



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

“Help me to reject thoughts, words or actions that assert inferiority of others”

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Thirteenth Day, Ninth Month, 2020

Opening Silent Worship Molly Brian, Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:15 a.m. with a brief period of silence.

Attending: 35 attended: Mark Beck, Molly Burgoyne Brian, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Grace Cook, Tom Corl, Stephanie French, Doreen Getsinger, Whitley Gray, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Sandra Herbert, Larissa Kitenko, Katherine Johnson, Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Steven Meixner, Priscilla Morris, Clay Owens, Cynthia Quast, Bob Regan, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Brian Sheehan, Ellen Silbergeld, Jonathan Slocum, Dona Sorce, Paige Tilghman, Ben Tilghman, John Turner, Kevin Walsh, Winslow Womack, Mary Yancey

Comments on Ninth Query, Equality and Justice (read at Meeting for Worship)

Even in our beautiful environment here we need to recognize what other people, like those on the West Coast with fires, are going through.

The meeting should take an inventory concerning racial and other issues in our community and what actual actions we are taking as a meeting. Perhaps a testimonies and concerns small committee might be formed.

Approval of minutes from Seventh Month business meeting-Approved

Clerk's Desk- Molly Brian

Grace Cook from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting is welcome here today with bulletins for us. PYM minutes under consideration regarding two topics have been circulated with the announcements.

1. Climate Change Summary Minute

Guided by many Friends who have worked tirelessly over the past fifty years, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting adopts a yearly meeting-wide witness on climate change. This corporate ministry is broad and encompasses the work and witness of many people, communities, monthly meetings and organizations within the wider network of Quakers in the Philadelphia region and beyond. A yearly meeting-wide witness on climate change

seeks to raise up as many different voices and actions as possible to make progress on the environmental and societal issues at the heart of the climate crisis.

see circulated document

Discussion: what does this mean for us as a meeting? Could we address the fuel used by Easton Utilities rather than a grand gesture? Think globally, act locally. Consider your investments. Choose Clean Choice Energy through Delmarva Power or your power supplier. They use clean fuels. As a meeting approving the minute sets climate change as a focus and priority.

Minute Approved. Paige and Molly will work on list of Meeting activities addressing climate change to send to PYM.

1. **Racism** On August 2016, members of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, moved by the Holy Spirit, in response to the murders of Philando Castile and Anton Sterling, approved a Minute Regarding State Sanctioned Violence. Our Minute was circulated and adopted by monthly and yearly meetings throughout the United States as well as Quaker organizations such as the American Friends Service Committee. Currently at Annual Sessions Philadelphia Yearly Meeting revisited the minute: Identifying the persistent realities of systemic racism, militarism, materialism, wealth and educational inequality as major contributors to the violence that ravages our communities, the minute called for the following:
 - a. Establishment of Peace Forces
 - b. Community based police training
 - c. Opening of Peace Ce
 - d. Disarmament in the community

The discernment of these Friends can provide a meaningful starting point for meetings to consider their own work.

- What actions has your meeting been inspired to take regarding racism among us?
- What challenges arise for you as you consider racism in the United States in these days?
- How has your meeting been affected?
- What do you feel should come next in our collective work to address racism in our world today?

A future threshing session to look at racial inequities will be arranged for Third Haven.

End of year Treasurer's Report- Cynthia Quast Accepted

Treasurer's Report for fiscal year-end 2019-2020, as of 6/30/20.

In our year-end Budget versus Actual report, our member income was almost \$54,500 or 103% of the budget. Our total income was almost \$75,000 or 114% of the budget. Our ordinary expenses for the year were almost \$64,900. This gave us a net income of just over \$10,000.

On our Balance Sheet we had just over \$69,000 in our local operating bank account, and over \$70,600 in our operating investment account at Friends Fiduciary. On the Prior Year Comparison report our total income for the year was 23% more than last year and our ordinary expenses were 12% more than last year. Our net income was \$7,000 more than last year.

See related balance sheets posted at <http://www.3rdhaven.org>

Martha L. Hawkinson, clerk; Benita Cooper, treasurer; Judy Warder, assistant treasurer; Sumner Parker, Lorraine Claggett, Deb Danser, Doreen Getsinger, Paige Tilghman, Joan Wetmore Scholarships are gradually being increased each year

Planning Committee Update- *Ben Tilghman*

This committee has been on hiatus due to the pandemic and has now reconvened. Uncertainty and changing methods of doing business are recent considerations. Work to be done on the Old Meeting House has an effect upon planning. Global warming considerations are appropriate to planning. Meetings are open to all interested people and will be publicized. Additional committee members are welcome.

Testimonies & Concerns Update- *Paige Tilghman*

(See detailed minutes from the recent T&C meeting circulated in the announcements.)

Key topics of interest:

American Friends Service Committee Free Them All incarceration campaign: possible action letter to Governor Hogan

Health Equity Resource Communities Initiative seeks endorsement by Third Haven Friends Meeting

Environmental issues -Delmar pipeline seeks approval to build and move fracked gas to the Correctional Institution and University of Md. Eastern Shore. This is not clean and is dangerous, being given to explosions. T&C members request the meeting support a letter to Bd. Of Public Works. Timeline for letter submission has been extended. The letter will be circulated in announcements for approval at October Meeting for Business.

Asbury United Methodist Church kitchen rebuild has established a GOFUNDME account “Help the Church that Feeds Our Neighbors” has been launched to raise \$75,000. To help Asbury Methodist church rebuild its kitchen.

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/asbury-unitedmethodist-church-easton-md/marybrian1>

Care for workers in meat processing plants-see minutes of TC

Quaker Voice is a new effort to give Quakers throughout the state a unified voice from a Quaker perspective about legislative topics of interest. Whitley Gray and Dona Sorce represent Third Haven. Testimonies and Concerns will help them establish and communicate topics of interest to Third Haven Friends Meeting and individual members.

Nominating Committee Update- *Connie Crow*

Thank you clerks for responses to email. Members and attenders are asked to think about their leadings for service to the meeting either individually or by committee.

Given this unusual time we might need to reevaluate our purposes. See p. 61 of Faith and Practice about Nominating Committee facilitating training to develop skills and accomplish missions.

Comments: Individuals need to be committed. Committees need to evaluate how well they are meeting their mandates. Faith and Practice provides guidelines for committee responsibilities. Please reach out to each other to draw people into these activities and share that with the nominating committee members: Connie Crow, Jonathan Slocum or Nancy Robbins.

New Business

From Grace Cook:

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting sponsors a number of events. Information on their website

Transgender issues event at PYM Nov 12 with PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gay Youth) re transition issues.

Billy Bail fund hosting PYM fund raising \$3M Mentor and care for arrested people on Zoom.

PYM ends annual fund drive so give by the end of the month please.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 12:55 p.m.

D. Rein, recorder

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>

The Third Haven newsletter circulates during a week before meeting for worship with attention to business to enable readers to review the minutes of the most recent previous meeting for worship with attention to business.

October 11 [Sunday]

Virtual First Day School: The fun continues later in October - Susan Claggett will lead a Quaker storytelling (Faith & Play) at 10:15 on Sunday, 10/11. The story will focus on “being present.” Contact 3rdhaven@gmail.com to receive the details on how to Zoom in to the party and the story.

October 11 [Sunday]

Meeting for worship with attention to business.

October 4 [Sunday]

World Quaker Day

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) invites every Quaker meeting and church from around the world to celebrate WORLD QUAKER DAY (WQD) on October 4, 2020. As the sun rises in each area of the world we want to remember that Quakers are worshipping through every time zone, celebrating our deep connections across cultures and Quaker traditions. We are united in love and can accompany each other on this special day that draws us together. As we worship, let us hold each other in prayer and thanksgiving, and let our hymns of praise resound across the world. The theme, 'What does it mean to be a Quaker today? Living into a Faithful Life in a Changing World' draws us to reflect upon our shared and differing experiences of being a Quaker around to world. It is a chance to celebrate our wonderful diversity of expression, whilst at the same time offering an important opportunity to learn about Friends' experiences of climate breakdown in other parts of the world. <http://www.worldquakerday.org/about-world-quaker-day/>

November 1 [Sunday]
Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 AM

Timely Voter Registration Information

We have heard that many Friends, Quaker meetings and Quaker interest groups are active in supporting voter registration both among nearby populations and within their meetings. As a non-profit organization, the yearly meeting refrains from involvement in political activities to avoid partisanship. Friends have brought urgent concern to the clerks' group about the need to provide information and encouragement to vote in this election. After very considerable discernment and prayerful consideration, the Clerks group has reached unity on providing voter information to Friends across the yearly meeting.

https://go.pym.org/e/791983/oter-registration-information-/27hd4/121182583?h=xoJSQjLn_DYL1RRWHMgzYeReMwvG XK1GbRz1RbPaDmM

Submission to Quaker Voice of Maryland

Quaker Voice of Maryland (an organization that seeks to help Quakers in Maryland have an effective voice in statewide policy decisions) is requesting input from Meetings, Committees, and Friends across Maryland to help guide their policy focuses for the 2021 General Assembly. At the 9th Month's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Third Haven passed two minutes (focused on Climate and Racial Justice) that align well with three possible focuses outlined by Quaker Voice of Maryland:

Climate Justice
Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Reform
Immigration Rights and Civil Rights

Based on Third Haven's recently passed minutes I'd like to submit the above three focuses as our top priorities for the 2021 session of the Maryland General Assembly. *Contact for further information: 3rdhaven@gmail.com* comments or concerns about THFM submitting the above topics as 2021 priorities to Quaker Voice of Maryland. *Whitley Gray*

Updates from the Upstairs of the Meetinghouse

Virtual Pizza Party! What fun we had at our First Day School's virtual pizza party this weekend! The festivities began with Susan Claggett delivering pizzas and fresh-baked chocolate chip cookies to the doorstep of Third Haven families, along with a couple Quaker goodies/games. Then, our crowd of half-dozen families plus several Meeting members enjoyed dinner together via Zoom, connecting for the first time in many weeks. Parents shared how their falls are going, with most school starting virtually and family life shaped around pandemic concerns. We talked about how we miss Third Haven, and chatted a bit about what we could do to sustain our community in the weeks ahead. As pizzas were polished off, Susan led a scavenger hunt - the kid showed off toys, favorite stuffed animals, and then shared their favorite ice cream flavors (maybe for a future ice cream social sometime?). We learned that Cleo and

Emilia have developed a mega hopscotch game the takes up a whole block - take a look downtown on their block if you want a hop. And the evening was capped of with Brody losing a baby tooth! Special thanks to Amy, Susan, Dona, Molly and John for preparing and joining in the fun, and for Larissa for setting up the technology.

What's next? Come join us on Sunday, October 11, at 10:15 for a story circle about the idea of "being present." Susan will lead the sharing during this virtual First Day School, with Amy running the technical bits. Hope to "see" you there!