Meeting who generously donated money to aid Syrian refugees who are being resettled in the Philadelphia area. Through Green St Meeting's connection with the Nationalities Service we were able to send items that will help these refugees begin their lives in this country. We collected a total of \$270.00 with one separate donation of \$100.00 worth of items sent a few weeks prior to this collection. Included in the \$270.00 donation from Meeting were: several sets of bedsheets, pillows, towels, kitchen trash cans, flash lights, and alarm clocks as well as some cleaning supplies. We have received thank- you messages from the Nationalities Service Center as the items arrived. THANK YOU again for your generosity!!!!

## Southern Quarterly Meeting



On First Day, October 16, 2016 Third Haven meeting hosted Southern Quarter. After meeting we went right into the program. Thanks to Leigh Anne Dodge and Ralph Young, our wonderful speaker was Matthew Peters from the Multi Cultural Resource Center in Easton, MD. His office is in Easton and he works with refugees. Some interesting facts were:

1. Easton Elementary School is the second largest elementary school in Maryland.
2. A lot of refugees came to work at the

Olympics in Brazil from Haiti; however when they received their last paycheck, found they would be deported back to Haiti.

3. Hurricane Matthew reversed the decision to deport these refugees back to Haiti, so some may stay in the United States.

There was a period of questions, comments and answers after the program. Hospitality and a luncheon were served.

## Faith and Practice Session Prelude



## Testimonies & Concerns Bookshelf

Peace is Possible: A collection of short essays on the wide aspects of peace. Edited by Coleman McCarthy whose work is to advance peace education in all levels of schools and “against all odds”, as he says. The many, many authors cover the range of peace topics in accessible writings for time-conscious readers. They could readily be used for introductions to daily meditations, conversations with your teenager or around the dinner table, and as openings to friends. Teachers may use them productively with students and study groups. As McCarthy states, nearly always “the literature of peace opens minds and stirs hearts.”

Lorraine Claggett