

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Minutes
May 2, 2021 2pm by Zoom**

LP draft 5/4/21

Present: Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Wilm, Clerk), Chris McKenney. (B), Charlie Spadoni (B, Treasurer), Rich Ailes (M), Deb Lyons (WC), Steve Kupferschmid (Willis), Marty Boston (B), Lynne Piersol (Coordinator), Pat Daly (G)

Excused: Julie Senko (B), Melinda Wenner-Bradley (WC), Deb Wood (WT)

Worship

Approval of January 24, 2021 minutes - approved Debbie Murray-Sheppard

Approval of Agenda - approved Debbie Murray-Sheppard

Review of QM by Zoom on April 25, 2021: Debbie Murray-Sheppard+

A total of 25 people were present for all or part of meeting for business, representing all meetings. We lost about 16 for worship, but gained enough so that there were about 28 people at worship. We lost some and then gained some for the program with Oskar Castro so there were still about 35 present. About 62 folks came for all or part of the day. Sadly no youth attended the program at 10am; parents are probably choosing in person events over Zoom and some meetings are having in person children's programming now. The idea of having a project-based activity as happened in January 2020 is appealing. We had positive feedback about the program and the concert. It was interesting to hear how meetings have been discussing the queries from PYM.

Planning for Joint Quarterly Meeting with Western Quarter on July 18, 2021: Lynne Piersol

A Planning Group consisting of the two Coordinators, and representatives from Willistown Meeting (whose turn it would have been) and the Western Quarter's Support Committee met on March 26. We recommend that it be virtual with all events on the same day. We also talked about the schedule and a possible program.

Tentative Business Agenda for July not necessarily in this order...): Lynne Piersol

- Joys and Challenges Report: Concord
- Report from The Hickman
- Treasurer's Report
- Nominating Committee Report
- Working Group on Aging Concerns Update
- Coordinator's Report
- Query on reopening/continuing hybrid meetings? (This will inform discussion about how to do the next Quarterly Meeting)

Lynne will let The Hickman know that they need to provide a report and will also contact Concord for their Joys and Challenges report.

Schedule (we added 15 minutes to the lunch break from the proposed timing):

8:30am-10:00am – Meetings for Business for both Quarters (one could be in a breakout room)

10-10:15am – Break

10:15-11am – Intergenerational Community Worship with a story at the beginning

11:00-11:45am – Lunch break – take a break from the screen or bring your lunch and chat. (Change to longer lunch break -

11:45-1:15pm – Program – Middle East

Possible children’s programming: Community worship with a story at 10:15 as was done in January. The planning group decided not to try to do a children’s program online since there has been such limited attendance in the past, and none in April.

Review and Updates on fellowship activities:

Lynne Piersol

March 13	Hiking in the Land of the Lenni Lenape; a hike at Okehocking Preserve, was very successful with 27 total attending, including the organizers. In the end the permit process was too complicated and expensive, so we opted to keep the group smaller, also better during the pandemic. It was wonderful to see folks greeting each other who hadn’t seen each other for a year. And we had 11 children.
August 8 ?	Tubing on the Brandywine at MaryEtta Clendenin’s home. Maybe not a potluck, but everyone bring a lunch. Lynne will reach out to Western Quarter for further planning.
Fall (late September, early October?)	Hayride? Or picnic and canoeing at Westtown? Not sure about whether either host is willing. Or a hike? Planning Committee agrees an outdoor event would be good for the fall. <u>Lynne will consult with Deb Wood, Western Quarter Coordinator to see if they want to collaborate.</u> Joe Stratton is not sure about having hayrides yet, due to COVID restrictions, but we could reserve a tentative date if we wanted.

Document Retention and Archiving policy drafts:

Lynne Piersol

After more revisions and a meeting with Charlie Spadoni and Rich Ailes, the policy is ready for approval, noting that there can always be changed if needed in the future. The policy was approved. The task of archiving should be added to the job description and to the time line document for the work of the Coordinator. It should also be included as a tick off for Quarter Coordinator evaluation. Rich Ailes will make a “Policies” tab on the CQ website for this and other policies.

Nominating Committee:

Lynne Piersol

The Committee is still looking for an Assistant Clerk and have a couple more people to ask. There are enough people on Planning Committee that have served in the role of Clerk, that one could fill in for Debbie Murray-Sheppard if needed for July’s Quarterly Meeting.

Coordinator Search update: Rich will reach out to Beth Lawn, as a potential Coordinator or as an interim. We have no applications yet. The group was urged to keep mining our connections. Lynne will definitely stay through June if needed, possibly longer.

Newsletter Articles: Ideas include the History of Goshen Meeting, the Middle East program for Quarterly Meeting, a personal experience of someone who has been at Ramallah Friends School (Max Carter has a book about Ramallah Friends School and Rich Ailes’ wife knows him), how meetings are

handling reopening, the Choosing Senior Housing Research Group, and an article about the people who did the Troubled Waters concert - introduction to Black Composers (Marina Pavluk of West Chester Meeting would have the West Chester connection to Clipper Erickson, the pianist who did the concert.)

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns:

Rich Ailes

The group has organized 2 upcoming workshops on safety on May 6 and 13. The Choosing Senior Housing Research support group is meeting monthly and will have someone coming from SeniorDirectory on May 17. The Working Group on Aging Concerns will next meet on May 5 in person outside and have a picnic at Birmingham Meeting. Evelyn Brownlee, of Wilmington Meeting, will be the next Clerk of the group starting July 1, 2021.

In reach:

Lynne Piersol

Lynne continues to share resources with meetings and encourages meetings to share their events with others outside their own meeting. The idea of having programs across the quarter, not limited to particular meeting members was raised. Debbie Murray-Sheppard talked about a book discussion group she participates in that includes several meetings. The Youth Program Planning Group has functioned some, most recently in helping to organize the Hiking in the Land of the Lenni Lenape event. This group can be called on in the future to help with children's programming at Quarterly Meeting.

Outreach:

Lynne Piersol

The Coordinator is continuing Facebook posting and sharing on the PYM website. The idea of having a quarter program for folks interested in Quakerism was mentioned..

Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee—

Lynne Piersol

The Committee next meets on May 3, 2021 at 3:15 via Zoom and is open to any interested.

State of the Quarter report:

Lynne Piersol & Debbie Murray-Sheppard

Pending. Debbie Murray-Sheppard and Lynne Piersol will talk soon.

Time and location for the next meeting. July 25, 2021, 2pm via Zoom.

Format for Planning Committee going forward? It will be on Zoom for July. Having it on Zoom has been convenient, especially for those who are not geographically close to West Chester. We could consider in person meetings on occasion in the future.