

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Meeting  
Held at The Hickman  
April 30, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.  
Minutes**

**Present:** Deb Wood, Clerk (WT); Tom Haviland, Treasurer (WT); Rich Ailes (MT); Tom Woodward (G); Julie Senko (B); Gwynne Ormsby (B); Marian Walker (C); Chris Smith (WC); Chris McKenney (B); Anne Satterthwaite (WillT); Lauren Buckalew (B); and Charles Spadoni, Coordinator, recording.

**Regrets:** Bruce Harrison, Assistant Clerk (WT); David Leonard, Recording Clerk (B); Pete Lane (WT); Ron Ploeg (WillT); Cruce Stark (Wilm); Deb Lyons (WC); and Ray Hamilton (C).

The meeting began with a period of silent worship.

**Quarterly Meeting held at Westtown MM (April 23, 2017)**

**Comments**

Tom Woodward commented that he thought Deb Wood had done a “masterful job” clerking the meeting. There was unity among those who attended the business meeting that the delivery in the middle of that meeting of PYM’s April 22, 2017, letter regarding staff changes at PYM (which deals with process and undoing racism issues) by the Assistant Clerk to the Clerk was timely, and that the decision of the Quarterly Meeting not to endorse Thomas Swain’s letter was the appropriate decision under the circumstances.

~~A member Gwynne Ormsby~~ noted that after the program she had heard several people state that they liked being among Friends from the other Quarter at meeting for worship, lunch and the program, and that such a joint undertaking with Western Quarter should be replicated in the future. Rich Ailes suggested that if another joint undertaking with Western Quarter is planned, it should be held at Westtown Meeting because it has available to it the facilities of Westtown School. Others thought that other constituent monthly meetings could accommodate such a joint undertaking.

Rich Ailes asked about how the cost of the program was shared. Tom Haviland explained that the \$1,300 fee charged by Yes ... Playback Theatre was allocated \$435 to each of Westtown MM, Concord Quarter and Western Quarter. He noted that Westtown School had been approached about contributing to the cost, but it did not share in it because the School did not believe that a significant number of students would participate. Deb Wood suggested that Westtown School might be interested in funding a joint program if it is approached in the August or September prior to its being held.

**Quarterly Meeting to be held at Willistown MM on July 23, 2017**

**Business Agenda**

**(1) *Ad Hoc* Committee on Monthly Meetings’ With Limited Attendance**

David Leonard will be asked to report on his committee’s work.

**(2) Establishment of a Program in which Members of Other Monthly Meetings will join Concord MM in Worship**

The Coordinator noted that Paul Indorf, a member of Swarthmore MM, has been working to increase attendance at monthly meetings in which meeting for worship is sparsely attended. He has focused on monthly meetings in Chester Quarter and on Concord Monthly Meeting. One example of Paul's work is his arranging for members of other monthly meetings in Chester Quarter to attend Darby Monthly Meeting the first Sunday of each month and share in a fellowship lunch afterwards. The Coordinator suggested that the Quarter might want to pursue a similar program for Concord MM. Although it was recognized that some meetings do not have enough members for some of them to participate in such an undertaking, the Committee was in unity for having Deb Wood contact Valerie Peery, Concord MM's Clerk, to see if that monthly meeting would be interested in having such a program implemented for it. Tom Woodward noted that such a program would introduce members of other meetings to Concord MM and could lead to further discussions about consolidation of monthly meetings.

**(3) Joys and Challenges Report**

Concord MM is scheduled to provide its report at the July 23, 2017, Quarterly Meeting. Deb Wood will bring that to Valerie Peery's attention when they speak.

**(4) Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer will submit a financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

**(5) Coordinator's Report**

Hopefully, a new Coordinator will be introduced, and she or he may be asked to provide a report.

**(6) Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee will present its report on its efforts to find a replacement for Pete Lane who is serving at Concord Quarter's Representative on PYM's Nominating Council and who has submitted his resignation that is to be effective when PYM's Annual Session convenes in July 2017.

**Program**

Adult Program

Anne Satterthwaite, on behalf of Willistown Monthly Meeting, asked the Planning Committee to help it plan and implement a program at the July 23, 2017, Quarterly Meeting to

be held at Willistown MM. Rich Ailes suggested that Paul Indorf be invited to describe his leading to increase the number of Friends attending meeting for worship at under-populated monthly meetings in Chester and Concord Quarters. The Committee was in unity with that suggestion and directed the Coordinator to contact Paul to discuss his interest in, and availability to conduct, such a program.

Schedule

8:30-9:45 meeting for business  
 10:00-11:00 meeting for worship  
 11:15-12:00 program  
 12:15-1:15 lunch

Youth Program/Daycare

Anne confirmed that Willistown MM will conduct a youth program and will provide childcare. The outlines of the youth program have not yet been worked out.

**Review of, and Update on, 2016-17 Youth & Intergenerational Activities**

The Coordinator reviewed the following schedule of 2016-17 youth and intergenerational activities. In red are the Coordinator’s comments.

18 Feb	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Sixth (Almost) Annual Square Dance – Willistown MM; <b>good attendance; no reason not to continue it in 2018</b>
10 June		Wilmington MM’s Day at Newlin Gristmill; <b>all monthly meetings will be urged to attend</b>
18 June 2017	12:30-4:30 p.m.	Tubing on the Brandywine
1 Oct 2017	Afternoon	Canoeing and Picnic on Westtown School’s Lake in conjunction with Western Quarter; <b>arrangements need to be made with Westtown School, including the provision of an insurance certificate</b>

**Nominating Committee**

Charles Spadoni will reconvene the Nominating Committee to seek a replacement for Pete Lane who is serving as Concord Quarter’s representative on PYM’s Nominating Council but who as resigned as of the date PYM’s 2017 Annual Session is convened.

**Friendly Review**

Tom Haviland will contact Tom Gilbert of Willistown MM and David Wickard of West Chester MM to conduct a “Friendly Review” of the Quarter’s financial books and records for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Tom contemplates that the review will take place in September 2017.

**Termination of the Quarter’s Role as a Pass-Through of PYM Covenants**

Tom Haviland will contact the treasurers of the constituent monthly meetings to remind them to send their monthly meetings’ PYM covenants due on and after July 1, 2017, directly to PYM.

## **ARCH Steering Committee**

The Coordinator noted that at least one representative of each monthly meeting other than Concord MM and Wilmington MM will be attending the first ARCH Steering Committee meeting that will be held at The Hickman on May 10, 2017.

## **Newsletter Articles**

Rich Ailes believes he will have a sufficient number of articles for the July newsletter.

## **Workshop on Racism – URG**

After extended discussion, the Committee was in unity that at this time a workshop on undoing racism should not be planned by the Quarter during the remainder of 2017, particularly in light of Willistown MM's having sponsored such a program that was held on April 1, 2017. Whether West Chester MM will be interested in focusing on that issue in the program it conducts at Quarterly Meeting in October 2017 has yet to be determined.

## **Outreach**

The Committee was in unity that the Quarter should focus on the undertakings of Paul Indorf described above.

## **Update on Tom Brown Endowed Chair**

None.

## **Other**

None.

We closed the meeting at 8:50 p.m. following a period of silent worship.

Charles B. Spadoni, Coordinator, recording