Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
14th day of the Third-month, 2010

Present were Larry Barnett, Scott Cannady, John Cain, Tracey Cain, Cate Myers, Chuck Grove, and Tom DeWeerd, clerk

The meeting commenced with a period of silent worship, out of which, Tom read queries about conducting business in the manner of Friends.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, John Cain, presented the treasurer's report for third month. Friends showed appreciation for the easy to understand format. In addition, John reported on the carry forward items in our annual budget. Records from 2003-2010 show that a total of $4662.00 should have been accrued for capital improvements (roof replacement, septic, well, heat pump, and painting). This amount was not carried forward year-to-year.

> **Minute**: MFM approves a capital improvements line item of $1200.00 annually with the accrued amounts to be carried forward into subsequent budgets. This amount is already included in the approved $3330.00 Building & Grounds budget for 2010. The amount remaining, less utilities and insurance, will be a line item called maintenance.

Clerk, Tom DeWeerd, encouraged Building & Grounds to assess their budget and if the amount is not adequate they should request more from Meeting. A question about Building and Grounds line item for Property & Liability Insurance prompted Cate Myers to agree to request a copy of the policy and review it in committee. In addition, John Cain will forward Building and Grounds utilities billing information to Scott Cannady, clerk of Building & Grounds.

Tom reported that questions about the budget and the meeting's finances were addressed in a meeting in February of the treasurer, the clerk, Financial Stewardship committee and MFM Trustees. Financial Stewardship will report on the assets and liabilities of the meeting. In addition, Thrifty Quaker will be asked to make an annual report to MFM.

John has created a reimbursement form to be used by committees. He explained that this will help him know where to apply the expense.

Approval of Minutes: The approval of second month minutes was held over due to Julie's absence.

Time for Business Meeting: There is growing unity to move Meeting for Business to a consistent time. The long-term experiment to alternate meeting times between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. has not brought an increase in attendance. Tom asks committee clerks to process this in committee to give Friends an opportunity to discuss the options. Options are 9:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. on second First Day or at a different time/day.

Building and Grounds: The committee's stair-fund was discussed. While the project is worthy and will improve the looks of the meetinghouse, Building and Grounds committee was reminded that meeting relieved them of the burden of fund-raising, because it asks too much of a committee to fund their own projects and this has been a sensitive issue in the past. Fundraising projects should be brought to Meeting for Business for approval by the meeting. Once approved, the project does not rest solely on the committee but upon the meeting as a whole.

The continued refurbishing of the meetinghouse was noted and appreciated.

Religious Education: RE is scheduling monthly outings on first First Days for Young Friends and their families as a way to build community. Last First Day, 17 Friends went out to breakfast together. The energy of Young Friends and their family was missed, but the "empty-nester" Meeting for Worship was deep and spiritual. Teens are working on a grant writing project and Younger Friends are worm farming and have taken on responsibility for the meditation garden and trail.

Spiritual Nurture: Quaker 101 is in process, being held third First Days at rise of Meeting. The first session on Quaker History, facilitated by Howard Brod, was well attended and was held in our newly redecorated library. The next session will be led by Susan Umidi. May 1 is the annual Gathering for Clearness to be held at the Clearing. The theme is Home. As usual, committees will be asked to contribute to programming. The state of the Meeting report will be drafted in the week between the Meeting for Clearness and the fourth month Meeting for Business where it will be presented for approval. Upon approval it can be forwarded to BYM.

Care & Counsel: There was not a report from Care & Counsel but Cate reported on her upcoming marriage plans. She and Chuck are working with Robyn Johnson from Care & Counsel and wish to schedule the meetinghouse for fourth month, 17th day sometime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. The ceremony will be based on Quaker traditions. A reception will follow, to be held at Carol Wright's farm, Newstead.

Concern about apportionment: The clerk reported that there have been some questions about our relationship with Baltimore Yearly Meeting and the cost of membership. The question, "What do we get from BYM?" will be explored more fully. Tom will contact BYM and schedule a representative to come and speak to us about what BYM offers us.

Other Business: A meeting of committee clerks was held third month, 12th day. Those present participated in a discussion about clerking, Quaker process, and the spiritual dimension of committee work.

Submitted by Tracey Cain, substituting for Julie Crum, recording clerk