

BUCKS QUARTERLY MEETING
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
May 18, 2014
Makefield Friends Meeting

Clerk: Boris Simkovich (Makefield)

Recording Clerk: David Rose (Lehigh Valley)

Friends gathered around the appointed hour of 1:00 PM and settled into a period of worship.

Agenda Review: Reviewed and approved

Roll Call of Meetings: Bristol: 2, Buckingham:1, Doylestown:0, Fallsington: 2, Lehigh Valley: 3, Makefield: 2, Middletown:8, Newtown:7, Plumstead: 2, Quakertown NJ: 2, Solebury: 2, Southampton: 2, Wrightstown: 1, Yardley: 5.

Minutes approved

Stories of Vitality were asked for:

- **Wrightstown** Yard Sale tried something new by publicizing on Craig's List and raised \$1300. This matched previous years.
- **Plumstead** Annual Easter Egg Hunt went well with errors canceling each other: underestimate of children who would participate and underestimate of eggs hidden.
- **Lehigh Valley** Talent Show a great success. Program and feast about and for Kenya girl's education given by attending Quaker couple from Kenya.
- **Middletown** First day school constructed raised beds for vegetable garden with food to be donated.
- **Yardley** middle school Friends will be going to Washington DC to learn about Quaker organizations in the capital helped by a donation from the Caldwell family. The hiring of a teacher for middle school has been proven to be the correct decision.
- **Solebury** had a visit from Harriet Tubman while hosting the New Hope/Solebury Historical Society.

Coordinator's Report presented by Holly Olson (Middletown MM). Complete Report available. Inreach portion reported on: Religious Education Friends meeting of March 15th, Monthly Meeting Clerks meeting of March 8th, upcoming *Quarter Gathering: Revitalizing our Quarterly Meetings* on June 7th, Planning for the Peace Fair, and memorial services attended. Outreach reported on: Quakerism A-Z held April 5th, "Creating a Vision for Social Media in Bucks Quarter" meeting on May 4th, Grange Fair volunteer request. Other issues noted: Holly's service on the General Secretary Search Committee is complete, PYM Leadership committee participation, and attendance at the PYM Finance Thread Gathering with some ideas from this group shared. Appreciation was expressed for the Coordinator's attendance at PYM meetings, both to represent the Quarter and to report back to the Quarter on the work being done.

Fallsington MM Annual Report given by Melenie Douty-Snipes, clerk. Complete written report is available. Fallsington is having fun with examples shared. Meeting has started up First Day School again. Meeting conducts an Outreach "Welcome Day" to get us to think about doing a personal inventory of who we know that we could share our Quakerism with. Report contained many accounts of personal involvement with community and social action issues and concluded with the question: How can we mean more to each other?

Chandler Hall Annual Report was not presented. Written report is available. In its place, a report of the work done by the **Chandler Hall Auxiliary** was given by Kathie Parry (Middletown MM). All meetings of the auxiliary have either a speaker or entertainment. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. Past and upcoming programs described. Anyone interested is invited to attend. Worship Services given by different meetings is greatly appreciated.

Future of Worship and Ministry Committee issue was discussed, as requested at Monthly Meeting Clerks' Meeting of March 8th. Outcome of discussion was presented by Leo Fitzpatrick of Wrightstown MM. Many Clerks reported that their meetings do not feel they

need the external support of a Quarter committee on worship as their Worship and Care committee was active and vibrant. The Clerk's gathering supported the laying down of the Quarter Worship and Care committee. A Friend volunteered to draft a minute to be presented after break.

Break.

Budget and Nomination Committee Nominations presented by Janet Baker.

- Allen Gray (Plumstead MM) as Auditor: **APPROVED**
- Ed Snyder (Yardley MM) as Quarter Treasurer to start July 1st. **APPROVED** with gratitude.
- Jenna Seuffert (Middletown MM) as Assistant Treasure: **APPROVED**.

2014-2015 Budget presented by Treasurer Tim Dwyer (Bristol MM). Tim noted that operating expenses are projected to be higher. In response to a question it was stated that the "stub" year of three months which resulted with the change of the PYM fiscal year will not change the fiscal year period that we commit to. While concern was expressed about the gap between projected meeting contribution and total revenue needed of 3%, it was also noted that projected meeting contribution was based on response provided by only half of the meetings in the Quarter. Budget **APPROVED**.

Minute on Quarter's Worship and Ministry Committee presented.

- **Friends gathered at Bucks Quarterly Meeting on May 14, 2014 approved the laying down of the Worship and Ministry Committee of Bucks Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. This action was considered at the February 16, 2014 Bucks Quarter Business Meeting and thought through discussed and threshed by a group of Monthly Meeting Clerks representing most of the Meetings that comprised this Quarter. We appreciate the work in years past by those who served on the Worship and Ministry Committee. Minute APPROVED**

Lehigh Valley Monthly Meeting Annual Report given by Rick Dow, Clerk. Full written report is available. Rick highlighted the opportunities that the meeting provides Young Friends to report back to the Meeting on their activities. An ongoing problem with mold has been resolved. Meeting has utilized PYM resources with a retreat on Aging conducted by PYM staff. The involvement of a meeting member with FCNL is a great asset to the meeting.

Auditor Report given by Ed Snyder. All payments and revenue receipts were found to be in order.

Income and Expense Report given by Treasurer Tim Dwyer. Balance sheet shows that we are in healthy financial position. Report accepted. Minute of appreciation for the work of Tim Dwyer as Treasure was expressed. **APPROVED**

Buckingham Monthly Meeting Annual Report given by Bethann Morgan (Co-Clerk).

Complete report available. Two large issues that provided both joy and opportunities are the aging building and the sharing of the grounds with a Friend's school. Spirit moves strong and members feel held in the light. Games night brings between 10 and 30 persons.

Bristol Monthly Meeting Annual Report given by Tim Dwyer for Clerk Paul Shaffer. Complete written report available. He highlighted that membership has grown by 3 to a total of 23. Meeting continues its work with the homeless in lower Bucks County. Historical Bristol Day is planned again this year, which was a great opportunity last year to bring people into the Meeting House.

Oversight Committee Annual Report given by David Rose (Lehigh Valley MM). Complete report available. A meeting reported that their participation in the annual review process caused them to realize the extent of the Coordinator's penetration into their meeting.

Closing: After announcements and appreciation expressed to Makefield MM for the wonderful job they did hosing Quarterly Meeting, the Business Meeting ended at 3:05 pm with a period of worship.