Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Eleventh Day, **Ninth Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance include: 14 people were in attendance

Care and Community Committee Report
We held friends "In the Light".

Peace and Social Action Committee
Drone warfare discussion.

Friends are united in our concern about drone warfare. PSAC will share information about the effects of drone warfare with meeting through the Town Crier and will collect information and ideas from those who feel lead to share. Please email suggestions to Roselle Clark.

Financial Stewardship
We need about $125/month in addition contributions in order to meet our financial requirements.

Buildings and Grounds
Three items for September:

1. Need a new heating/ac unit in the RE building. We will ask for help from Friends who are attending the next potluck to remove and install the units.
2. Gutters in the front of the meetinghouse are in need of cleaning. There may even be a leak.
3. The kitchen windows are jammed and can't be opened.

Silence/Close of Meeting

Announcements

Midlothian Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business

Minutes

Fourteenth Day, **Eighth Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance: 10

Care and Community Committee Report

Friends were held in the Light.

We need to provide reliable transportation for Carmen Wong so she can come to meeting on a regular basis.

There are needs that we can share with the greater community, and the sense of meeting is that we would like individuals to share these challenges and joys during business meeting so that the whole community can discern how they may be addressed.

There are volunteers who have agreed to start bringing Carmen Wong to Meeting, August 28th. We are starting to schedule transport for Carmen on 4th Sundays and hope to expand to other Sundays as way opens. David Stocker will contact volunteers and Carmen to start this process.

Silence and Close of Meeting

Announcements

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Tenth Day, **Seventh Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance: 13

Care and Community Committee Report

Friends were held in the Light.

Building and Grounds Committee

There is a dead tree that needs to be removed. The question is where to get the money from to pay for the tree removal. We can pull from the apportionment that we do not need to pay to BYM and partially from the maintenance budget.

Dominion may remove the tree since it's threatening power lines.

There is a man who is willing to remove the tree for $500.

We will talk with our insurance to see what is covered in case the man who is willing to remove the tree isn't covered by insurance.

Targeted removal date: by mid-August.

We will hold our apportionment to BYM, regardless, to 10%. So even if Dominion takes out the tree for free, we will lower that apportionment to approximately $1621. Which we will still the extra $379 in routine maintenance.

Clerk's message

MFM has its 30th anniversary coming up. We would like to do something celebratory. We are going to have Nominating Committee put together an Ad Hoc Committee to organize the celebration. The anniversary is in September 2017.

Silence and Close of Meeting

Announcements

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Twelfth Day, **Sixth Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance include: 17 in attendance

Queries from BYM Faith and Practice

Care and Community Committee Report

We held those who needed it in the light.

Clerk's Message

Taking attendance: The sense of the meeting is that taking only a number in attendance would suffice rather than full names of those in attendance. We will include children in our count. This action is in the hopes of enhancing the spirituality of the meeting.

Spiritual Nurture Committee

The Spiritual State of the Meeting Report was approved with revisions. We may consider addressing the Spiritual State of the Meeting Report in January or February. We will attach a copy of the vision statement to the Spiritual State of the Meeting Report to be sent to BYM.

Meeting ended in silence.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
Fourth Month, 2016 11am

Attending: Brian McCutcheon (clerk), Howard Brod (recording clerk), Joseph Dixon, Catherine Advocate-Ross, Roselle Clark, David Clark, Ann Duncan, Tom DeWeerd, Robyn Johnson, Karrie Richards, Linda Miles, Jennifer Blosser, Laura Clark

Minute on *Friends Committee on National Legislation* Priorities

As a spiritual community ***Midlothian Friends Meeting*** feels an obligation to advocate for the Love and Light that unites all peoples. We hope for civility, cooperation, and dignity in the legislative process as we work together to:

- Promote LGBT rights
- Transform criminal justice system
- Promote racial equality
- Promote religious freedom
- Promote peaceful resolution of conflicts
- Promote wise stewardship of the earth
- Promote economic justice

This minute will be sent to ***Friends Committee on National Legislation*** **(FCNL)**.

Minute on *Midlothian Friends Meeting* apportionment assessed by *Baltimore Yearly Meeting* (BYM)

Midlothian Friends unite that the work of ***Baltimore Yearly Meeting*** is important and valuable to our meeting, and that 10% of our annual operating budget is a reasonable apportionment for ***Midlothian Friends Meeting***.

This minute will be made available at the BYM apportionment meeting on April 30th.

Minute on Preparation for the *Baltimore Yearly Meeting* (BYM) apportionment meeting at our meetinghouse

We will assess the condition of the meetinghouse and grounds and potentially spend 30 minutes after worship on April 24 tidying up.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Thirteenth Day, **Third Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance include: Debra Beck, Stephen, Debbie, Grant and Nora Long, Sandy Fry, Leslie Skinker, Roselle Clark, Howard Brod, Catherine Advocate-Ross, Karrie Richards, David and Heather Stocker, Laura Clark, Brian McCutcheon.

Queries:

- Does the clerk of meeting refrain from expressing a view on items of business so that he/she may stay clear and objective as she/he reads the sense of the meeting?

- When unending discussion, confusion, or the crafting of details starts to occur, does the clerk of meeting refer the matter to a standing or ad hoc committee for further study or action?

- Is the clerk of meeting mindful to allow the full operation of the Spirit among us by encouraging quieter Friends to offer a view?

- Does the clerk of meeting take seriously his/her responsibility to ensure that Friends' business proceeds in a Quakerly manner, suggesting to the meeting how to proceed when the meeting has deviated from Quaker process or is not unified on an item?

Care and Community

We held folks in the light.

PSAC
Stand Together pledge: Has been taken down from the original website.

Roselle has written a Minute on Religious Freedom:

Religious Freedom Minute – March 13, 2016

"Midlothian Friends Meeting stands together with others in our community to support religious freedom. We believe that bigotry in public discourse is destructive and divisive. We wish to support a more respectful, pluralistic, and inclusive community.

Religion should not be used as a wall to separate people from this land, from their neighbors, or from their hopes and dreams. At a time when feelings of fear and vulnerability may be heightened, we call upon public figures, private citizens, and media outlets to speak and act with respect and sensitivity.

In a spirit of equality, we stand with our Muslim friends as well as all those who are unjustly vilified as "the other." Recognizing that there is that of God in everyone, we reach out with compassion, love, and peace."

The minute was approved and will be distributed to local newspapers and the Thrifty Quaker.

There is a Prayer vigil at the State capital every Wed in March from 12-1:00 regarding climate change. This has been approved to go out in the Town Crier.

Financial Stewardship
BYM Apportionment letter—Heather will consult with Karrie regarding editing this letter.

Web Clerk
Meeting will send out a survey about what types of online media is used by members and attenders to better understand how Meeting can harness social media and online communications.

Building and Grounds
We got free wiring for outlets on porch.

Wiring is put in over the table in the library which gives us the ability to install a ceiling fan. B&G would like to have a light above the table. There is an offer to install a ceiling for free. There was no objection from Meeting.

Home warranty: B&G proposes getting rid of the home warranty and putting that money into a fund so that Meeting self-insures repairs that may be needed in the future. Meeting has approved doing away with the home warranty and creating the fund.

Clerk's Message
We are looking for a way to have a more worshipful experience incorporating silence. Announcements will come after meeting.

Business meeting ended with silence.

Announcements

Thrifty Quaker: February--$2000.98 to Powhatan Project Lifesaver Program. March--Southside Child Development Center

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Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Fourteenth Day, **Second Month, 2016**—11:00 a.m

Those in attendance include: Robyn Johnson, David and Roselle Clark, Brian McCutcheon, Claudia Farr, Dave Noe, Howard Brod, Joy Heaton, Emily, Will and Sam Keenum, Lily Bose, Larry Barnet, Cate and Chuck Grove, Karrie Richards, Hui Zhang, Heather Stocker, and David Stocker

Queries from BYM Faith and Practice on Simplicity

In what ways do we respond to prejudice and injustice?

How do we benefit from inequity and exploitation? How are we victims of inequity and exploitations? I what ways can we address these problems?

How do we teach our children and show through our way of living that love of God includes affirming the equality of all people treating them with dignity and respect, and seeking to address hat of God within every person?

Care and Community Committee Report

We held those who needed it in the light.

Spiritual Nurture Committee

Theme of Simplicity: Spiritual Nurture Committee will have a gathering each third Sunday (starts next Sunday) that everyone is invited to.

Treasurer's Report

We exceeded contributions expected last month and we are well on our way for the year.

Financial Stewardship

We reviewed a letter MFM is writing to BYM asking that our apportionment is cut to 10%, we currently pay 30%. Discussion ensued; we want to rework the letter to be softer and more spirit-filled.

Peace and Social Action

PSAC brought the "We Stand Together" pledge again for consideration to meeting. Discussion ensued and the meeting did not come to consensus. This will be held over as some folks have concerns about the wording and also the narrowed scope of the pledge (it only includes Muslims and not other marginalized peoples).

Clerk's Messages

There has been an idea about changing Business Meeting format. The proposal came up that announcements made in Business Meeting be switched to the end of meeting in an effort to foster a more spirit filled experience in Worship with Attention to Business.

Meeting ended in silence.