

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
January 10, 2010, 9:30am

Present: Tracey Cain, Maria Cannady, Scott Cannady, Jim Beran, Julie Crum, Linda Miles, John Cain, Tom DeWeerd

Meeting opened with news of friends followed by silence, queries, and a review of the agenda.

TREASURER

John Cain, treasurer, and Linda Miles, former treasurer, discussed the details of transfer of authority for check signing and so on. Committee heads need to get their budgets for 2010 to John, and we will continue for the time being with projections from last year until the new numbers are submitted.

Minute: John Cain is now the treasurer for Midlothian Friends Meeting, taking the place of Linda Miles, who has stepped down from that position.

QUERY FROM ROANOKE FRIENDS MEETING

Roanoke Meeting has asked to see our budget; John Cain will write to ask about their purpose, and will probably send the figures along.

MINUTES

Minutes from December will be reviewed at February's business meeting.

WEDDING

Last month Jane Roberson (Care and Counsel) reported that Cate Myers and Chuck Grove had a clearness committee in the matter of their marriage. Cate and Chuck would like to marry "in the manner of Friends but not under the care of the meeting." Meeting is delighted with the news of the impending marriage, but clarification is needed about the matter of not being under the care of the meeting.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The January 18 (Martin Luther King day) work day will concentrate mostly on the library.

SPIRITUAL NURTURE

Maria Cannady reported that the decision to cancel the Christmas Eve worship was a wise decision; the parking lot was treacherous.

Quakerism 101 is in the works, with some classes already arranged and teachers still needed for four more of the sessions. Classes will be held once a month at the rise of meeting.

Meeting for Nurture will be held Sunday, January 17 at the rise of meeting; Betty Gilchrist will speak about Centering Prayer.

PEACE AND SOCIAL ACTION

The clerk of the Peace and Social Concerns committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting wrote to encourage monthly meetings to consider the peace testimony in the light of the current situation with our military and the buildup in Afghanistan. Our PSAC is asked to follow up.

Minute: Meeting thanks Dave Clark for his continued hard and thoughtful work on the meeting's website.

BUSINESS MEETING

Should we reconsider the time and day for meeting for business? It is difficult to take the time to consider all our business when meeting is held before worship, and the alternating times are confusing to people. Meeting continually struggles to encourage participation in business meeting. This discussion will continue next month.

If at all possible, representatives from each committee should be present at business meeting.

Meeting ended with silence.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
February 14, 2010, 12:30pm

Present: Tom DeWeerd, Jim Beran, John Cain, Larry Barnett, Tracey Cain

Meeting opened with news of friends followed by silence and a review of the agenda.

TREASURER

John Cain presented a treasurer's report, attached. Questions were raised about who reconciles and keeps track of funds which are dispersed for FriendShare, the Thrifty Quaker, and the Fund for Support. A meeting of all the people involved in finances for the meeting will be scheduled for the next couple of weeks.

Last month Roanoke Friends Meeting asked to see our budget; John wrote back asking them to contact him by phone to discuss the request but has had no response yet.

Buildings and Grounds has requested ³³³⁰~~\$3,300~~ in the 2010 budget. Tom will talk to Scott Cannady, clerk, and ask for the budget to be divided into three categories: annual expenses, special projects, and set-aside for long-term expenses.

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting apportionment for 2009 was \$3,400. In 2010 it is \$3,907. BYM uses a census to determine the apportionment amount.

Minute: Meeting approves the 2010 budget.

SPIRITUAL NURTURE

Larry Barnett reported that Quakerism 101 will begin next Sunday. The next few presenters have been arranged but there are still spots to be filled.

The Gathering for Clearness will be held at The Clearing in Amelia County on Saturday, May 1. The theme will be the sense of a spiritual home at Midlothian Friends Meeting. A central feature will be gathering thoughts for the annual State of the Meeting report.

Meeting is preparing for two weddings. ^{The marriage of} Cate Myers and Chuck Groves will be held soon, and Julie Lundy and Kelly Council will be married in October. Meeting approves the plan to celebrate the marriage during a regular Sunday meeting for worship.

MINUTES

December minutes were approved as written. January minutes were approved with corrections.

Minute: Meeting thanks Buildings and Grounds for its hard work on the meetinghouse.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tracey Cain proposes a worm farm for the meetinghouse as a project for young friends. The young friends are also working on AFSC kits for Haiti.

PEACE AND SOCIAL ACTION

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy needs the \$100 that we pledged to contribute; the expense is approved.

MAIL

We received thanks for the Thrifty Quaker gifts to Meals on Wheels of \$1,800 and the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness of \$2,660. The Richmond Animal League sent thanks for the gift of \$95 from our young friends. Baltimore Yearly Meeting sent notices of various upcoming activities.

Meeting ended with silence.

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

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
March 14, 2010, 9:30am

APC/VW April 11

Present: Tom DeWeerd, Scott Cannady, Larry Barnett, Tracey Cain, Chuck Grove, Cate Myers, Julie Crum

Meeting opened with silence, a reading of queries, and a review of the agenda.

TREASURER

John Cain presented the treasurer's report in a new format. The clerk will send a quarterly financial snapshot, a brief summary of the fiscal state of the meeting, to be distributed via the Town Crier.

MINUTES

The minutes from February's meeting for business were approved with corrections.

The minutes from March were approved as written.

MEETING FOR BUSINESS, SCHEDULING

The committees were asked to consider the issue of scheduling the day and time of the monthly meeting for business. Spiritual Nurture would like to have a consistent time for business meeting, with Sunday morning being preferred but not strongly. Buildings and Grounds would like an evening meeting, Thursday or Friday. The current system of meeting alternately before and after meeting for worship makes planning for committee meetings on Sundays difficult.

Tom DeWeerd attended business meeting at Richmond Friends, where the practice is to hold business meeting during the regular worship hour once a month. Tom found this practice to be extremely productive and meaningful. There was worshipful silence between agenda items, with a high level of engagement and great spiritual quality.

Meeting agrees that a consistent time for business meeting is desirable. We will schedule business meeting for 9:30 each second Sunday. A prompt start is important, and friends agreed that we would finish at 10:45, holding over unfinished business for the next month. Critical agenda items will be scheduled early in the meeting.

Friends are encouraged to visit Richmond Friends Meeting on the third Sunday at 11am to experience the practice of meeting for worship with attention to business during the regular worship hour.

CARE AND COUNSEL

The wedding of Chuck Grove and Cate Myers will be held at the meetinghouse next Saturday. Carrie Richards has provided a wealth of information about Quaker weddings.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Scott Cannady reported that the committee is addressing funding for capital expenses vs operating expenses. They are looking into the high utility bills. There is exposed wiring in the woods near the creek; the developer will be correcting this issue. The stairs have been finished and look very nice. Three work days have been scheduled: May 15, July 17, and September 25.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The children made kits of school supplies for the AFSC project. Plans for summer camp are moving along. The first Sunday of each month will be an outing for the children; they will meet at someplace outside of the meetinghouse, ie a park, instead of coming to the meetinghouse.

SPIRITUAL NURTURE

Spiritual Nurture has been planning the annual Gathering for Clearness at The Clearing in Amelia County. The theme will be "Midlothian Friends Meeting: Our Spiritual Home". Meeting's committees are participating in planning activities. As usual, we will have worship sharing about the state of the meeting, and Spiritual Nurture will generate the report before the next meeting for business.

PEACE AND SOCIAL ACTION

The Thrifty Quaker donated \$1,171 to the American Friends Service Committee.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

BYM is offering workshops to monthly meetings; Larry will see if we can have a BYM workshop as one of the Quakerism 101 sessions.

The annual BYM apportionment meeting will be held at 10am on April 24 at Goose Creek Meeting in Loudon County. Tom will attend and invites others to attend with him.

The BYM interim meeting will be in October at Richmond Friends Meeting. We will see if we can help with the meeting in an effort to get reconnected with RFM.

The BYM newsletter, Interchange, includes news of monthly meetings. Midlothian Friends Meeting would like to contribute our news more regularly; perhaps the news could be submitted by the clerk, assistant clerk, and recording clerk. Perhaps submissions could be approved by meeting for business.

Meeting ended with silence.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
June 13, 2010, 9:30am

Present: Tom DeWeerd, Tracey Cain, Larry Barnett, Cate Grove, Chuck Grove, John Cain, Scott Cannady, Howard Brod, Heather Stocker, Julie Crum

Meeting opened with silence and a review of the agenda.

QUAKER (outreach)

Heather Stocker reported that the committee would like to spend the \$30 for the renewal of the Friends Journal listing on something that will get more local exposure. Meeting decided to maintain the Friends Journal listing as a way of keeping us part of the wider Quaker community. The cost is not really something to be borne by the QUAKER committee, so if the committee needs the \$30 later, the budget will be adjusted.

TREASURER

John Cain presented the treasurer's report (attached). We are holding our own at the moment with our normal expenses, but at this rate will not have the funds for the big annual expenses such as our Baltimore Yearly Meeting apportionment and our contribution for The Clearing.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

June 19 will be the BYM interim meeting. Tom might attend, and would be happy to have anyone go along with him.

MINUTES

The minutes from April's meeting for business were approved as written.

CARE AND COUNSEL

Tom read the letter from the Cannady family requesting membership; a clearness committee will be held.

SPIRITUAL NURTURE

Larry read the State of the Meeting report aloud, and all approved.

MINUTE: Meeting appreciates the hard work of the spiritual nurture committee in writing the state of the meeting report, which accurately represents Midlothian Friends Meeting over the past year.

Quakerism 101 is taking a break over the summer and will resume in the fall.

NOMINATING

Howard proposed the addition of Chuck Grove to Buildings and Grounds; approved.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Scott Cannady reported on the last work day, when insulation was installed in the walls and ceiling, and yard work was done. Two more work days are scheduled: June 19, for mulching, mowing, and caulking and sealing of the large wall in the worship room, and July 17, when we hope to remove the tub in the downstairs bathroom and replace it with a utility sink and closet. Friends are encouraged to bring perennials that they are dividing in their garden; especially welcome will be nandinas.

The refrigerator needs to be replaced. The worship room carpet will be replaced with a wood floor in due time. The parking lot will be delineated on the far side with a rope and post border, and friends are encouraged to donate any 4x4 posts that they might have at home.

Many friends have donated goods and materials to meeting; buildings and grounds would like to track such donations to get an accurate idea of the costs of maintaining the facilities.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The high school graduates, Olivia Rappe and Tessa Schanz, will be recognized at the June 27 pot luck at the rise of meeting.

From Tracey Cain:

We are preparing for the traditional school graduation recognition at MFM, to be held on the 27th day of this month.

The RE committee sponsored an intergenerational event yesterday, participating in the James River cleanup held at the Robious Landing Park. Three families participated.

The 3rd annual PeaceBuilders Summer Camp will be held 19th-23rd of 7th month. Children 5-12 are invited to attend; it is open to the community.

Tracey is serving as MFM contact for Alison Duncan, BYM Youth Secretary.

In addition to scheduling classes, the RE Committee will look for more opportunities to build community—both within the Meeting and with Richmond Friends Meeting RE.

Meeting ended with silence.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, held 12th day, 12th month, 2010

Present were: Tom Deweerd, clerk, Dave Clark, Anne Duncan, Scott Cannaday, David Stocker, Rozelle Clark, Ed Pope, John Cain, Jan Rappe, Beth Rapp, Cate Grove, Chuck Grove, and Tracey Cain

Tracey Cain acted as recording clerk in Julie Crum's absence.

Opening worship included a reading out of the silence from a BYM letter.

Review Agenda: There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

News of Ourselves: David Stocker shared on behalf of Care and Counsel Committee that they have been involved in the care and support of MFM friends. Other news of Friends was shared.

RE: The report from the Religious Education Committee is attached.

Clerk: Clerk, Tom DeWeerd brought a request from BYM. Riley Robinson, General Secretary, wants to visit (yearly visiting session) January 16, 23rd or 30th.

Meeting approved January 16th visit from Riley Robinson.

Approval of Minutes

10th month minutes APPROVED, with Tom providing the names as needed.

11th month minutes APPROVED, with an additional comment to treasurer's report that budgeting of our electrical billing is not possible because we have a commercial account.

Financial Stewardship: A letter to Letty Collins, clerk of BYM Financial Stewardship Committee, drafted by Brian Buniva and Jim Beran, was read by Tom DeWeerd. The letter described our current financial conditional and forecast of our inability to pay our 2010 and 2011 apportionment. Suggestions were made to soften the document to reflect the spiritual nature of our relationship, including the salutation and closing.

The letter re BYM Apportionment was APPROVED as amended.

Treasurer's Report: The 12th month report was presented. The treasurer, John Cain, reported that contributions have been slightly healthier during the past two months. The 2011 Budget which was first presented 11th month, was brought for approval. Of note: With paring of the budget, contributions will still need to increase to meet our reduced budget. Part of the paring includes not paying the annual BYM apportionment, FCNL contribution, or funding the following committee line items: Scholarship Fund, Library, Peace & Social Action Gifts and Programs, and RE Gifts and Programs.

2011 MFM operating budget was APPROVED as presented.

Nominating Committee brought the 2011 Committee List for approval. It was presented 11th month for discussion and consideration.

2011 Committee List APPROVED as presented.

Spiritual Nurture: Spiritual Nurture committee announced the annual Meeting for Worship with attention to Christmas will be held 24th day, 12th month, from 5-6pm.

Due to time constraints, the following reports were held over: Care and Counsel, Buildings & Grounds Committee, and Interim Meeting news.

Announcements: The BYM Yearbook for 2010 now in the library and workshop proposals for 2011 BYM Annual Session are due in February.

Click [CALENDAR](#) to see Midlothian Friends Meeting Events