

BUCKS QUARTERLY MEETING
MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING

First Day, Eight Month 29, 2010
Held at Lehigh Valley Monthly Meeting

Clerk: Christopher Lucca

Recording Clerk: David Rose

Meeting began with a period of worship at 1:10 PM which was preceded by group singing led by members of the BQ Singing Group.

Roll Call of Meetings Bristol 1, Buckingham 0, Doylestown 1, Fallsington: 2, Lehigh Valley 8, Makefield 3, Middletown 1, Newtown 3, Plumstead 0, Quakertown 2, Solebury 0, Southampton 4, Wrightstown 1, Yardley 4, Guests were Theresa Miller (Lewisburg Meeting), and Beth Perry (Radnor Meeting).

The Clerk provided the opportunity for **responses to the morning presentation** by Arthur Larrabee as there was no time after the presentation for discussion. The suggestion was made that Monthly Meetings briefly share their examples of vitality and growth at each Quarterly Meeting and that those scheduled for reports give an “executive summary”.

Agenda Approved.

Minutes accepted with corrections offer to spelling and wording.

Report of the Coordinator: Report given by Holly Olson (Middletown): Complete report is available. Holly reported on her Inreach and Intervisitation activities. For Outreach she reported that the revised website is up and running and that if individual Meetings want their page updated, that she can do it if there is no one in the Meeting to take on that responsibility. The report also indicated the difficulty experienced in getting volunteers for the Middletown Grange Fair Quaker Tent. Report accepted. A Friend commented about other Quarter activities that have in the past been laid down due to lack of volunteers.

Annual Report Southampton MM given by Carolyn Eckel (clerk, SMM). Complete written report is available. Carolyn highlighted the process through which the meeting decided to meet only on the fourth Sunday of the month. While they were able to host a number of events this past year, their plans for the coming year are uncertain.

Heeding God’s Call: Therese Miller gave the report. This ecumenical movement to stop gun violence has spread to other places and has received national recognition. She asked to be invited to meetings to give a presentation the work being done to stop gun violence and provided an update and overview of the issue. Friends were asked to imagine living in a world without guns as accessible as they are in our society. A number of the responses spoke of feeling less safe because there are so many guns out there. Therese Miller said that she is on a mission to get Quaker Meetings to becoming involved as a partner faith community and then get groups to form a “hub of action”. On October 17th there will be a major event at Friends Center in Philadelphia and nearby public space to keep awareness alive.

Annual Report Wrightstown MM: Report is not available due to technical difficulties but the verbal report given by Betsy Bayardi, Assistant Clerk, highlighted the developments over the past year. The meeting has experienced the loss of senior members. Six young Friends are leaving for College. Many young friends attend Quaker Schools and do not see the need to be part of the meeting community. This issue was resolved by asking the Young Friends what they wanted and finding out that they wanted to do service projects. Creativity is bubbling up to address the reduction in giving due to the financial crisis with many forms of cooperation.

Treasurer’s Report given by Tim Dwyer (Bristol MM). Everything is running smoothly. Complete report available. No concerns noted. It was requested that the chart which indicated the schedule of Meeting donations be provided by the Treasurer to Meetings so that they would know the time of their expected payment.

Annual Report Yardley Monthly Meeting. Report presented by Ed Snyder (clerk YMM). Complete report available. Ed's verbal summary report explained the reason why the Lake Afton Dam has become a concern to the meeting and the steps that the meeting has taken to come together and find a way to speak for the entire community regarding this issue.

Bucks Food for Friends: Report given by Marna Matthews (Yardley MM). "The dinners at Fallsington Friends Meeting continue to be well attended and well staffed." The word is getting around which has increased donations as well as the number of those coming for dinner.

Middletown Monthly Meeting Annual Report was not read due to there not being a representative from the Meeting. Complete report available.

Meeting closed as we settled into worship at 3:05 p.m.