

Concord & Western Quarterly Meeting

via Zoom

July 17, 2022 – Westtown

Minutes

Opening Worship

Christopher McKenney, Assistant Clerk, opened the meeting with silent worship.

Welcome to Newcomers

Chris McKenney (Assistant Clerk)

There were no newcomers present today.

Monthly Meeting Count (Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, Wilmington)

Chris McKenney

All the meetings in the Quarter were represented except for Concord and Goshen. A total of seventeen people were in attendance for the business meeting in person and on-line.

Approval of Agenda

Chris McKenney

The agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2022

Chris McKenney

The minutes from April 24th were approved with the addition of a note of appreciation to Birmingham Meeting for hosting Quarterly Meeting in April.

Joys and Challenges Report (To be reported in October)

Willistown

The Joys and Challenges Report from Willistown will be presented at the October Meeting.

Report from The Hickman (attached)

Martha Boston

Martha Boston, a Hickman Board Member presented the annual report from the Hickman. The report was accepted with appreciation.

Treasurer's Report (attached)

Charles Spadoni

Charles Spadoni, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. This was a year-end report as the financial year runs from July 1st to June 30th. The Friends Fiduciary funds are down due to stock variations. The Treasurer received \$4,225 of covenant payments after June 30, 2022, but before July 12, 2022. That revenue is being treated as having been received on June 30, 2022. One constituent monthly meeting fulfilled its financial covenants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in the first quarter of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. That same constituent meeting has failed to fulfill the full amount of its financial covenants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. The issue will be reviewed by the Concord Quarter Planning Committee. In September 2021, the amount of \$10,795 in the Tuition Operating Fund was distributed to three Quaker Schools (Westtown, West Chester Friends School, and Wilmington Friends School) in the form of grants for the benefit of 17 students. Each grant was for \$635. Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Nominating Committee Report (attached)

Deb Wood

Deb Wood said the Nominating Committee is taking the summer off. Rich Ailes, Lisa Vosburgh, and Julie Senko are on the Nominating Committee. They are continuing to look for a clerk for the Quarter.

Working Group on Aging Concerns (attached)

Evelyn Brownlee

Evelyn Brownlee presented the report from the Working Group on Aging Concerns. Evelyn thanked Lori Worth for all her help with the group. Evelyn said that the Working Group on Aging Concerns is not meeting in August. Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Climate Action Working Group (attached)

Paula Kline

Paula Kline presented the report from the Climate Action Working Group. Paula said the group is meeting monthly. The focus is on disaster preparedness plans for Meetings in the Quarter. On July 23rd at 4 PM there will be a meeting to focus on writing the disaster plans for the meetings and for individuals' homes. People should let the coordinator know that they want the Zoom link to attend this meeting. The Climate Action Working Group is encouraging attendees to share a draft of their work with their home meetings. Not all the meetings in the Quarter have sent representatives to the Climate Action Working Group's meetings. On November 6th the group hopes to have an inter-generational meeting about how to work together to help the environment. Paula is looking for people who would like to work on the inter-generational meeting. One attendee noted that November 6th is the weekend of PYM continuing sessions. Paula will review the date. Paula said that there are links on the Quarter's Web site and on the Quarter's YouTube channel to some of their presentations. Friends accepted the report with appreciation.

Coordinator Report (attached)

Bianca Santini-Dumas

Bianca Santini-Dumas presented the Coordinator's Report. Bianca has been visiting various Meetings. She is doing a joint workshop with Westtown and Delaware Valley Friend's School. She has been attending workshops with PYM. She wrote an article for the Quarter's Newsletter about our social media. She encouraged Friends to engage with the Quarter's Facebook page and "like" the posts. The YouTube channel can be reached by searching "Concord Quarterly Quakers" or "Quarterly Quakers." All the pages reference back to our website. Friends can subscribe to the Quarter's YouTube Channel by searching "Quarterly Quakers" and then hit subscribe to see information about the Quarter and to see other information about Quakers. Bianca has compiled statistics about how frequently the various social media channels have been accessed. The group thanked Bianca for all the work that she has been doing with social media. Friends accepted Bianca's report with appreciation.

An item for discussion or sharing: Equity Funding

Paula Kline

Paula said she received a grant from the Shoemaker Fund to fund a program about equity for Concord Quarter and Western Quarter. She said that she partnered with a group that does workshops on Equity Centered Meeting Design. In September, she will start interviews with meeting clerks about equity. The funding will provide for three workshops to focus on: (1) clerking in the meetings, (2) how to work in the community, and (3) how to apply these ideas generally. After six months, there will be follow-up with the meetings to see how the ideas were applied. Paula said that the dates for the workshops will be forthcoming, and she hopes that 30 people will sign-up to attend. Paula said that she will come to the Concord Quarter Planning Committee on July 24th.

Reading of Minutes for Approval

Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)

Marty Boston reported that the minutes from April were approved with the addition that Friends thanked

Birmingham Meeting for hosting the April Quarterly Meeting.

Second Count of Meetings in Attendance

Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)

At the second count 17 people were in attendance. All Meetings were represented except Concord and Goshen.

The Acting Clerk thanked Westtown Meeting for hosting today's joint quarterly meeting with Concord and Western Meetings.

The next quarterly meeting will be held on October 23, 2022 at Middletown Monthly Meeting.

Meeting for business ended with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Boston, Recording Clerk

Announcements of Upcoming Events

(all also on the CQ website calendar <http://concordquarter.org/quartercalendar/>)

Calendar of Events:

Jul 19 7-8:00 pm

CQ Working Group on Climate Action: For more info on the group's work go to:
<https://concordquarter.org/climate-action>

Jul 22 12 pm - 5 pm

Quaker Fun Day at Arch Street Meeting House: Carnival games (think: big Jenga!), Bounce house, Concessions (popcorn, snow cones, soft pretzels), Make-and-take crafts, Music, and tours of the meeting house (including the new outdoor exhibits!). For more info and to register:
<https://www.pym.org/event/quaker-fun-day>

Jul 23 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

PYM Affinity Groups: A unique opportunity for fellowship with Friends who share specific identities! For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/affinity-group-saturday/>

Jul 23 4-5:30pm

CAWG Disaster Planning Series: Part IV: Emotional and Spiritual Care and Worship in Times of Disaster. For more info and to register: <https://concordquarter.org/climate-action/2022/cawg-disaster-preparedness-part4>

Jul 26-27

PYM Spiritual Formation Retreat: This will help to ground and center participants in a deeper

communion with Spirit while preparing individuals to participate, listen, and learn for the upcoming Annual Sessions week together. For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/spiritual-formation-retreat/>

Jul 27-31

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions: Across the Generations, as we repair broken foundations unified in our beloved Quaker community. For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/annual-sessions-2022/>

July 31 9:45am – 10:00am

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting All Together Worship Join your fellow Monthly Meetings in an All Together Worship to close 2022 Annual Sessions. [All Together Worship at Annual Sessions · Philadelphia Yearly Meeting \(pym.org\)](#)

July 31 2 pm

Concord Quarter Planning Committee via Zoom. Open to all interested in the activities and workings of Concord Quarter. Contact the Coordinator with questions and for the Zoom link at concordquarter@pym.org

Aug 3 10:30am

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns: Open to anyone interested in aging concerns. For more info and to register email: concordquarter@pym.org

Many other programs for children, youth, and young adults on the PYM calendar: <https://www.pym.org/calendar/>

Unless otherwise noted, contact the Coordinator for the Zoom links (concordquarter@pym.org)

REPORTS

Concord Quarterly Meeting Hickman Friends Senior Community of West Chester Annual REPORT 7/17/2022

The Hickman Friends Senior Community of West Chester is pleased to bring this report to the Quarter, particularly this year as we rebound, reimagine, and refocus our strategic vision for the future.

As a Quaker Inspired, mission driven, single site entity, we must continue to challenge ourselves to keep our most valuable commodity, our seniors, front of mind while formulating a viable, long-range design for our future.

The Jeanes building which opened in 2018 has endured the challenges of building census amid the pandemic and is currently at 89% occupancy. Our Darlington unit which serves those with memory impairment has remained fully occupied and thriving. To assist our already highly acclaimed memory program, we will begin training staff in The Montessori Inspired Lifestyle facilitated by The Center for Applied Research in Dementia. This programming has been made possible by a grant received from Friends Foundation for the Aging for which we are extremely grateful.

A recent MEP of our historic Hickman building reveals the need for upgrades to our mechanical infrastructure to remain fully functional, cost efficient and environmentally conscious. The climate of the current economy and the price of goods weighs heavily on the decision-making process. Thoughtful strategic conversations will continue between Board and Leadership to discover the best path forward to ensure a thriving, durable use of the building with safe, accessible, and reliable accommodations for seniors for many years to come.

The prior two years have exacerbated a longstanding challenge around recruiting and preserving qualified team members to serve our residents. These front-line staff are the “heart of aging services,” and we cannot exist without them. Fully understanding how valuable these professionals are, we are committed to embarking on workforce development programs made possible and available through advocacy groups such as PALA and Argentum. Investment in career ladders and mentor programs will allow us to attract, train and retain team members to ensure high quality services and supports in our community continue.

We continue synergies with West Chester University, Harcum College and Fortis School of Nursing providing a clinical site and service-learning opportunity for local students. Our community bond is strengthened by these partnerships and our residents greatly benefit from additional 1:1 opportunities which provide purposeful outcomes for both participants. Our intergenerational experience with the Friends School has been temporarily thwarted however we look forward to the day that we can welcome the children back to the community without health safety concerns.

Another realization over the last 2 years is the value of technology within our walls. We initiated new platforms to inform families in “real time” of the robust programming that residents were engaging in allowing for picture sharing and message boards. Additionally, we are establishing our own in-suite television channel to keep residents informed, entertained, and engaged in community happenings in the comfort of their rooms. Residents also participated in virtually learning opportunities yielding college credits proving the adage that you are never too old to learn something new! Our population remains inquisitive, enlightened, and fulfilled. These accessions not only complement our in-person programming but will aid in minimizing disruptions in socialization moving forward with the unpredictability our current community health situation holds.

We approach this next period of change with optimism and intention, fully understanding that our industry is rapidly changing and highly competitive but remains in great demand. Given this knowledge, 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 11-member board of directors: Betsy Stratton from Middletown Meeting; Marty Boston from Birmingham Meeting; Evelyn Brownlee and Chenda Davidson from Wilmington Meeting; Dean O’Bannion and Diana Hodgson from Willistown Meeting; These Concord Quarter Friends are joined by Matt Krasney of Falsington Meeting, and Hank Schellenger of Valley Friends. We would also like to acknowledge Andrea Taylor, a member of Wilmington Meeting for her dedication and service. 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 at a time of significant rebirth.

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, Member of the Board of Directors, on behalf of Betsy Stratton Chair, Board of Directors

Concord Quarterly Meeting TREASURER'S REPORT 7/17/2022

**Unreviewed Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022
(Except As May Be Noted Below, Reported on a Cash Basis)**

NOTES

- The Treasurer received \$4,225 of covenant payments after June 30, 2022, but before June 12, 2022. That revenue is being treated as having been received on June 30, 2022.
- One constituent monthly meeting fulfilled its financial covenants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in the first quarter of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. That same constituent meeting has failed to fulfill the full amount of its financial covenants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
- In September 2021, the amount of \$10,795 in the Tuition Operating Fund was distributed to three Quaker Schools (Westtown, West Chester Friends and Wilmington Friends) in the form of grants for the benefit of 17 students. Each grant was for \$635.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
INCOME STATEMENT
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022
Actual Revenues and Expenses Versus Budgeted Revenues and Expenses
(numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)

BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 2022 Balance Sheet Versus June 30, 2021 Balance Sheet
(numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)

- There are no liabilities.

Note: Individual constituent monthly meeting June 30, 2022, Growth & Income Fund balances are available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles B. Spadoni, Treasurer
July 17, 2022

Concord Quarterly Meeting Proposed Budget

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

(Based on Aggregate Budgeted Monthly Meetings' Covenants)

- The proposed operating budget set forth below is the same as the one the Treasurer proposed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles B. Spadoni, Treasurer
April 24, 2022

Concord Quarterly Meeting
Nominating Committee Report 7/17/2022

The committee decided to take the summer off and resume work in the fall to find a Clerk.

Walking cheerfully with you,
Deb Wood, convener of nominating committee

Concord Quarterly Meeting
Working Group on Aging Concerns Report 7/17/2022

The Working Group on Aging continues to meet monthly. Currently the group is scheduling a death doula for a presentation at an upcoming meeting. We will evaluate the subject and presentation and determine if we will offer a workshop on the subject. Another workshop being explored includes looking at the spiritual aspects of aging, possible to include a panel discussion.

The group is also exploring workshops and retreats offered by the New York Yearly Meeting ARCH (Aging, Resources, Consultation, Help) group. The subcommittee on senior housing options continues to meet regularly.

The Working Group will not meet in August. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 7, at 10:00 via Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, you can contact Bianca Santini-Dumas at concordquarter@pym.org or the clerk, Evelyn Brownlee: evelynbrownlee@gmail.com or visit <http://concordquarter.org/aging-concerns>

Concord Quarterly Meeting Climate Action Working Group Report 7/17/2022

The CAWG has met monthly. We are supporting the completion of natural disaster preparedness plans for our Meetings. There was a program held on protecting ourselves and buildings from flooding and tornadoes in May. The final formal session is being held on July 23 at 4pm (zoom) with a focus on spiritual care and worship during disasters and their aftermath.

Looking ahead we are working on an intergenerational gathering on climate action on November 6th which seeks to call forth participation from our Quaker institutions which serve all ages – schools, meetings and retirement communities. We welcome participation in this from those beyond our working group. We will meet to concretize plans on July 19 7pm.

In addition, we have been trying to share useful information on climate and climate solutions on the CQ Facebook page.

We have an interest in supporting everyone with the weight of the climate crisis and recommend following opportunities to address our grief and to learn how to find hope. Workshop and worship opportunities are offered periodically by these groups:

Pendle Hill

[PA IPL](#)

[Mainline PA IPL](#)

[The Work That Reconnects](#)

We ask each meeting to invite those under the concern for environmental stewardship to consider joining us.

For more information, you can contact Bianca Santini-Dumas at concordquarter@pym.org or visit <http://concordquarter.org/climate-action>

Concord Quarterly Meeting Coordinator Report 7/17/2022

I continue to attend Meeting for Worship and Business of the Quarter's Monthly Meetings. I continue to support each meeting in identifying needs and implementing strategies to meet those needs/ I continue to support the Working Groups and Care Committee. I continue to support individual requests.

I updated the website calendar to reflect our current events incorporating Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's calendar as well.

After attending a workshop provided by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting presented by Irene and Linda Lotz, Coordinator of Haddonfield Quarter, I wrote an article on The Value of social media in Outreach Efforts. This can be found in July's Newsletter. A Communications Committee will be formed to support Strategy Development for future Outreach Marketing. If anyone is interested in being a part of the Communications Committee, please join next week's Planning Committee Meeting.

In regard to social media: original content such as flyers, photos and graphics perform well with our audience. Continuing to like, share and comment on our content increases visibility.

YouTube Report:

We have 21 subscribers to the new YouTube Channel. We need 100 subscribers to update and customize features.

Facebook Report:

Total Likes 214

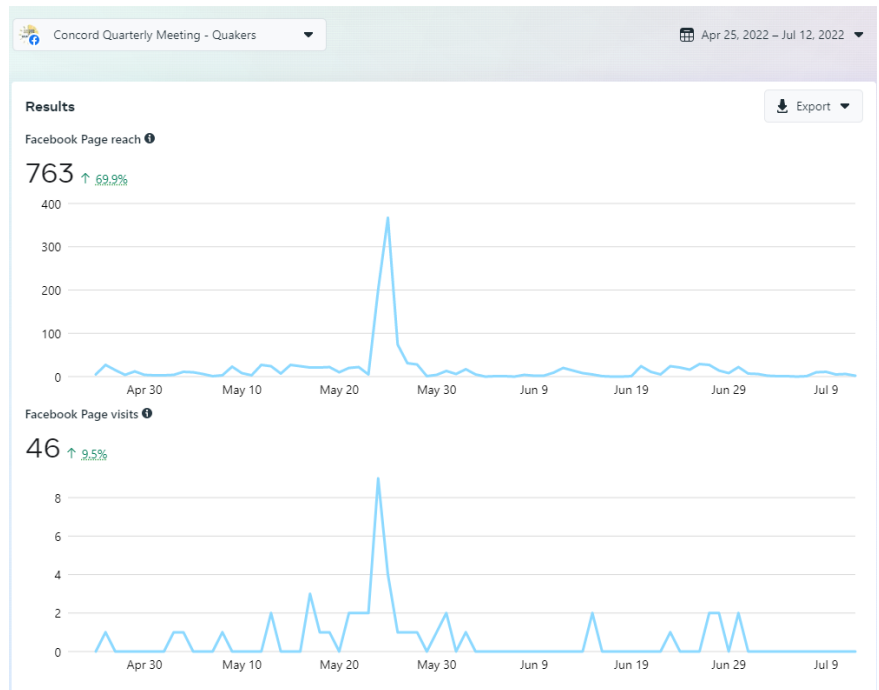
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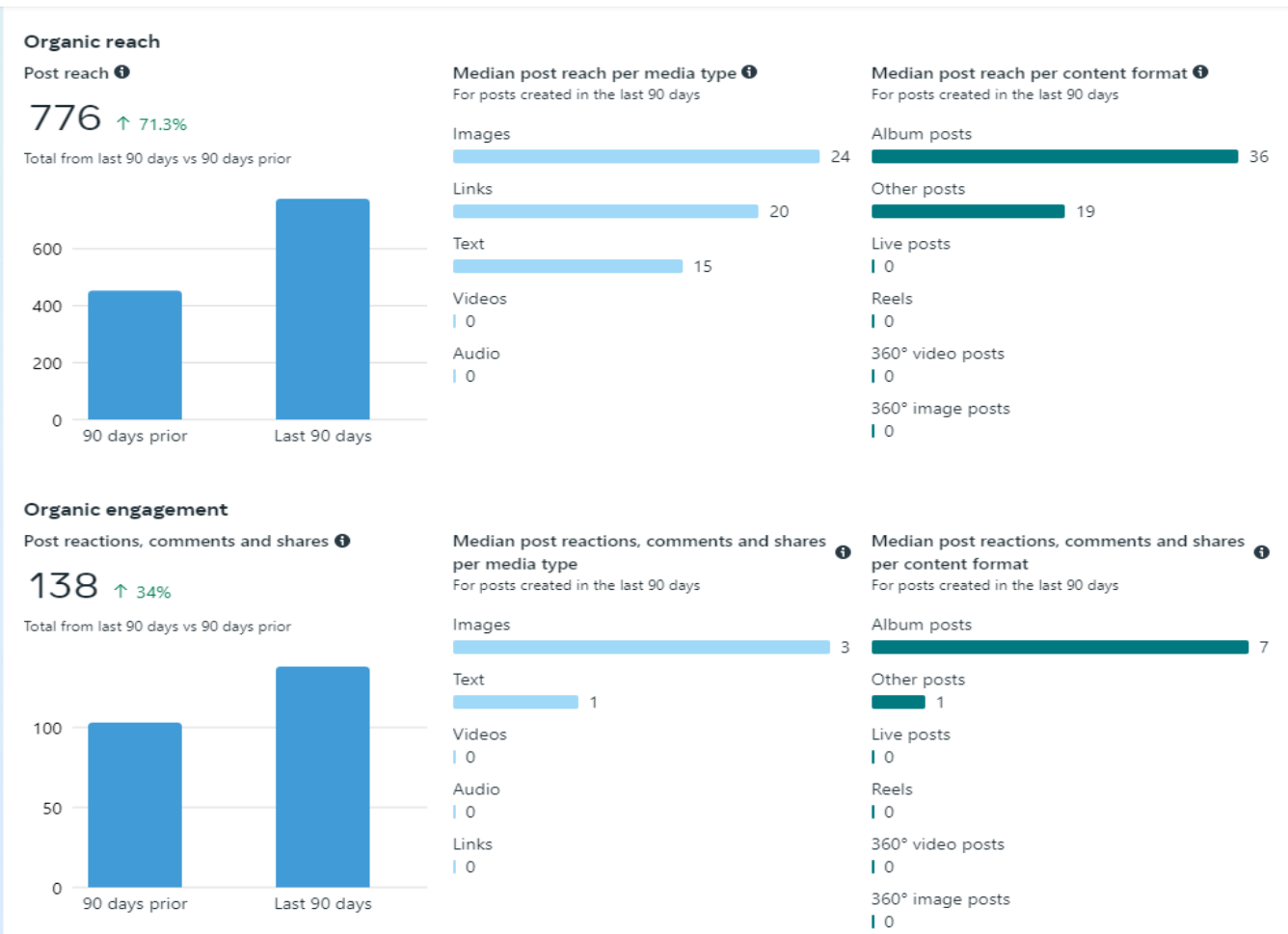
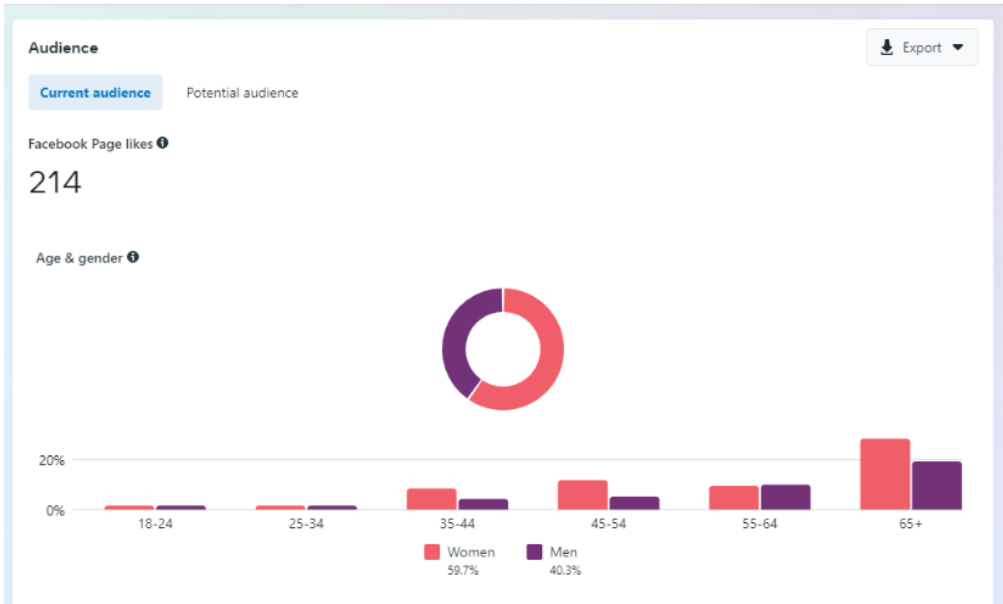
Reach has increased 69.9 %
 Visits are up 9.5 %
 Likes are down 23.5 %

Demographics:

Women 59.7 %
 Men 40.3 %
 18-24 .5%
 25-34 .5%
 35-44 13%
 45-54 18%
 55-64 20%
 65+ 50%

Images are included below:





July 17, 2022

Bianca Santini-Dumas - concordquarter@pym.org