Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
December 10, 2017

18 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made based on the 'sense of the meeting':

- The Sanctuary Study Group has changed its name to the *Sanctuary and Immigration Study Group*.
- Meeting determined that committee members may serve as long or short a time as the Spirit leads them. Committee mandate descriptions and role descriptions have also been changed to reflect current practice. Refer to the 2018 Committee Roster *[will be emailed soon]*.
- Meeting determined that the meeting house will be available for morning worship on December 24 to those with access.
- Meeting created an ad hoc committee to discuss ways to increase public awareness of the Midlothian Friends Meeting and its activities in the community. Members will include Dave Clark, Heather Stocker, and Brian McCutcheon. Jammie Jones is absent today, but will be invited.

NOTE: Friends at meeting today seemed to like the new name of ***"Meeting for Discernment"*** to replace the former name ***"Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business"***. Our clerk asks Friends to let him know if they have any concerns about the new name; meanwhile, he will continue using it and thanks Roselle Clark for the suggestion.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
August 13, 2017

20 Friends were present.
The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- **30th Anniversary Celebration Time Capsule**

Howard shared the 'tools' that will help us to preserve items for the time capsule. Documents will be buried in a special stainless steel tube (time capsule). Additionally, we have special sealable bags for any objects that may not fit into the tube. We also have archival ink and cotton paper for enhanced document preservation.

The decision was made by the meeting to include: photos, early state of the meeting reports, newspaper articles of the early meetings of MFM, the names of the early people who started the meeting, personal messages from the RE students, vision of the community and other documents reflecting the culture of our meeting, information about the Thrifty Quaker and which charities we have supported, our hopes for the future, a photo and history of the meetinghouse, photos of the property, queries for the "openers" to consider on the date that they open the time capsule, individual messages from Friends who attend the celebration, budget spreadsheet to reflect how we have struggled and how we make do with what we have, a bag of "odds and ends" for the curious, one bag to include "a snapshot in time" of a typical meeting in 2017.

- **Treasurer's Concern**

Ann reported that donations are running under budget at this time. In order to meet the budgeted expenses by the end of the year, we need to receive an additional $245 per month so that we do not have a shortfall at the end of the year. Last year we were able to make up the difference from monies not spent by committees, but she pointed out that we are not anticipating that money to be available from committees this year. Howard and Ann shared that we are already at a bare bones budget. The decision was made to ask all Friends to hold our financial situation in the Light as the year progresses.

- **Sanctuary Committee**

The Sanctuary Committee has crafted a "welcome all" statement for the meeting. Friends suggested revisions for the committee. A decision was made to hold the statement over for approval after the revisions were made.

Midlothian Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

July 9, 2017

20 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- The meeting is pleased to have the sanctuary committee deciding what information and web links to put on the Sanctuary Facebook page regarding ways individuals can get involved. We are a spirit led group and thus are sensitive to the need to refrain from imposing particular political views.
- A decision to join the Central Virginia Sanctuary Congregation Network would involve taking action that would require more time to reach a sense of the meeting. The issue will be postponed until later business meetings.
- Time capsule marker wording:

TIME CAPSULE

Buried in front of this marker

September 24, 2017

The thirtieth anniversary of the founding of Midlothian Friends Meeting

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Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business
May 14, 2017

17 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- The meeting gave approval to Roselle Clark to form an interest group that will gather information about the Sanctuary Movement. That group will send that information out to the rest of the meeting.

- The meeting agreed to allow Julie Harlow, a Friend from Quaker House Moscow, to come to Midlothian Friends Meeting on Thursday, May 25th to present to the general public information about Quaker outreach in Russia, with an additional potluck lunch with Midlothian and Richmond Friends the following day at the Midlothian meetinghouse.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
April 2017

16 Friends were present at Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business.

The following decisions were made upon reaching a sense of the meeting:

- **Spiritual Nurture Committee – Spiritual State of the Meeting Report**

Tom DeWeerd presented the draft of the Spiritual State of the Meeting Report. There was much discussion and valuable input around paragraph #3 and a few small grammatical edits. Meeting was comfortable with Tom revising the draft and submitting the final version to BYM with no further discussion needed.

- **Building & Grounds – Proposed design for addition of a handicap-accessible stairway**

Howard Brod presented design ideas for modification of the meetinghouse to make the upstairs handicap accessible and fire escapable. He shared that Powhatan County agreed to grant to MFM a waiver from commercial building requirements pending review of design plans. The proposed design plan would include a 4-foot addition to the side of the meetinghouse facing the RE building, which would include an additional stairway, exit, and stair lift.
Meeting for Business approved proceeding to the next step of estimating projected costs. *Each step will require discussion and authorization from Meeting For Business.*

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business
March 12, 2017

10 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- Care and Community: Midlothian Friends acknowledge a Transfer of Membership for Susan Buniva to Richmond Friends Meeting effective February 19, 2017
- Spiritual Nurture: Friends offered leanings on statements to be included in our annual State of the Meeting Report. Spiritual Nurture will present a draft of the report at April's Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business.
- Building and Grounds is granted permission to seek options on whether and how to modify the Meeting House to make the upstairs handicap accessible and Fire Escapable in accordance with Public Building Code of the County of Powhatan.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business
February 12, 2017

17 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made based on the 'sense of the meeting':

- After a very spirited discussion, the sense of meeting was that recorded members who have requested that we delete their contact information, or that we do not reach out to them or contact them in any way, will still remain as recorded members as long as we have identifying information to distinguish them from other individuals with the same name. Care and Community and/or the Editor of the Quaker Town Crier will reach out to those people who have made this request to inform them of our decision.
- We ended 2016 with a surplus of $526.00. The sense of the meeting was that we should use this surplus money to begin to build up the MH Systems/Appliances Annual Budget.
- Our 30th Anniversary will be coming up in September. The sense of the meeting was that we will discuss the details and the planning at some time in the summer during Meeting for Business.