

**Minutes**  
**Bucks Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**  
**May 20, 2018**  
**At Camp Onas under the care of Solebury Meeting**

**Clerk:** Rick How (Lehigh Valley)

**Acting Recording Clerk:** Beth Taylor (Plumstead)

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

**Welcome** was given by Clerk Rick Dow. He reflected on his experience worshipping in Dublin, Ireland.

**Agenda** was reviewed and accepted.

**Roll call of Meetings:** Bristol:0; Buckingham: 3; Doylestown:1; Fallsington: 4; Lehigh Valley: 3; Makefield: 3; Middletown:4; Newtown: 4; Plumstead: 2; Quakertown: 1; Solebury 5; Southampton:3.

**Minutes** of February 2018 Quarterly Meeting were approved with the noted correction: Stories of Vitality and Growth:

Carol Richardson of NMM wanted to recognize Falls Meeting for their Clothing Drive to benefit hurricane refugees from Puerto Rico. As a member of Bucks Food For Friends (BFFF), Carol wanted to express appreciation to Fallsington for donating the extra clothing from the drive to BFFF guests.

**Stories of Vitality and Growth:**

- Fallsington: Tyler Kapish noted that Bensalem decided to not participate in Resolution 287G regarding participation with ICE.
- Southampton: Carolyn Peters-Eckel reported that they have resumed meeting every First Day as well as Tuesday evenings. Every Second day at 2:30, they have a workday.
- Fallsington: Jonathan Snipes reported that they have consolidated and moved their funds into Friends Equity with a better return, enabling them to do long range maintenance projects as well as outreach.
- Middletown: Holly Olson reported that they are planning for their 335<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the fall. They have established a marker acknowledging the burial of slaves, and working with other groups to do likewise; Nancy Pickering reported that they are going through their collection of old books to be sent to Swarthmore and Earlham's historical libraries.
- Makefield: Boris Simkovich reported that they are dedicating their Peace Pole September 3 at 4:00.

**Coordinator's report:** Holly Olson reported on the bookclub, and the new data base. Volunteers are needed for the Peace Fair. She also reported on events such as Quakerism in a Nutshell and the poetry

reading. The Trenton Thunder baseball event is upcoming. Holly is negotiating with Arthur Larrabee for a Business 101 workshop; attendees were enthusiastic about this. Friend Chris Lucca from Yardley has been appointed Alternate Clerk of PYM. FULL REPORT AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ed Snyder of Yardley presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report as of 3/21/18. FULL REPORT AVAILABLE. We have approximately \$21,000 in the bank and \$44,000 in Friends Fiduciary. He presented our Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual: expenses are as expected in each category. A shortfall in revenue of \$4,565 is ok for this time of the year. Friends are encouraged to report any changes or updates as soon as possible.

Betsy Bayardi, clerk of Budget and Nominating, reported that the Kirkbride Estate has been settled and BQM awaits their \$27,000 share to be used for Outreach.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

**Clerk's Report:** Rick Dow, Clerk from Lehigh Valley, shared that he was encouraged by all the Friends in the Quarter do, from singing to spiritual formation, from book clubs to poetry, as well as addressing social and political concerns. His FULL REPORT IS AVAILABLE.

He addressed our process on the Minute on North Korea presented by Newtown Meeting, about which our Quarter was not in unity. Moving forward, an explicit process for approval by the Quarter remains unclear, except that the bulk of work needs to be done by Monthly Meetings.

**Oversight Committee:** The report was given by Boris Simkovich. The group's task is to advise and support the Coordinator. The group will be developing a Coordinator Personnel Policy Manual. FULL REPORT AVAILABLE.

**Lehigh Valley Report:** given by Christine Murray. She reported that they have about 95 members, with 35-45 in worship each week. They have 12 active committees, to which Christine reported on her participation at Arthur Larrabee's workshop. They have a new Worship and Ministry brochure. A professional CPA will review their accounts every 5 years. FULL REPORT AVAILABLE.

**Fallsington:** Jonathan Snipes reported that they have a tight community with 20-40 gathering each week. They hope to make deeper connections with the Hispanic Community. They are sometimes challenged by latecomers (N.B. This may be a possible topic for the next Clerks' Meeting). They have taken Bristol Meeting under their care as a Preparative Meeting.

**Chandler Hall:** Betsy Bayardi, (Wrightstown MM and Board member) reported they are now under the management of Kendall. They have hired a new Executive Director. They are guardedly optimistic about future growth as the population appears to be declining.

**Bristol:** Holly Olson reported for Bristol Friends that their numbers are low. They are under the care of Fallsington Meeting. Members Jim Fine and Debbie Fine expect to return from the Middle East where they have been working with the Mennonite Central Committee.

**Buckingham:** Amy Connelly reported that they have 62 adult members and 23 minor members; they have been enriched by the participation of new members. They look forward to hosting the Peace Fair. They have singing the first 15 minutes before worship. They maintain a good relationship with Buckingham Friends School. They will be celebrating their 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall!

**Closing:** Thanks were offered to Solebury Meeting and the Board of the Friends Camp Association and Camp Onas for their hospitality this weekend. We closed with a time of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Taylor, Acting Recording Clerk.