

Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee
Special Meeting
Held at The Hickman
May 22, 2016 – 7:20 p.m.
Minutes

Present: Bruce Harrison, Clerk (WT); Tom Haviland, Treasurer (WT); Tom Woodward (G); Marian Walker (C); Chris Smith (WC); Julie Senko (B); Deb Lyons (WC) and Charles Spadoni, Coordinator, recording.¹

Regrets: Ron Ploeg (WillT); Brian Fahey (Wilm); Deb Wood, Assistant Clerk (WT); Rich Ailes (MT); Pete Lane (WT); Gwynne Ormsby (B); and Ray Hamilton (C).

The meeting began with a period of silent worship.

Treasurer's Update

Tom Haviland reported that he had requested each constituent meeting treasurer to make her or his meeting's fiscal year payments to the Quarter no later than June 30, 2016. Only one meeting still needs to make its second semi-annual payment. If it does so, the Quarter will meet its budgeted amount of income.

Tom also reported that he had requested each such treasurer to advise him as to his or meeting's budgeted payments to be made to the Quarter during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. He does not anticipate having any difficulty presenting a final budget for next fiscal year. There does not appear to be any intimation that any of the constituent monthly meetings will be reducing the amount of their respective PYM covenants.

Tom reported that he had not yet contacted PYM regarding its interest in dealing directly with monthly meetings with respect to their respective PYM covenants rather than dealing through the Quarter. The sense of the meeting was that the Quarter should continue as a conduit for PYM covenant payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, but that at the July Quarterly Meeting Tom (or his substitute) should report on his conversation with PYM and raise the issue of whether the Quarter should remain a conduit for monthly meetings to pay their respective PYM covenants.

Interfaith High School Youth Dialogue

The Coordinator reported on his meeting on May 19, 2016, at Westtown School with Marjorie Scharf, Director, Walking the Walk, Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia; Deb Wood (in her capacity as a teacher at Westtown School); Betsy Swan (in her capacity as a librarian of Westtown School); Kristen Johnson (teacher of Religious Studies at Westtown School); and Brian Blackmore (teacher of religious studies at Westtown School). The purpose of the meeting was two-fold: (1) to determine whether Westtown School would continue to send students to a program sponsored by Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia that brings 15 to 20 high school students together from 5 to 10 weeks during the school year on Sunday afternoons to learn about each others' religions, and (2) to introduce the Coordinator to the program so that he could canvas the Planning Committee to determine whether the Coordinator should attempt to involve high school students who are members or attenders of constituent monthly meetings in such an interfaith program that includes Westtown School students.

¹ The Coordinator clerked the meeting until Clerk Bruce Harrison arrive at approximately 7:45 p.m.

The Coordinator reported that at the meeting Marjorie stated that unless a grant was obtained, each institution that sent students would be expected to pay a fee of \$3,000 plus \$300 per student. Betsy Swan noted that Willistown MM might have funding available to pay the fees for students of constituent monthly meetings.

The sense of the Planning Committee meeting was that given the few high school-aged students who attend constituent monthly meetings and the absence of incentives for such children to participate in such a program over a 5 to 10 week period, the Coordinator should not spend time recruiting participants. The Coordinator noted that on June 1, 2016, he is meeting with PYM's Youth Squad and other Quarter coordinators at which time he will take up the subject with them.

Aging Resources Consultation and Help (ARCH) Program of New York Yearly Meeting; 3-4 Part Series on Issues of Aging

Pam Leland, Executive Director of The Hickman, has suggested two possible programs in which the Quarter could participate with The Hickman: (1) one on the "village movement" in elder care being sponsored by Aging Resources Consultation and Help (ARCH) of New York Monthly Meeting and (2) a no-charge, 3-4 part series on issues faced by aging members of Concord, Western and other quarters (similar to a program PYM sponsors that costs \$200 per session). After extensive discussion, the Coordinator was directed to obtain more information about the ARCH program and report his findings at the next Planning Committee meeting and to begin working with Pam to develop the framework of that 3-4 part series.

Survey on Topics for Workshops and Quarterly Meeting Programs

The Committee reviewed and discussed the topics on the attached spreadsheet. The sense of the meeting was that the topics in red and garnet were "one-off" type programs that the Quarter should undertake, and that those in green, blue and purple should be conducted over time as monthly meeting programs to which other members of the Quarter should be invited.

The sense of the Committee was that a Quarter-sponsored program on racism should be developed, and the Committee directed the Coordinator to work on developing one.

Program on Selective Service Registration

Tom Haviland will follow up with Margaret Haviland about a fall program on the issues each 18-year old male faces and each 18-year old female may face with respect to registering for the Selective Service.

Outreach

The sense of the Committee is that it should continue to focus on the issue of outreach, and that such issue should be on the agenda of its next meeting.

We closed the meeting at 9:05 p.m. following a period of silent worship.

Charles B. Spadoni, recording

RESULTS OF SURVEY RE TOPICS FOR WORKSHOPS AND QUARTERLY MEETING PROGRAMS
AS OF March 2, 2016

Proponent	Meeting	Area	Concept	Comments
Woodward, Tom	Goshen	Racism	PYM's programs to end racism	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Racism	How do we welcome people of color? What programs within PYM are working to end racism in our society?	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Racism		
Harrison, Bruce	Westtown	Religious Education	Quakerism 101	
Senko, Julie	Birmingham	Religious Education	Advanced Study of Quakerism	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Religious Education	Advanced Study of Quakerism	
Woodward, Tom	Goshen	Worship & Ministry	Experiment With Light - Rex Ambler	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Experiment With Light - Rex Ambler	
Avery, Chel	Goshen	Worship & Ministry	In-depth study of a testimony	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	In-depth study of a testimony	
Harrison, Bruce	Westtown	Worship & Ministry	Deepening techniques	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Deepening techniques	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Difference between meditation and worship	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Healing Circles	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Spiritual Nurture Programs	
Booker, Kia	Wilmington	Worship & Ministry	Is Quakerism a Christian religion?	
ESH, Connie	Birmingham	Worship & Ministry	Extended meeting for worship	
Senko, Julie	Birmingham	Worship & Ministry	Biblical explorations	
Senko, Julie	Birmingham	Worship & Ministry	Early Quakers	
Fisher, Linda	West Chester	Environment	Marcellus Pipeline in Chester County	
Fisher, Linda	West Chester	Environment	Global Warming: What We Can Do Locally	

I would like a deeper exploration of how we, as communities and individuals, address racial concerns among Friends. And I have found most programs on the subject, including PYM's, to be decidedly unhelpful. I don't think more information, more awareness, or more analysis are what we need. (At least, they aren't what I need, and some other Quaker members I've talked with have agreed.) The only good Quaker resource I know of (directed to white Qs) is Pendle Hill pamphlet 415, "Living Our Testimony on Equality" by Patricia Schenck, which addresses the problem at this level: "What stops us from being better allies, and how can we

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Eash, Connie	Birmingham	Environment	Environment meetings with program every two or three months rotating among meetings.
Spadoni, Charles	Birmingham	Quaker Practice	How to clerk committee meetings
Leland, Pam	London Grove	Pastoral Care	Issues on Aging