

Concord Quarterly Meeting via Zoom on July 18, 2021 Minutes

Opening Worship - Debbie Murray-Sheppard welcomed attendees to the meeting and began the meeting at 8:30 AM with a period of worship.

Welcome to Newcomers - The clerk welcomed Bianca Santini-Dumas, the new Concord Quarter Coordinator.

Monthly Meeting Count (Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, Wilmington) Nineteen friends were present as the meeting began. All the Meetings in the Quarter except Goshen were represented.

Approval of Agenda - The agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2021 - The minutes from April 25, 2021, were approved as written. Debbie thanked Marty Boston, the recording clerk, for taking the minutes.

Joys and Challenges Report from Concord Meeting - Elizabeth Varley gave the Joys and Challenges report from Concord. Attendance at Concord remains low. A Montessori Preschool for ages three to six may begin using the Concord Meeting building by 2022. Debbie asked the group to hold Concord Meeting in the Light.

Report from The Hickman (attached) - Marty Boston gave the yearly report from The Hickman. Debbie asked the group to hold The Hickman in the Light.

Treasurer's Report (attached) - Charles Spadoni reviewed the Treasurer's report. All Meetings except one contributed to the Quarter. These funds go into the Friends Fiduciary Fund. The Quarter gave seventeen students scholarship money this past year. The Clerk thanked Charlie for his work as Treasurer.

Nominating Committee Report - Deb Wood gave the Nominating Committee Report. The group is still looking for an Assistant Clerk. If people have suggestions for this role send suggestions to Deb Wood, Julie Senko, Melinda Wenner-Bradley, Rich Ailes or Bianca Santini-Dumas. **Chris McKenney volunteered to be Interim Assistant Clerk for the Quarter until a new Assistant Clerk is identified. The group approved Chris in this position.**

Working Group on Aging Concerns (attached) - Rich Ailes gave the report on the Working Group on Aging Concerns. This group that has been in existence for four years is vibrant and continues to make various presentations on aging. Evelyn Brownlee will be the new clerk for the Working Group. **The Quarter thanked Rich for his leadership of the Working Group on Aging Concerns for the past four years.** Serita Spadoni detailed a more in-depth history of the Working Group. The most recent issue of the Concord Quarter Newsletter has an article about the Working Group on Aging that shared its history and some of the programs it has sponsored.

Coordinator Report (attached) - Bianca Santini-Dumas, the newly hired Coordinator, introduced herself to the group and gave the Coordinator's Report. Rich Ailes encouraged friends to let Bianca help the Quarterly Meetings with social media as she has strong skills in this area. Debbie Murray-Sheppard welcomed Bianca on behalf of the Quarter.

An item for discussion or sharing: Safe Return to Meeting Houses **Debbie Murray-Sheppard**

Debbie asked what the Meetings in the Quarter are doing about returning to in-person worship. Steve Kupferschmid reported that Willistown Meeting is meeting in-person as well as on Zoom. Elizabeth Varley reported that Concord Meeting is meeting in-person since it does not have the capability for Zoom meetings. Chris McKenney reported that Birmingham Meeting has blended worship—currently meeting outdoors and on Zoom. On September 5th Birmingham will begin meeting indoors as well as on Zoom. Serita Spadoni added that Birmingham Meeting surveyed members about how they wish to meet and received helpful information about how to proceed this coming year. Rich Ailes reported for Middletown Meeting. Middletown has had blended worship using Zoom via Rich's iPhone with some people meeting in-person. Middletown Meeting plans to continue both in-person and Zoom meetings. Pam Cerchio reported for Wilmington Meeting saying it has been meeting indoors with attendees masked and via Zoom as well. Wilmington Meeting has asked unvaccinated people to continue to wear masks ongoing.

Debbie asked the group about the format for the Concord Quarter business meeting in the future. Evelyn Brownlee asked to continue with a Zoom option. Elizabeth Varley asked to have hybrid meetings for business. Rich Ailes encouraged the group to choose either in-person or Zoom meetings as all meetings don't have good technology for blended meetings. Serita Spadoni suggested that the Quarter alternate Zoom business meetings and in-person business meetings. Debbie Murray-Sheppard said that in-person meetings attract more people. David Leonard spoke about how attendance in some places has grown by reaching out to meeting alumni through Zoom. The group will continue to discuss how to proceed in the future at Concord Planning Committee.

Reading of Minutes for Approval - Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)

Actions that were approved by the group were reviewed. They are in bold and underlined in the minutes.

Second Count of Meetings in Attendance - Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)

At the second count of the attendees, twenty people were in attendance. All the meetings except Goshen Meeting were represented.

Respectfully Submitted, Martha Boston, Recording Clerk

Attachments:

Report from The Hickman

The Hickman Friends Senior Community of West Chester is pleased to bring this report to the Quarter, particularly this year as we slowly emerge into a post pandemic era and as we celebrate 130 years of quality Quaker inspired senior care. We continue to remain committed to our mission which is to offer individualized services and assistance to older adults who seek a comfortable, safe and supportive living environment.

The last years events have informed us of the pragmatism and resilience of our beloved residents, as well as our staff. The Hickman has persevered and recovered from two nationwide pandemics. (The first being the 1918 influenza pandemic). Our future and sustainability remain front of mind for our Board and Leadership team. As you recall, we opened the Anna T. Jeanes building in May of 2018 and while building a solid census we were forced to cease our admissions to ensure the safety of our residents and staff through the COVID-19 pandemic. This past April, we were able to once again welcome back families and visitors due to achieving "herd immunity" internally and with the successful vaccine roll out within the county driving community positivity rates down. We are again able to admit new residents and provide for the robust community programming our residents have come to enjoy over the last 130 years.

Toni Kelly who was previously the Hickman's Director of Resident Services and Risk Manager is now serving as the Interim Executive Director. With Toni's leadership we are currently undertaking an evaluation and strategic revisioning of our historic Hickman building. This charming 87-year-old building is an integral part of the Quaker Block. Planning and long-term use visioning is beginning to take place and we are hoping to identify an exciting, durable use of this building to enable us to continue to provide for a safe, accessible, worry-free senior living environment for many years to come.

We approach this next period of change with optimism and intention, fully understanding that our industry is rapidly changing, highly competitive and remains in great demand. Given this knowledge as a small single site mission-driven organization, we recognize the investment of time necessary to develop a larger group of supporters and donors to assist us to position for the future.

In sharing this report to the Quarter, we would like to acknowledge those individuals and Meetings who continue to support our efforts through financial contributions. Additionally our work is strengthened through the staunch support of the following Concord Quarter Friends on our 16 member board of directors: Betsy Stratton from Middletown Meeting; Marty Boston from Birmingham Meeting; Evelyn Brownlee, Chenda Davidson and Barry Snyder from Wilmington Meeting; Dean O'Bannion and Diana Hodgson from Willistown Meeting; These Concord Quarter Friends are joined by Andrea Taylor from Centre Meeting, Matt Krasney of Falsington Meeting, and Hank Schellenger of Valley Friends. We would welcome the participation of other Friends who are interested in our mission and are able to deeply engage in the work of governance.

In closing, the next year will bring about welcomed change, and another year of welcoming new residents into our service. We are grateful and appreciative of the support and encouragement from Concord Quarter Friends.

Submitted by Martha Boston, Clerk of the Governance Committee and Member of the Board of Directors, on behalf of Betsy Stratton Chair, Board of Directors

CONCORD QUARTERLY MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021 Un-reviewed Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021 (Except As May Be Noted Below, Reported On A Cash Basis)

- One constituent monthly meeting failed to fulfill its financial covenants.
- On February 1, 2021, Friends Fiduciary Corporation exchanged Green Fund units for Growth and Income Fund units thereby terminating the Green Fund. A final earnings distribution from the Green Fund was made in February 2021.
- Approximately \$956 of the Coordinator's compensation that was awarded for the prior fiscal year was paid in the current fiscal year for ease of administration.

Constituent Monthly Meeting covenant payments received after June 30, 2021, but on or before July 15, 2021 were treated as being received on June 30, 2021.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS INCOME STATEMENT

**Through The Fiscal Ending June 30, 2021
Actual Revenues and Expenses Versus Budgeted Revenues and Expenses for that Period
July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021, Budget July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020**

(numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)

BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 2021, Balance Sheet Versus Prior Year's June 30 Balance Sheet

- There are no liabilities.
- Effective February 1, 2021, Friends Fiduciary Corporation exchanged Green Fund units for Growth and Income Fund units thereby terminating the Green Fund.

- The material increase in the market value of the Quarter's Growth and Income Fund units over their prior year's market value is attributable to the significant increase in the market value of equities during that period and the mandatory exchange of the Quarter's Green Fund units for Growth and Income Fund units. **(numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)**

Note: Individual constituent monthly meeting June 30, 2021, Growth & Income Fund balances are available upon request.
Respectfully submitted, Charles B. Spadoni, Treasurer July 18, 2021

Concord Quarterly Meeting Nominating Committee Report: 18 July 2021

Committee members: Rich Ailes, Melinda Wenner Bradley, Julie Senko, Deb Wood, Lynne Piersol/Bianca Santini Dumas, coordinator - The committee has continued to search for a nominee for the role of Assistant Clerk. We have spoken with many. Friends have responded that their lives are full enough with volunteer, family, Monthly Meeting and/or work responsibilities. The committee is open to receive names to consider or thresh. The assistant clerk would have until July 2022 meeting to learn the role and gain familiarity with the Quarter's work before assuming a two year term as clerk in July 2022.

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting

The Aging Concerns Working Group continues to meet regularly. It is a vibrant group and is open to anyone in the Quarter interested in dealing with the experience of aging. The next meeting will be September 8 at 10:30 AM and will probably meet at The Hickman with some participants joining by Zoom. The group has transitioned over to a new clerk, Evelyn Brownlee of Wilmington Meeting, with Rich Ailes ending his clerking duties as of June 30. In May the working group hosted two on-line workshops titled Staying Strong, Staying Smart, Staying Safe. The first workshop was on home safety and falls awareness, with presenters from Friends Life Care and The Barclay. The second workshop was on medication management and driver safety, with presenters from The Hickman and the Bryn Mawr Rehab's Driving Program. Both workshops drew about 12 folks in attendance at each session. Notes from these workshops are on our web page at: <https://concordquarter.org/aging-concerns>. The working group will be discerning how to increase attendance at future workshops although we are a bit perplexed as to why attendance has been below expectations. The Senior Residence research group also participated in a nice information session with the marketing director of the publication "Senior Directory" which is a free quarterly booklet of the hundreds of senior residential and health services in our Delaware Valley region. We are looking forward to working with our new coordinator Bianca Santini-Dumas. We welcome Lynne Piersol's continued participation in the group in her new civilian role. Lynne asked the group if she could still participate because she finds the work so valuable. Members approved enthusiastically.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Coordinator Report for July 18, 2021

Greetings Friends! I felt it would be appropriate to include my introduction from the most recent newsletter below: It is my pleasure to introduce myself, your new Concord Quarterly Coordinator. My name is Bianca Santini Dumas, OPC'10 Alumna. I am a mother to a rising 3rd grader who may be attending meetings with me. I appreciate all topics related to wellness, productivity, music and travel. I enjoy nature and its ability to provide an escape into familiarity.

My time at Penn Charter gave me an introduction to the importance of embodying virtues, values & principles to the best of my ability under all circumstances. The pandemic tested me in almost every way possible but ultimately strengthened my heart, my connection with my family & ignited my call to action. Connecting and providing resources is a passion of mine and I look forward to doing my part by uplifting the community through this position.

I have been coordinating meetings and events for a little more than a decade throughout high-school, college, my professional career and as an active member & volunteer of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated.

I am excited to meet each of you in person as the world continues to "open up", safely. I am eager to learn and never been known to be shy. Please make your presence known as you feel called. If you have any questions regarding meetings, I am available during regular business hours except for most Wednesdays. 267.632.7770

I have attended a few Meeting for Business as well as Meeting for Worship (Wilmington & Birmingham). I was unaware of how much I missed these spaces since my last encounter with Quakerism in 2010.

My hope is to put time into the coordinator's blog featured on our website as I continue participating and welcoming the "still, small voice".

I am thrilled to see how fluent the meetings I have attended are with Zoom and the hybrid method of inclusion for those who still feel uncomfortable with meeting in person. I see that most meetings will continue using this approach to retaining participation from those who are further away physically and would love to connect with anyone leading or organizing the website, social media, technical and general communications of each meeting in our quarter. If this is you please reach out, I would love to chat with you!

concordquarter@pym.org Be peace, Bianca Santini-Dumas