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# Doylestown Friends Meeting

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July 2009 Newsletter

**July Meeting for Business – July 12**  
Rise of Meeting

**Ongoing Activities:**

1st Sunday, Rise of Meeting,  
Forum

2nd Sunday, Rise of Meeting,  
Meeting for Business

3rd Sunday, Rise of Meeting,  
Family Sabbath

3rd Tuesday, 7:15 pm. Nonviolent  
Peaceforce, Meetinghouse

Tuesdays, 6-7 pm Peace Vigil,  
Main and State Streets, D'town

Chanting at 9:30 before Meeting  
with Lisa Wildman

**Refreshments:**

Lomax, Jacqui	7/5/09
Mantell	7/12/09
Mapes	7/19/09
McQuate/Stifelman	7/26/09

**Meditation Group**  
**Open to All**

beginning Thursday, June 18, 2009

Friends with similar interests will meet on alternate weeks to pursue meditation practice whenever they can make it to the group. (Bi-weekly commitment is not necessary.) Just come whenever you can.

Meditation practice will held on alternate Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 PM , and will be conducted as *silent* group practice, regulated by a monitor.

Group members will take turns serving as monitors. While the exact format is left to the discretion of the monitor, the group might typically sit for two periods of 30 minutes, with 15 or so minutes of silent walking meditation between periods of sitting meditation. Walking meditation may be done outdoors, weather permitting. Brief discussion afterwards, if desired. Bring a meditation cushion if you have one.

Questions: please email Jeanette de  
Richmond: [jderichmond@gmail.com](mailto:jderichmond@gmail.com)

**DOYLESTOWN FRIENDS MEETING**  
Minutes  
Meeting for Worship for Business, June 14, 2009

Clerk Stu Bush opened the meeting with worship. Thirteen Friends were in attendance.

The minutes of May 3 were approved.

Education and Conference – Stu reported for Anna Shantz that there are conference funds available for friends who need help to attend FGC or PYM sessions.

Meditation Group – Stu reported that a Meditation Group is being formed and will meet every other Thursday evening from 7:00 to 9:00, beginning June 18. There will be a rotating leader/monitor; the format for each session will be at the discretion of the leader.

Pastoral Concerns Committee – Alan Stifelman reported that Ryan Baker has requested membership. PCC met with Ryan and recommends approval of his request. He is already active in the meeting. Meeting approved Ryan for membership.

Elizabeth Serkin has asked to resign. PCC met with Liz and recommends approval. She fully understands the ramifications of her request. Meeting approved.

DFM received one of a series of letters to meetings from an individual from Kenya requesting financial assistance. PCC denied the request because it does not fall within the mission of our meeting. The committee gave limited assistance to a local family. Because they needed more help than we were able to give, they were referred to other resources.

Pennswood Village worship group would like a representative from DFM to attend meeting for worship with them once a month. Some are members of DFM. Please let Mel Scott know if you are able to go.

Because some members/attenders work on Sunday and are unable to attend meeting for worship, perhaps we should consider a mid-week worship.

Treasurer's Report – Ken Miller reported that, as of the end of May, we received 64 percent of budgeted income and spent 65 percent of expenses. We still have some major payments and transfers to make in June—transfers to the Atkinson Fund, Capital Maintenance Fund, gifts to Quaker organizations and final payment to BQ/PYM.

We have received about \$3,500 in donations so far in June, we need to bring in an additional \$8,500 for a total of \$12,000 this month to do all we would like to do. Some expenses are under budget.

The Atkinson Fund, named for former member Helen Atkinson, helps Friends/attenders attend such retreats as FGC, PYM residential sessions, family retreat and women's retreat.

Donations this year are running the same as in past years; Friends seem to be giving the same amount but give more frequently.

Final Approval of 2009-2010 Budget – Next year's budget differs from those of past years because of the \$5,000 contingency fund, which includes \$2,000 for BQ/PYM, \$1,600 for Capital

Maintenance Fund and \$1,400 for donations. Transfers and payments will be deferred until the end of the year and are contingent upon the receipt of donations or other inflows to support their funding. The budget was approved.

Environmental Working Group – Ken Johnson reported on the energy audit done April 23, 2009. Our building has numerous air leaks at windows, doors and ventilation system, which may account for more than 30 percent of energy loss. Forced air introduction to the heating system in basement severely increases the load on the system and may be doubling our heating utility usage. Method used to control humidity in basement is flawed.

The consultant found a hole in the roof that needs to be repaired right away. He also said the hot water heater is a dangerous fire hazard and should be replaced immediately. He recommends an on-demand type heater with electronic ignition. He found that the air intake vent was blocked and useless. It needs to be cleaned periodically.

Some recommendations that are relatively easy and inexpensive to implement include:

- Seal off ceiling vents in winter
- Replace window latches
- Seal air leaks around doors
- Install interior storm windows on windows that we do not open
- Properly seal a/c ducts to collars in attic
- Insulate access panels
- Replace masking tape sealing boxes covering recessed lighting with better adhesive.
- Add an additional layer of insulation in the attic.

Consultant Ted Inoue is willing to meet with the property committee to discuss implementation of his recommendations. He included a list of green contractors and energy saving tips. Stu will talk to Ted Fritch, Clerk of Property Committee, about setting up a meeting with Ted Inoue. Ken Miller and Stu would like to be included in this meeting. The audit is available electronically and contains useful information for homeowners. The Property Committee will look at the audit before it is distributed.

Property Committee – Meeting approved replacing the hot water heater with an on-demand heater with electronic ignition. Stu will contact Ted Dempsey to find out if he has fixed the hole in the roof. We have one estimate for exterior painting. Stu will ask Ted Fritsch where we are on replacing the refrigerator.

The hedge at the front west corner of the meetinghouse is overgrown and needs to be trimmed. It probably is our neighbor's hedge. We should have a conversation with them about some joint maintenance.

Ryan Baker would like to build a raised bed vegetable garden in the backyard. It would be great to involve the children in growing and harvesting. Groundhogs are a big problem.

The meeting concluded with worship.

Betsy Eschallier for Jill Tafoya

## **Everyone can submit items for the Newsletter**

Send items for the newsletter to the editors, Debra Finnegan-Suler and John Suler (suler@mindspring.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. If you don't receive within a day or two our email indicating that we received your message, something went wrong with email communication. Please resend your item. (Items submitted in plain text or very simple text formatting in Word help us prevent unpredictable problems in how the newsletter will print.) Send postal and email address changes, as well as telephone number changes, to the recorder, Ken Miller, at kenm@fgcquaker.org

### **DOYLESTOWN FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER**

Stu Bush, clerk

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215-340-0525 (press 9 to leave message)

