

BUCKS QUARTERLY MEETING
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2013
Fallsington Friends Meeting

Clerk: Amy Ward Brimmer (Fallsington)

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: No changes to be made. Agenda Approved

Roll Call of Meetings: Bristol:4, Buckingham:1, Doylestown:0, Fallsington: 7, LehighValley: 5, Makefield: 2, Middletown:3, Newtown:3, Plumstead: 0, Quakertown NJ: 3, Solebury: 2, Southampton: 1, Wrightstown: 2, Yardley: 2.

Clerks Comments: Appreciation expressed to Doylestown for hosting last Quarterly Meeting held at Buckingham. Thanks also expressed to Assistant Clerk Boris Simkovich for clerking when the Clerk was out sick, and to many others for helping out with the last Quarterly Meeting.

Minutes approved after corrections noted.

Stories of Vitality and Growth

- Lehigh Valley MM has summer potluck picnics at members' homes every week during the summer.
- Southampton has a discussion after fourth Tuesday weekday evening worship. On September 24th "Building a World Earth Economy" will be the topic. Have around 15 persons present at these discussions.
- Fallsington MM has a film series focusing on spiritual journeys. They will be starting a weekday Meeting for Healing.
- Yardley MM member maintained contact with a former attender who moved to Virginia by attending their wedding. Asked to provide grace in the manner of Friends.
- Quakertown has a new member who then asked to be married under the care of the Meeting.

Coordinator's Report: Show and Tell portion of report displayed a Richland Monthly Meeting lawn sign for "Curious about Quakers?" and a poster "Keep Calm and be Quaker". "Keep Calm" shirts are also available for sale. Holly announced that she is on the PYM Search Committee for a new General Secretary and invited persons interested in applying for the position to contact PYM. Inreach portion contained report on work being done to create a "Supporting Quaker Parents" workshop, consideration of family gathering for BQM, Clerking workshop at next Clerks Meeting. Outreach portion included report on program called "Living on the Edge in Bucks County," successful week at Grange Fair, and the new ad campaign. There will be a workshop with Fallsington Meeting loosely repeating the Final Third workshop held last fall. Full report is available

Bucks Food for Friends Annual Report given by Carol Richardson (Newtown Meeting), Co-Coordinator. Full report is available. According to Carol, BFFF is a great opportunity to share creative cooking talents. Financial status appears sound. Appreciation was expressed to Fallsington for hosting. BFFF is approaching its fifth anniversary.

Solebury Friends Annual Report given by John Kellogg, Clerk. Membership has remained stable during the past year. Expanded First Day school is successful. Family Day in June was a moving experience with the Al Azawee family, who had been sponsored by meetings in the Quarter, sharing their accomplishments and expressing their appreciation. Charter with local boy scouts council was not renewed due to Boy Scouts national policy against homosexuals.

However, the Scouts will continue to do their good deeds for the property. Outreach was topic for a called session which resulted in increased emphasis on electronic media.

Yardley Friends Annual Report given by Betsy Cadwallader. Membership remained stable during the past year. She highlighted the Flea Market which is the largest event of the meeting. Meeting has hired a First Day school teacher who is member of Middletown Meeting and a graduate of George School.

Break at 2:20 pm.

Treasurer's Report given by Tim Dwyer (Bristol Meeting). Summary of Income and Expenses for 2012-2013 Fiscal Year, Current Assets and Liabilities, and Budget for 2013-2014 provided and are available. A comparison of the past three year's budgets was provided. Tim needs to isolate himself to do the research necessary to find out why one Operating line item has gone over budget. He announced that Doylestown Meeting had contributed \$1000 toward the income item "Additional Income". Bill Daly (Middletown) reminded Friends that we have a line item in the budget called "Additional Contributions" which members ought to contribute toward during this fiscal year. This makes up for a potential shortfall at the end of the 13-14 fiscal year.

Chandler Hall and Kendal Corp. Update given by Besty Bayardi (CH Board Member, Wrightstown Meeting). Linkage between the two now indicated on all publicity and signage. Betsy provided the reasons that the search for a partner was necessary and that the partnership has been beneficial for both parties. Some advantages are each others strengths such as Hospice for Kendal and purchasing power for Chandler Hall

Middletown MM Annual Report given by Bill Daly. Complete report available. Membership is stable. Review of funds in care of meeting was undertaken. Meeting has four treasurers. Meeting approved current financial structure.

Wrightstown Friends Annual Report given by Leo Fitzpatrick. Complete report available. He highlighted Spiritual Exploration Group (SEG). Nursery School is providing a service that is building attendance. Website is almost done with the help of FGC. \$120 is being charged by FGC to maintain and provide the training which will enable members to do updates.

Southampton Friends Annual Report given by Carolyn A. Peters Eckel. Meetinghouse is shared with a Swedenborgian congregation, which enables the Meeting to maintain the property. Carolyn shared her experience in visiting with a Friend who was dying and singing to her from the hymnal that she brought with her. She passed away later that night. Friends present were very moved by this story.

The Clerk concluded the Business portion of the meeting by noting that for us to be present with each other is our business as Friends.

Announcements: **1.** Bucks Quarter Peace Fair on Sep. 21 at Buckingham Friends Meeting and School. Bring books and baked goods. **2.** 9-11 anniversary is coming up. Meetings in the Quarter that will be having a midweek Meeting for Worship are Makefield, Lehigh Valley and Plumstead. **3.** Three members in attendance indicated that they were at the March on Washington fifty years ago. Three o'clock is the time that many people are gathering to celebrate this event as this was the time that Martin Luther King gave his speech. It was good to see that Bayard Rustin was recognized at yesterday's rally. **4.** Bristol Meetinghouse had a homeless person visit this morning who was directed to come to Fallsington MM to get information about resources. They came and shared our potluck meal with us, were provided with necessary information and stated that the most important thing that they received was the experience of acceptance.

Meeting closed with worship at 3:00.

