

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Meeting
Minutes for May 5, 2019, 1pm at Concord Meeting**

Present: Chris McKenney (B-Clerk), Charlie Spadoni (B), Rich Ailes (M), Julie Senko (B), David Leonard (B), Judy Reese (C), Steve Kupferschmid (Willis), Lynne Piersol (Coordinator), Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Wilm)

Excused: Deb Wood (WT), Deb Lyons (WC), Chris Smith (WC), Bruce Harrison (WT)

Worship

January 27, 2019 minutes were approved

Review of Joint QM at Wilmington Friends School: A total of 107 (49 adults and 9 children from CQ) people signed in for all or part of the day. 13 children were there for all or part of the day (most were older and attended the program in the afternoon). About 75 were present for the program. 9 people signed in as guests from outside the Quarter and/or Quakerism. All went very well. Western Quarter wished there were more time for Meeting for Business (could they start earlier if we do this again?) Numerous people want a joint Quarterly Meeting to happen again. Wilmington Friends School is a fairly central location.

Proposed Minute of Appreciation to Wilmington Friends School (approved)

Concord Quarterly Meeting's Planning Committee would like to express our deep appreciation for the generosity of Wilmington Friends School in allowing us to use your space for our joint Quarterly Meeting with Western Quarter on Sunday, April 28, 2019. The building and its many resources were perfect for our meetings for business, worship, children's program, and lunch. Ann Cole in the Head of School's office was amazing at taking care of all the last-minute arrangements, as well as giving us a comprehensive tour back in January. Having Rick Morrison present all day with his many talents was a special gift to us. And it was great to learn a bit more about the wonderful things happening at WFS from Jonathan Huxtable in the afternoon.

Thank you so much!

The Coordinator will send this to Wilmington Friends School

Minute of Appreciation to Wilmington Friends Meeting - We appreciated the help of Wilmington Meeting in providing lunch and making arrangements with the school, especially with the help of Debbie Murray-Sheppard who handled the coordination with Wilmington Friends School.

Planning of Quarterly Meeting at Willistown Meeting on July 21, 2019:

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

Joys and Challenges Report: Concord Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Approval of Names for Friendly Audit (Nominating Cttee will present this)

Care Committee Update

Report from The Hickman

Working Group on Aging Concerns Update

Coordinator's Report

Program: Beth Hodge and Betsy Swan have arranged for Melinda Wenner Bradley to do a program about tweens and teens, and how to keep them involved in the life of the meeting. Steve Kupferschmid will coordinate with them for a title of the talk.

Schedule (same as 2017)

- 8:15-8:30 Sign-In**
- 8:30-9:45 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**
- 10:00-11:00 Meeting for Worship**
- 11:15-12:15 Program**
- 12:15-1:00 Lunch provided by Willistown Meeting**

Children’s programming: Steve will contact the people planning for children to see what program there will be.

Changing the Schedule for rotating Quarterly Meetings: A concern is that meetings that have no FDS are scheduled all in a row right now and with just childcare offered, we don’t get families with children attending. We did get children at Goshen in January 2019 with the help of Melinda Wenner Bradley offering a program. Ideas were discussed including using Quaker schools as locations, and encouraging host meetings to have a program with help from outside if necessary. Melinda, a member of West Chester and the PYM staff person for Children and Families programs, is a resource for children’s programming and is committed to having children’s programming for QM. Also, some meetings do cancel children’s programming to encourage families to go to QM. We, Planning Committee, need to pay attention to children’s programming and emphasize and encourage participation. Planning Committee asks the Coordinator to reach out to people at hosting meetings to offer support, and/or connection to Melinda Wenner Bradley to make sure children’s programming happens. We will keep the rotation alphabetical for now, noting that West Chester will host QM in January 2020 since they swapped with Wilmington for QM in April 2019.

Review and Updates on fellowship activities

Lynne Piersol

Feb 9	Square Dance - Very successful! About 40 people – room was full. And it was replicated by West Chester Meeting and Friends School on April 27.
New Date: June 23 12:30-4:30	Tubing on the Brandywine . Lynne will work with Western Quarter on this. Date is now changed to June 23, at MaryEtta Clendenin’s suggestion.
Fall	Hayride – should we try for this again? Yes, Lynne will contact Joe Stratton to make arrangements.

Review of Coordinator - Friends reviewed a report from the clerk on the review of Lynne Piersol's performance done by Chris McKenney, Deb Wood and Rich Ailes on March 3, 2019. Everyone present concurred with the positive evaluation in the report. Friends then discussed the concern of providing a merit increase of the suggested size of 5% plus the COLA every year. Friends approved the suggested increase as a sign of our deep appreciation for Lynne's work, but urged that more modest merit increases be considered in the future.

Treasurer – Both David Wickard and Tom Gilbert have agreed to serve on the Friendly Audit committee.

Nominating Committee Update – Recording Clerk will be Marty Boston, starting July 1, 2019, approved at Quarterly Meeting on April 28.

Nominating Committee will bring forth the names of David Wickard and Tom Gilbert for the Friendly Audit on July 21 at QM.

Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns - Rich Ailes shared about the hospice program held on May 4 with Pat Myatt, director of the Penn Hospice across from the Chester County Hospital (formerly called Neighborhood Hospice) and an incredibly good speaker. 11 attended. The Working Group will be considering how to get more people to these programs. Next Working Group on Aging Concerns meeting is May 15 at 10:30am at West Chester Meeting and everyone is welcome.

Newsletter Articles – Rich will ask Melinda Wenner Bradley to write about the QM program for July. Rich will arrange for someone to write on the hospice topic. Also included could be the letter from the 6 former Clerks of PYM giving loving encouragement to PYM <https://www.pym.org/a-letter-to-philadelphia-yearly-meeting-of-the-religious-society-of-friends-from-the-former-clerks/>

Question? Does Concord Quarter want to review or respond to the results of the FGC Institutional Assessment in light of the decision at PYM Continuing Sessions not to move forward with the consultant chosen for the multicultural assessment at this time? Lynne will send out the link to the FGC Institutional Audit results. Further discussion is tabled for now.

Outreach – Lynne shared that the response from “boosting” a Facebook post for QM included many “reaches” (1500 reached, 43 clicks) for \$25 for 5 days (which ended up being covered by the grant received from PYM for the speaker and publicity). At least one person came because she saw it on FB. Planning Committee approved up to \$200 for boosting FB posts or ads over the next year.

In reach - Follow up on the idea of Quarter doing the Spiritual Formation or School of the Spirit program? Nothing has happened with this. Lynne will check with Randy Lyons (WC) about coming to Planning Committee at the end of his School of the Spirit program which is not over yet.

Update on Tom Brown Endowed Chair at Westtown –5 years has passed and we have had no reports on this, although we hear that money is still being raised. We want to talk with Deb Wood about writing a joint letter from Westtown Meeting and the Quarter to ask what the status is (wait until after July 1 for this). (This issue involves a Westtown alum who wanted to endow a chair to make sure Quakerism doesn't die at Westtown School and wanted CQ to sign on as an oversight entity to step in after 5 years if Westtown Meeting couldn't take on oversight then. Neither Westtown nor CQ signed the contract presented because no indemnification clause was included. The Planning Committee has no knowledge about whether the endowed chair has been activated.)

Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee– The first meeting was the beginning of March, and minutes are posted on the website. Some in the Quarter have been attending meeting for worship there and the student musical. Second meeting is May 6, 3:15 at DVFS – open to anyone.

State of the Quarter report? - In February 2018, we discussed the idea of doing a “state of the Quarter” report, but then it slipped away. There was some discussion in February 2019 but no clear unity, so this idea was tabled. Could we have a discussion about what we are doing right and what could improve at QM? It would be a way to highlight what we are doing it. Could we come up with a series of questions to discuss at QM so it is more than Planning Committee's thoughts. We will talk about this at our next meeting.

We also talked about the idea of having a mechanism for feedback after QM.

Coordinator report (given at Quarterly Meeting), no further discussion

Appreciation: We thanked David Leonard for his service and presents and presence as Recording Clerk for the past 6 years.

Time for the next meeting – 1pm on August 4 at The Hickman/Jeanes Building is the best time for those present, although one person has said this time generally doesn't work for her. We can discuss timing again.