

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Meeting
Minutes for October 29, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at The Hickman**

Present: Deb Wood (WT), Clerk, Chris Smith(WC), Deb Lyons (WC), Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Wilmington), Bruce Harrison (WT), Gwynne Ormsby (B), Rich Ailes (MT), Chris McKenney (B), Assistant Clerk, Tom Woodward (G), David Leonard (B), Tom Haviland (WT), Treasurer, Marion Walker (C), Lynne Piersol (Coordinator)

Regrets: Julie Senko, Peter Lane, Ray Hamilton

We settled into some worship.

Approval of August 6, 2017 Minutes: The minutes were approved as currently written.

Review QM at West Chester on October 22, 2017 There were 20 present at beginning of MfB, 29 at the end, a few more came for the program, more for MfW. About 45 people stayed for lunch. There were 11-12 children. 38 people and 2 children actually signed in. It was noted that Westtown chose to have only child care, no children's program, hoping to encourage families to take their children to West Chester. Birmingham also did not have children's programming. Four children were from West Chester, the rest from other meetings. We agreed all went well, and the program was excellent. Deb Lyon shared that due to a misunderstanding, the fact that the presenter of the program had requested an honorarium of \$125 was not shared with the Clerk of WC until just before Quarterly Meeting. There is some precedence for honoraria or fees being paid to presenters. *It was agreed that the Quarter will reimburse West Chester \$75 of the fee, although normally this would be requested ahead of time.*

Planning of Quarterly Meeting at Wilmington Meeting for January 28, 2018

Business Agenda (not necessarily in this order...):

Joys and Challenges Report (Goshen)

Treasurer's Report

Update on Possible Care Relationship between DVFS and Concord Quarter

Working Group on Aging Concerns Update

Coordinator's Report (if time)

Other

Programs:

Schedule - The schedule will be a little different than 2016, but with a firm start to meeting for business at 8:30.

8:15-8:30 Sign-In

8:30-9:45 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

10:00-11:00 Meeting for Worship

11:00-12:00 Program will be something on Quaker Industrialists in Wilmington by a meeting member who has presented on this topic. Some of the history of Wilmington Meeting will be included. It was suggested that if there were any relationships to the cotton industry or other industries using slave labor etc, that that be shared in the spirit of truth.

12:00-1:00 Shared Meal provided by Wilmington MM (Debbie Murray Sheppard shared that Wilmington is getting a new kitchen which is supposed to be done in early January – if not they are committed to feeding us another way.)

Youth Program/Child Care – will be provided

Wilmington also supports a re-entry program and collects lightly used clothing. *In the publicity for Quarterly Meeting, we will have information about this and encourage people to bring appropriate things. (Lynne will get the info from Wilmington Meeting)*

Review and Updates on 2017 Youth & Intergenerational Activities

Oct 1, 2017	Canoeing and Picnic on Westtown School’s Lake with Western Quarter – 28 people attended on beautiful day, including several Westtown students. No one except Sarah Kastriner came from Western Quarter. The date may be problematic for something like this in the early fall – lots of competition. This was a new event – I had one email asking about the hayride....
Dec 9, 2017	Parents Morning Off at the cabin at Westtown, with Western Quarter. Date is confirmed with WT, Tom Haviland and Elson Blunt will help.
Feb 24, 2018	Middletown Meeting was considered but found to be too small. We agreed to have it on Feb 24, and to ask Goshen Meeting to use the Grange Hall. Lynne will contact Pete Lane and Goshen Meeting about this.
	<p>There are not other new events expected to be planned right now. <i>Lynne will be consulting with Sarah Kastriner about possibilities. It is not clear that the Stratton Farm would be available for another Hayride next fall. Lynne will also do some outreach to families and others about other kinds of events desired.</i></p> <p>Meetings are encouraged to check the Quarter website when planning events, and are also encouraged to ask the Coordinator to publicize things open to the public. The Coordinator will be checking with meetings to see if activities in their newsletters should be posted.</p> <p>Adult religious ed programs for the Quarter have also been done on occasion. Ideas were shared including the mini retreats that Wilmington does on 5th Sundays, the program on gnostic gospels that was done at the Hickman, a Quakerism 101 type class for new members and attenders, Spiritual Deepening program from FGC (includes e-retreats).</p>

Nominating Committee Update – There has been no success in finding a replacement for Peter Lane for the PYM Nominating Committee. *Deb will let Pete know that he should do what he needs to do and not wait until there is a replacement.*

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns (next meeting November 1, program Jan 20). The funds from Friends Foundation for the Aging will be in our bank account after the budget is slightly revised to reflect the cost of meals from The Hickman.

Newsletter Articles – We will need an article from the presenter for Quarterly Meeting. We will also have an article about the ARCH training being planned by the Working Group on Aging

Concerns, one about the outreach project at Middletown Meeting, and one about the Delaware Valley Friends School initiative. Deadline is December 15-17

Outreach – Rich shared an outreach activity that Middletown is doing, funded by the PYM Membership Development Fund. They have cards, banners and cans of juice and give out the juice and cards to cars sitting in traffic outside Middletown Meeting. They've given out 100! Nourishment for the body and soul!

Update on Tom Brown Endowed Chair – stay tuned

Delaware Valley Friends School ad hoc working group – In addition to Debbie Murray-Sheppard (WM), and Shirley Wright Kamara (MT), we have Susan Brodesser (B) who has agreed to do it.

Lynne will contact the three of them and put them in touch with Kirk Smothers, Head of School at DVFS. (Please note that on November 1, the Coordinator received a request from Tom Ceresini of Middletown Meeting to be included in this conversation. He is currently at Friends Central)

Coordinator report/oversight concerns, suggestions? -

Calendar for 2018 – generally approved with some dates yet to be set. In response to a question from the Coordinator, the group will let her decide if she will miss the October 2018 Quarterly Meeting since she serves on FGC Central Committee (the Board of FGC) representing Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and they meet the same weekend next year. All prep work can be done ahead.

New Debit card for Quarter Expenses – This is now a separate checking account just for the debit card which the Coordinator has. It is loaded with \$500 to start and has an alert on it if an item is \$100 or more, or there is less than \$150 left in the account. The group was comfortable with this arrangement. This means the Coordinator no longer has to put out personal money up front.

Friendly Audit -The Treasurer will look at the report (included with Quarterly Meeting Minutes) to review the suggestions made (one of which was to get a debit card). If he disagrees with any of them, the issue can be on Quarterly Meeting's agenda.

Ecojustice Collaborative weather event project – Planning Committee reps are encouraged to share this information and other events with their meetings and encourage them to come. It is on the CQ calendar for December 9, 2017.

The meeting closed with some worship.

Minutes by Lynne Piersol