

Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business

Seventh Month 8, 2012

Clerk: Kitti Reynolds

Alternate Recording Clerks: Barbara Esther and Adrienne Weir

Present: Laura Maynard, Gail Hipkins, Jim Hipkins, Katherine Kowal, Kristi Gjelfriend, George Gjelfriend, Gita Larsen, Rusty Maynard, Pat Johnson, Edie Patrick, Nicholas Wells, Robin Wells, Joy Gossett, Jim Gleaton, Mike Shell, and Edwin Brown.

Opening Worship Friends began with a short period of silent worship followed by the reading below.

Clerk's Reading: from US History.org

Clerk's Reading:

“Tradition tells of a chime that changed the world on July 8, 1776, with the Liberty Bell ringing out from the tower of Independence Hall summoning the citizens of Philadelphia to hear the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.

The Pennsylvania Assembly ordered the Bell in 1751 to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania's original Constitution. It speaks of the rights and freedoms valued by people the world over. Particularly forward thinking were Penn's ideas on religious freedom, his liberal stance on Native American rights, and his inclusion of citizens in enacting laws.

The Liberty Bell gained iconic importance when abolitionists in their efforts to put an end to slavery throughout America adopted it as a symbol.

the Bell was created to commemorate the golden anniversary of Penn's Charter, and the quotation "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof," from Leviticus 25:10, was inscribed on the bell.” US History.org

Minute #1: Friends approved the agenda as presented by the clerk.

Minute #2: Friends approved the minutes from Fifth Month 2012.

*Request from Nicholas Wells: Eagle Scout Project

Nicholas presented his projects which he needs to provide service to the meeting and complete his Eagle Scout work. He plans to build a picnic table, a corn toss game and assist in landscaping. A Friend suggested that an Ad Hoc committee to support Nicholas's work be formed. Another Friend noted that House and Grounds Committee should be involved in the project. Funds might be available through the H&G committee pending their conferring on the matter.

Minute #3: An Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Barbara Esther and Rusty Maynard was approved, which will work in consultation with House and Grounds.

*Request from Stephanie Gossett

From Joy Gossett: Thanks to Friends who have been interested to support Stephanie's Peace Corps work with her local Swazi pre-school. Now Stephanie has involved herself in writing a grant which will give a suitable vehicle for group as well as individual contributions. And she has sent this to see if it's

OK for her and the PC to have conversation with AFM. There would be no bottom line commitment --just to talk and explore.

From Stephanie: Hello,

As a Peace Corps Volunteer serving in Swaziland I am working with the preschool in my rural community. As a part of this I am writing a grant to help the preschool improve relations with the community, improve teaching practices, and renovate the classroom. The project will fund a teachers training and a training to teach parents to assist in the classroom. To encourage involvement in the project and to lessen the economic burden of education, parental volunteering at the school will be considered an in-kind payment and the child's tuition will be reduced accordingly.

Funding for this grant is coordinated through Peace Corps and PC Swaziland has agreed to pay half the funds for this project. The other half comes from outside contributions. As a part of the project Peace Corps has asked that I provide them with a list of contacts who may be interested in the project. I thought you might be interested but wanted to contact you first before supplying your information directly to Peace Corps. If you are interested please email me at sggossett@gmail.com with your contact info. This does not mean that you need to contribute anything it just means that you are ok with Peace Corps contacting you about it.

Thank You

-Stephanie Gossett
US PCV

Friends reminded us of the Alice Brown fund that is waiting for the right use.

Minute #4 : We are overwhelmingly in approval of supporting Stephanie's project and will consider what type of involvement we can provide and what is requested of us and other contacts.

Peace and Earth – Katherine Kowal

There are no action items. In our long-range planning report Peace and Earth set goals to complete distribution of all Quaker and general outreach funds within the same calendar year in which they were budgeted. We have now disbursed

all of the Quaker outreach funds and 90% of the general outreach. We have kept \$200 of general outreach in reserve in case we encounter an urgent need between now and December 31.

Another goal was to initiate a regular letter-writing campaign. So far we have sponsored 2 such campaigns and have sent approximately 40 letters to our elected representatives. The next letter writing will be the 5th first day in July.

This time we will try to set up an appointment with Kay Hagen or her staff and hand-deliver the letters. We are hoping to have a significant delegation from Asheville Friends. Please contact a member of Peace and Earth if you are interested.

Finally, we will be sponsoring a food drive for MANNA during the first two first days in August. Please bring food in rodent-proof containers. Foods high in protein are especially requested.

**Nominating Committee: Katherine Kowal

Nominating committee has a number of action items:

- * Pat Johnson has asked to be released from Spiritual Enrichment
- * Margaret Normile has asked to be released from Spiritual Enrichment.

* We would like to nominate Jim Hipkins to Care and Nurture

*We would like to nominate Laurel Wells to Care and Nurture

- * We would like to nominate Ruth Stewart to Hospitality
- * We would like to nominate Edie Patrick to SAYMA Ministry and Nurture.
- * Additionally Morgan Murray is nominated to serve on Communications Committee.

In addition we are currently looking for members of Religious Education and Spiritual Enrichment committees. If anyone has interest, please contact a member of the committee.

Minute # 4: Friends approved the above nominations and releases.

Finance Committee: Pat Johnson (See attached document) Although not all contributions have been entered, Pat reported on general trends in our budget. We are over budget by about \$380, but we are close to the 50% mark in our budget at the six month point. A question was raised about the subscription to Friends Journal. Friends were sure that the Library Committee has covered this expense in the past. Friends suggested the transfer of sufficient funds to the Library Committee after consulting Marcia Master regarding this matter. Friends accepted the report with thanks to Pat and Adrienne for the work of Finance Committee.

Lack of Communications Committee: our website is down. Steve Livingston has communicated with Morgan Murray regarding the status of our website. Kieron Mann and Steve are looking into the problems. Pat has checked into the time we have left on our contract (November) but the domain name may need to be renewed. We may consider what FGC does for their website. Nominating wants us to remember that we make sure that nominees know what they're getting into and that we then support them in their work once nominated.

We closed the meeting with a period of worshipful silence.
Include the three spreadsheets which Pat sent me in appendix.