

Doylestown Friends Meeting
Minutes of Meeting for Worship for Business May 6, 2018

Co-Clerk Bill Thode opened the meeting with a period of worship.

The monthly query was read by Lisa Wildman with 14 members in attendance.
The April 2018 minutes were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee: Joe Simek

Joe asked whether or not members received the newsletter sent out around 4/23. Some had and some had not and it was suggested to check your spam. Joe also reported that the domain issue still not completed.

Pastoral Concerns: Stu Bush, Liz Fritsch

Liz stated there were no new issues at the moment but please contact Stu or Liz if there any concerns.

Worship & Ministry: Barbara Lewis

No report

Peace & Social Concerns: Jenny Isaacs

The Peace Committee did not meet in April as no members other than the clerk were present on our regularly scheduled meeting date. Thus, we will not invite an outside speaker for our next meeting 5/27 but use that or an alternative date/time that works for all our committee members to hold a planning session for the **August 6th Hiroshima Day** vigil.

At our next scheduled outside speaker event, on **Sunday July 29**, we will hear from Lehigh Valley Meeting member Joey Hartmann-Dow, an artist-activist who recently spent 3 months as a Friend in Washington working on a series of comic books about citizen lobbying!

Other upcoming events:

POWER Metro's 3rd Faith & Justice meeting will be held **Thurs May 10** from 12-2 in Doylestown. These interfaith gatherings are intended to knit together a diverse set of congregations from Bucks County in pursuing interfaith social justice work have been very well-attended (25-30) and others from DFM who would like to engage are **WARMLY** encouraged to join Jenny in attendance.

The Memorial Day weekend Drone Vigil at Horsham Drone Command Center at County Line Rd & 611 will be **Sat, May 26** from **12-2**

Request for Meeting Action:

The Peace Committee requests that Meeting direct the Finance Committee to include a \$200 contribution in NEXT year's budget to POWER Interfaith, signifying our commitment to joining with other churches, mosques and synagogues in Bucks County to become a POWER Metro Congregation.

Bill asked for approval but for now we will defer to finance. Jody mentioned that Yearly Meeting does endorse this group.

First Day School: Gail Linenberg

May for the FDS is now synonymous with the glories of garden and Judy Thode has been teaching our children a reverence for the natural world.

On April 29th, they learned about John Bartram and his son, William, who collected plant specimens and seeds throughout the American Colonies in the 1700's and early 1800's. William became known for his detailed drawings of plants and birds, as well as his passion for the environment. Judy shared "The Flower Hunter, William Bartram, America's First Naturalist", by Deborah Kogan Ray and the FDS class used the author's ideas to create their own drawings for flora and fauna. Later they went outside to dig for worms, water the seedlings, and plant flowers.

On May 6th, the children made a Mother's Day gift, and continued with the planting and caring for the garden.

May 13th, the children will finalize their Mother's Day gifts and plant tomatoes, peppers, squash and cucumbers. After Meeting, all will be invited to a Mother's Day Tea to celebrate moms, grandmoms, aunts, and special friends!

May 20th will be the FDS wrap-up. We will review everything the children learned this year about SPICES, make new playdoh for the nursery and have water ice!

May 27th begins the summer schedule, with trips to the park when weather permits.

Thanks to all the FDS teachers, assistants and nursery helpers for a wonderful year. The topics were meaningful, imaginative and fun for children and the grownups!

And thanks to the parents of our FDS and nursery children for having such wonderful kids! It has been a delight to be around them!

Treasurer: Bob Kupsch

Treasurers Report for April 2018

In the past month efforts have continued to account for all the transactions and move the appropriate monies to the appropriate funds. The financial report reflects that effort. The goal for the remainder of the fiscal year is to continue and refine that process and organize hard copy

documents to make the auditing process easier and the accounts and activities more transparent. The ongoing review may produce more movement between funds. All depository accounts are accurate through April 30 2018. The movement of funds will be between funds.

Income: March donations totaled \$2,676 for the month. The previous year's donations for April were \$2,939. With 83.3% of the fiscal year now completed there is \$792 or 2.0% of the Budget still to raise for the remainder of the year. This trend is significantly above previous year's results. At this point last year there was still 18.1% or \$10,805 to raise to make budget. It is anticipated based on reoccurring donations that the donations will exceed this years budget.

Expenses: Expenses have generally been below budget. The two minor exceptions are the Peace and Social Concerns and Insurance line items

New Business: Request from the Education Assistance Committee. No money was used from the Atkinson's fund, since the applicant rescinded their request. Normally it would have come from the Extracurricular Quaker Education fund but when the request was made, there were insufficient funds available so the Meeting approved the use of the Atkinson fund.

Finance Committee: Peter Schiano

Finance committee submitted a proposed budget for FY19 which starts July 1 2018. At the June business meeting the finance committee will request approval of the budget so it is in place for the start of the fiscal year. Here are the highlights of changes from the FY18 budget:

Increase FY19 income budget to \$43,200, up from \$40,470 budget in FY 18. We expect FY18 actual income to be above \$43,000.

Proposing a 3% increase to bring our FY19 contribution to BQM and PYM to \$19,925. The reserve includes an additional \$3,000 for BQM/PYM should we meet it.

In response to increased demands on education assistance we propose increasing main funding from \$3500 to \$4000. There also remains \$500 in the reserve for the Education Fund which if met would bring the total to \$4500.

The extracurricular Quaker Education fund sits at only \$473. We propose to make a one-time addition of \$1000 from the FY19 operating budget to this fund. During FY18 requests were considered for support under this fund, but the balance was not sufficient to meet them.

Newsletter expenses dropped another \$125 to \$175, benefiting from efforts to shift paper recipients to electronic delivery.

Bumping utilities up \$500 to \$4000.

Increasing the Peace and Social Concerns budget from \$100 to \$300 to fund the \$200 annual contribution approved at April's business meeting for supporting our participation in the Power Metro coalition of faith organizations.

Informal Audit of Doylestown Friends Meeting Finances 2016/2017

The current treasurer, Bob Kupsch, provided me with the financial records for the 2016/2017 fiscal year that he had received from the treasurer for that period, Ken Miller. The records for my review included monthly treasurer report, bank statements, deposit details and bill paying records.

The bank statements related to two Doylestown Monthly Meeting accounts at Citizens Bank; a money market account called a Commercial Account and a checking account called a Business Advisor Account. Upon a review of the accounts I noted no unusual activity. The beginning fiscal year balances as of 6/30/16 were closely equivalent to the year ending balances as of 6/30/17, taking into account that certain checks written from the checking account toward the end of June of 2017 did not clear in June and therefore were not yet reflected in the June 2017 statement.

Similarly, a review of the monthly treasurer's reports indicated similar beginning and end of year balances with no unusual activity.

The deposit details consisting of copies of checks and deposit slips revealed member contributions throughout the year, almost exclusively by check. Minimal cash and in-kind contributions were noted. The deposit details were found to correspond accurately with the bank statements.

With respect to expenditures, I examined invoices, payment confirmations and other disbursement documentation, and compared them to the bank statements and accompanying check copies. No irregularities were discovered, although in some instances the copies of checks on the bank statements were the only records of payment found, and therefore the only way to determine payees. Expenditures were found to be modest and reasonable regarding all operations of Doylestown Friends Meeting.

My review revealed that our treasurer handled and recored the finances of Doylestown Friends Meeting in a reasonable and organized manner during the 2017/2017 fiscal year. It should be noted, of course, that I have no training as an auditor and my report is based solely on information supplied to me. Ted Fritsch

Hospitality: Cori Serayadarian

Refreshment schedule- Cory will be meeting on May 18th, with the committee to come up with ideas for scheduling refreshments at the Rise of Meeting. Jody is going to attend meeting to assist the new committee members. Rosemary suggested going back to the whole directory to assign each member/family a day. If, when contacted, the person does not wish to provide refreshments a note can be placed next to their name so we do not contact them again.

So far, only one person responded to Cory's request for June refreshments.

Betsy commented that when she was given a month and a choice she preferred that rather the being assigned.

Cory mentioned that one committee member has not responded to the clerk of hospitality. Cory needs to contact the clerks and Jody will contact the member in question.

Property: Ted Dempsey

Ted wanted clarification regarding the conversation that was had in April's Business meeting regarding possible security measures for the Meeting. Looking at our beliefs and policies nothing else needs to be done for our security. Ted was unsure how this issue came to be. Cory explained how we came to this after the last school shooting and what we can do for additional safety.

Joe commented on security apparatus during worship. Bob commented on our responsibility to protect the meeting's children and why the original discussion ensued. Wally suggested contacting our insurance carrier to see what their suggestions might be and if our rates would be lower if we implemented measures. Maybe other solutions are available. Bob volunteered to contact the insurance company. Joe commented that we can take measures for protection but his concern is that a plan is needed should something occur during Meeting.

Bill asked Joe what Buckingham Friends are doing which included a key fob system, lock down procedures and drills. We would need a designated person who will initiate the plan. Ruth stated that Warrington police spoke to members of churches with suggested ideas. Bill can ask Doylestown police for suggestions. At this point, we will not implement any security issues until we have had input from insurance, and local police while try staying within our testimonies.

Ted spoke about the need to address the lawn possibly with a weed and feed treatment which he can do with his spreader. Reseeding would be indicated as well. Cost for this is unknown right now. Meeting approved this action.

Judy asked if the product is safe for children to play when treated. Asked if there was an organic alternative. Jody recommended corn gluten meal.

Nominating: Wally Evans

Approval to accept Wendy Steginsky's resignation as a co-clerk with three co-clerks remaining now. Meeting approved with much appreciation.

New nominating committee: Wally Evans, Wendy Steginsky, Ted Dempsey

2 openings on school committee- Ginger Barlow FDS coordinator, 1 year term.

Nick Maio for Summer Program coordinator. New members approved.

Librarian: Diana Morris-Bauer no report

Newsletter: Rick Howe- no report

Other DFM Business:

Review and approve to have the Meeting House be part of the CB Chamber's Architectural & Environmental Excellence in Design Tour on September 16, 2018. Requested by Cookie Biggs. Wally volunteered to be on hand, schedule permitting. Meeting approved and Joe will contact Cookie.

Bucks Quarterly Meeting reports

Joe informed us that there was a Go Fund Me account to raise money to repair the damage done to Plumstead Meetings sign. Funds are needed to fix the sign. Not sure of cost and any overage will be donated. Have not found out who is vandalizing the property. Does the meeting want to respond? Bill recommended that we support them in some way. Ted commented on what coverage there has been on this. We discussed sending a letter of support to Doylestown paper, letter to editor or to the Plumstead Meeting house to show support and include the go funding information. Joe thought we could come up with a statement and put it up on our facebook and newsletter.

Could we ask for a collection at a following meeting in addition to from the meeting? Announce at the rise of meeting for the next two meetings? From where to take the money- miscellaneous fund \$100.00. Judy and Jody to ask Beth Taylor the status of the sign and then we will announce at the rise of meeting for donations. Co-clerks would be responsible to write the letter.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting reports- no report

Respectively submitted,
Susan Kupsch