

Concord Quarterly Meeting
Held at Goshen Monthly
Meeting
January 25, 2015

Minutes

Opening Worship: The meeting opened with a period of worship at 8:35 am.

Welcome: The clerk welcomed the 21 Friends who were present as the meeting began; there were 30 with us by the time the meeting concluded. Individuals were present from the following member monthly meetings -- Birmingham, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown and Wilmington.

Coordinator's Report (Charles Spadoni):

A report on the Quarter's and the Coordinator's activities over the last three months was received with appreciation and is appended as Attachment 1.

Treasurer's Report – Scholarships Report and Financial Statements 12/31/2015 (Bruce James, Westtown):

The financial statements for the last two quarters were received with appreciation and are appended at Attachment 2. The surplus accumulation for the Coordinator is a result of donated services from Rich Ailes. It is prudent to have funds set aside for the Coordinator's doing that work in the future. Going forward there may be savings due to emailing rather than posting many of the newsletters.

Announcement of the Appointment of Two Members to Perform Financial Review (Bruce Harrison, Westtown):

Bob Kolimaga of Goshen and Tom Haviland of Westtown have agreed to perform this task for us.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach to Parents of Students Attending Quaker schools (Betsy Swan, Willistown):

The first host Meetings will be Willistown (March 1), Birmingham (May 3), and Wilmington (November 1). If the host meeting so requests, other members of the Quarter will attend these special meetings to provide informal information and will wear "Ask Me" buttons. Comments on the draft brochure should be given immediately to Charlie Spadoni.

Joys and Challenges Reports of Goshen and Wilmington MMs

The report of Goshen Monthly Meeting was made by Cindy Kern and that of Wilmington by David Scott. Both were received with appreciation and are appended to these minutes as Attachments 3 and 4.

Announcements of Upcoming Events (Bruce Harrison, Westtown):

Planning Committee Meeting, February 1, 2015 3:00 p.m. at **Concord Monthly Meeting in Concordville**

Deadline for submitting Concord Quarterly Meeting's application for tuition aid for the academic year 2015-16 is February 16, 2015

PYM-sponsored conference: "Climate, Race and Justice: We're all in this Together," February 21, 2015, 9:30 a.m. at Arch Street Meeting

CQM Sponsored Open House for Parents of Children Attending Quaker Schools, March 1, 2015,
10:00 a.m. Willistown Meeting

Concord Quarterly Meeting April 26, 2015, at West Chester Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Harrison (Clerk)

David Leonard (Recording Clerk)

Attachment 1:

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Since Quarterly Meeting in October, the Ad Hoc Committee for Outreach to Parents of Children Attending Quaker Schools in the Quarter, of which I am a member, has continued to meet and plan. Betsy Swan will provide its report later in this meeting.

On February 21, 2015, please join us for Concord Quarterly Meeting's fun-filled, Fifth Annual Square Dance. Last year the room was jam-packed with Do-Si-Doers who promenaded throughout the night. Quakers, it seems, have a knack for square dancing. I hope you will come and join in the dancing and fun.

Kerry Lynn Resnick (Goshen), Pat Daly (Goshen), Pete Lane (Westtown) and I have been working on an all-day program for middle school and high school students to be held, tentatively, on April 26, 2015, (the same day as Quarterly Meeting). It will be held on the campus of Westtown School. The morning program will use a ropes course to engage the children in team building. The afternoon program, if effected, will require them to navigate an orienteering (map) course around the campus. The children of Western Quarter will be invited to attend. The details of the program will be announced shortly.

On Thursday, January 15, 2015, I filed with the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College all of the Quarter's minutes of its business meetings from 2002 to and including 2014. I also filed all of its newsletters from 2005 to and including 2014. Chris Densmore, that library's curator, has requested that we file those records every five years.

I have been assisting the Nominating Committee in its undertaking to nominate this year an Assistant Clerk, Treasurer and member of PYM's nominating committee. Each person so nominated and approved by Quarterly Meeting will assume her or his responsibilities on July 1, 2015. The Nominating Committee will make its report at the April Quarterly Meeting.

I have also been working with a group of people involved in last year's Quarter Gathering and PYM's Eco-Justice Working Group to plan and coordinate a gathering of Friends who are interested in the intersection of Climate Change, Race and Economic Injustice. It will be held at Arch Street Meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2015. Its schedule will leave plenty of time for its participants to make to the Quarter's square dance, which begins at 7:00 p.m. I hope to see you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles B. Spadoni, Coordinator

Attachment 2:

CONCORD QUARTERLY MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT Q1 and Q2 January 24, 2015

Tuition Grants:

14 students received tuition grants this year of \$495 each (\$6930 total). Students come from 4 Monthly Meetings (Birmingham, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown) and attend 6 schools (Delaware Valley Friends, Goshen Friends, Friends Select, West Chester Friends, Westtown School, Wilmington Friends) The Tuition Endowment Fund is down 2.4% due to market fluctuations at \$174k.

Budget

Income:

- PYM Covenants for 2014-2015 are on track to meet budget
- Coordinator support is on budget.

Expenses:

- Operating budget is over budget, because of two unplanned initiatives, the promotional sign, and the postcard survey to encourage electronic communications. The expenses are easily met with operating reserve funds.
- Coordinator budget is unchanged, though expenses are expected to be less than income due to the coordinator billing fewer hours than planned. More than 8 months of payroll has accumulated as a buffer for future financial fluctuations.

Report:

Financial Statements for Q1, Q2 and YTD were distributed to the meeting as well and are available on request from the Coordinator or the Treasurer.

Attachment 3:

Report from Goshen Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

When we asked our members and attenders to contribute what they saw as the joys and sorrows of our meeting we received answers that varied from personal experience to a listing of almost every committee and clerk. One of our number recently pointed out that joys and sorrows are usually two sides of the same coin. For Goshen Monthly Meeting, that coin is people. All our joys are centered around our members and attenders, and our sorrows on losing two of them.

Our Meeting for Learning continues to deepen in questions, trust, sharing and attendance. First Day School is a growing intersection of youth and adult explorations of witness and learning which enriches everyone. Meeting for Worship continues to be a richness for member and attender alike while drawing new visitors.

We have new traditions as a community with a fellowship time after worship each week and a (hopefully) annual potluck to welcome new members and transfers. This year we were fortunate to celebrate the 90th birthday of Sue Angry in conjunction with our simple meal. Although our number grew by 11 this year (12 if you count a new baby), we mourn the deaths of Elizabeth Hicks and Jean McMinimee. We miss those who no longer have sufficient good health to be present each week, and we try to be with them when possible.

There have been many activities including trips by the First Day School. We continued our stewardship of our building with a new roof on the meetinghouse and the front of the school. An intergenerational cleanup day was held last fall with overwhelming participation, and there will be one this spring as usual.

As we continue to grow in our witness and service we also hope to grow in the Spirit, both individually and as a community of faith.

Attachment 4:

Report from Wilmington Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

These are highlights taken from the January 2015 Clerks' Report:

Our continuing challenges are receiving adequate financial support from members & attenders and staffing committees. Yet, in the past year we have managed to increase some of our activities and committee work begun in 2013:

- Adult religious education sessions continue and are now overseen by a separate committee. Members and attenders continue to share leadership of these sessions.
- Meeting co-signed a letter supporting the Delaware Clemency Initiative. In January 2015 we displayed on our fence the Memorial to the Lost, an exhibit of T-shirts with the names of those slain by gunfire in Wilmington during 2014.
- We hosted a PYM sponsored Thread Gathering on Communications in November.
- The First Day School program remains vibrant. The children have been working on a number of projects, with support from many adults in the Meeting. This year the First Day School continued the pumpkin project, enjoyed "trunk or treat" for Halloween, planted and cared for the vegetable garden and harvested and sold what they grew.
- Meeting continues to foster fellowship through activities such as monthly pot luck lunches at the rise of Meeting and the annual Strawberry Festival in June.
- We are happy to have Pacem in Terris as a tenant in the Meeting House.