

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
Minutes
Twelfth Day, Tenth Month, 2014 – 11:00 a.m.

Those in attendance included: Bill Marx, Olivia, Sophia and Nora Duncan, Ann Duncan, Adam, Baylor and Kayla Brown, Katie DeWeerd, Erin DeWeerd, Susan Umidi, Joy Heaton, Cate Grove, Chuck Grove, Karrie Richards, Robyn Johnson, David Clark, Roselle Clark, Stephen Long, Howard Brod, and Tom DeWeerd

The meeting opened with silence - Queries were read from BYM Faith & Practice under the heading "*Community*" from p. 66. There were several shared messages on "*What helps our Meeting build trust in on another?*"

Care and Community – Several Friends asked for someone to be "Held In the Light"

Spiritual Nurture – Meeting focused some time on the 2nd section of our 'vision statement' with attention to how we encourage each individual in her or his spiritual journey and reaching language that identifies that we strive to experience inner peace without trying to reach any particular spiritual destination. Some deeply felt sharing took place as Dave Clark again took us into this process.

Treasurer's Report – While there was no report from Howard at this meeting, his monthly treasurer's report is sent out on the Quaker Town Crier. A statement was approved that had been requested by Ninth Month meeting for business. It will be published online this week.

Everyone should know that their presence at meeting is the most important gift, donation, or contribution they can make to our spiritual community. We never want finances to interfere with anyone's participation in our meeting. While we have had less financial success than anticipated when our 2014 budget was created and approved, we continue to make our most basic obligations to keep meeting going. Substantial cuts have been made to accept the reality of our budget shortfall and meeting will continue to evaluate our situation as our budget year comes to an end. Any contributor wishing to see an evaluation of contributions should contact Howard Brod, our treasurer, to receive a copy of the breakdown of our donation data. Our treasurer's report with the cuts approved at Ninth Month Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business is attached.

Peace and Social Action Committee (PSAC) – Our work on the MFM priorities for action based on *Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Stewardship* (SPICES) led to a wonderful session about restorative justice last month. Next First Day, October 19th, a spiritual nurture session will be held – Values Clarification Workshop. This will take place at rise of meeting and be led by Sandi Wiggins. In November, Stephen Long will lead a session on Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). The Thrifty Quaker (TQ) donated more than \$3,000 to the Richmond Peace Education Center (RPEC) in September and gave more than \$12,000 to all others this year.

Building and Grounds Committee – Workdays on 9/20, 9/27 and 10/11 were successful. The evidence is clearly visible in the front of our meetinghouse. The work continues to make the walkway safe and planning by this hard working committee continues. Meeting thanked them!

Clerks Comments – The Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) Interim Meeting was held in Richmond on Saturday where support for MFM was expressed by members of the Stewardship & Finance Committee. BYM will be sending visitors to share with us what BYM offers to MFM.

A short silence ended business meeting as our children returned from First Day School.

Painted pumpkins & birdhouses will be on sale this Fall to raise funds for a charity of their choice.