

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Meeting
Held at The Hickman
October 30, 2016 – 7:35 p.m.
Minutes**

Present: Deb Wood, Clerk (WT); David Leonard, Recording Clerk (B); Pete Lane (WT); Gwynne Ormsby (B); Marian Walker (C); Rich Ailes (MT); Chris Smith (WC); Thomas Swain (MT); and Charles Spadoni, Coordinator, recording.

Regrets: Bruce Harrison, Assistant Clerk (WT); Tom Haviland, Treasurer (WT); Tom Woodward (G); Julie Senko (B); Ray Hamilton (C); Ron Ploeg (WillT); Cruce Stark (Wilm); and Deb Lyons (WC).

The meeting began with a period of silent worship.

Quarterly Meeting held at Middletown MM (October 23, 2016)

Comments

Those present who attended Quarterly Meeting at Middletown thought that the program was meaningful and the light (actually extensive) lunch was superb.

Quarterly Meeting at Goshen MM on January 22, 2017

Business Agenda

Concern About Discipline at PYM's 2016 Annual Sessions

The following minute is from the Quarter's October 23, 2016 meeting for worship with attention to business. It concerns the discipline (or lack thereof) observed at PYM's 2016 Annual Session in which the Undoing Racism Group ("URG") submitted a proposal pursuant to which, among other things, URG would nominate and the Yearly Meeting's Nominating Council would approve URG members to serve on all Yearly Meeting councils and committees in an effort to mitigate the effects of racism within the Yearly Meeting:

Another Friend feels that we have not sufficiently acknowledged the work that has been done by the Undoing Racism Group. He also feels that our discipline was lacking at the PYM Annual Sessions in July. We did not hear the minutes from the Saturday sessions, which would have given us a chance to reflect on what had happened. He did feel that there was a sense of movement by the assembled Friends as they reflected further on Sunday and this also was not adequately reflected in the minutes. Friends asked that the CQM Planning Committee bring back to the next meeting of CQM how we could continue discernment about working with the YM to improve its process.

Thomas Swain submitted to the Planning Committee his reflections of what had transpired at Annual Sessions with respect to the URG proposal and what steps should be taken to return to rightly ordered discipline at Annual and Continuing Sessions to ensure that what transpires and what is recorded in the minutes is Spirit-led. After extensive discussion, there was unity among those present that Thomas should take his concerns to Middletown MM to begin the discernment process of what should be done, if anything, to bring about a Spirit-led process at Annual and Continuing Sessions. Then, if Middletown MM is moved to submit and submits a concern or minute to Quarterly Meeting, the Clerk will disseminate such proposal or minute to the clerks of all of the Quarter's constituent monthly meetings and request that their respective monthly meetings submit responses to that minute prior to

the January 2017 Quarterly Meeting at Goshen MM so that the Quarter will be in a position at such meeting to consider and, if moved by the Spirit, act upon those submissions.

Agenda Item re Burdens of Maintaining Meetinghouse Faced by Constituent Meetings Having Few

Since the agenda item about of the burdens of owning and maintaining meetinghouses faced by constituent monthly meetings that have few members was not reached at the October 2016 quarterly meeting, the Planning Committee proposed that such concern be placed near the top of the agenda of the January 2017 quarterly meeting. The Planning Committee discussed at length David Leonard’s view that the Quarter should consider helping those monthly meetings with few members to find alternative ways to lessen the burden of having to maintain and improve their respective meetinghouses rather than waiting until a meeting has decided to be laid down at which time the Quarter becomes responsible for the transfer of such meeting’s properties to another monthly meeting or their liquidation. In the interim, David intends to consult with the members of Concord MM about the property challenges they are facing.

Other Agenda Items

The Treasurer and Coordinator will be asked to give their respective reports. Wilmington MM will be requested to provide its Joys and Challenges report.

Adult Program

Goshen MM has not yet determined what program it will hold at the January 2017 Quarterly Meeting. **The Planning Committee was in unity that if Goshen MM does not have a program on some aspect of undoing racism within the Society of Friends, then Westtown MM should consider dealing with such topic at the April 2017 Quarterly Meeting if Westtown MM hosts Quarterly Meeting that month.**

Childrens’ Program – To be determined

Schedule – To be determined

Review of, and Update on, 2016-17 Youth & Intergenerational Activities

The Planning Committee reviewed approved the following updated schedule of 2016-17 youth and intergenerational activities.

6 Nov	10:00 a.m.	Margaret Haviland’s talk on the issues facing 18-year olds in registering for Selective Service @ Westtown School
3 Dec	9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.	Parents’ Day Off – The Cabin – Westtown
11 Feb 2017		Elementary students’ visit to Newlin Grist Mill in conjunction with Western Quarterly Meeting
18 Feb 2017 (snow date 25 Feb)	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Sixth (Almost) Annual Square Dance – The Coordinator is to request that Willistown MM host it once again; Pete Lane is to arrange for the musicians and caller
23 Apr 2017	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Youth Program with Western Quarter – Westtown School - canoeing and ropes course
? June 2017	12:30-4:30 p.m.	Tubing on the Brandywine
1 Oct 2017	Afternoon	Canoeing and Picnic on Westtown School’s Lake

ZOOM

At Tom Woodward's request, the Planning Committee approved the Coordinator's dissemination to the Quarter's members and attenders of a flyer about the ZOOM program sponsored by Chester County's Family Service that seeks volunteers to drive clients to medical appointments.

ARCH Program

The Coordinator was directed to follow up with Pam Leland, Executive Director of The Hickman, to see if there should be a follow-up program.

Outreach

Members of the Planning Committee are concerned that neither Wilmington MM nor Willistown MM sends a representative to Planning Committee meeting and no members of either meeting attended the October 2016 Quarterly Meeting.

Nominating Committee

The Coordinator reiterated that the Nominating Committee will be convened in January 2017 to find a nominee to serve a one-year term as Assistant Clerk beginning July 1, 2017, then to serve a two-year term as Clerk beginning July 1, 2018, and then to serve a one-year term as Assistant Clerk beginning July 1, 2020.

Update on Tom Brown Endowed Chair

There was none.

We closed the meeting at 9:15 p.m. following a period of silent worship.

Charles B. Spadoni, recording