

MFM - Meeting for Worship with Intention for Business
Minutes Twenty-Sixth Day, Eighth Month, 2012 – 11:00 a.m.

Those in attendance included Robyn Johnson, Jan Rappe, Beth Rappe, Claudia Farr, Jim Berin, Ann Duncan, Sophie Duncan, Steve Long, Brian McCutcheon, David Stocker, Heather Stocker, Elliot Stocker, Ian Stocker, Roselle Clark, Dave Clark, Howard Brod, Joy, Cary Potter, Tom DeWeerd, Susan Umidi.

After the Welcome, the clerk read some brief passages from the new BYM Faith and Practice and the letter from BYM announcing the “first reading” of this draft. Ordering for MFM can be done online but the clerk offered to order copies for ten dollars that includes shipping and handling. A draft of the BYM Faith and Practice will be on the agenda for approval in August 2013 and the annual session of BYM. A Meeting for Nurture will be scheduled with a BYM representative to discuss the draft.

Since August 2012 is the last month of the trial period for holding business meeting during the worship hour, the question was asked: how we should proceed? The Clerk read from the new Faith and Practice on how a worship sharing should be held and a brief period of silence and sharing took place.

Attendance at business meeting has increased with meeting for business during worship. During the worship sharing, it became clear that MFM should continue this experiment for another six months. It was thought that those who would like deeper silence might come at 10:30 a.m. for more silence before business meeting. The spiritual nurture committee will discuss the suggestions and seek ways to respond during the coming months.

The financial stewardship committee requested that MFM seek refinancing of the Sun Trust mortgage with one from Homewood Friends Meeting. Homewood agreed to loan us about \$30,000 to pay off the Sun Trust Mortgage. MFM would take what we save and pay off the loan to Homewood in about 10 years instead of 20 years. Homewood is requesting the option of calling in the loan in 90 days if they need it. Business Meeting approved financial stewardship moving forward with Homewood Meeting's offer.

The treasurer's update for August 2012 reported that MFM is currently at 102% of our needed contributions based on a generous anonymous contribution.

The MFM care & community committee announced a special event. The second annual gathering will be held on Oct. 14th to celebrate the completion of meeting house projects. The committee is inviting other meetings and the Thrifty Quaker patrons and friends to worship with us at 11 o'clock. Children events will take place as well. The building and grounds committee presented this idea to the care and community committee and will be sponsored by both groups. More information on this event will be announced, as the time gets closer.

The peace and social action committee reviewed the upcoming VICPP event on September 16th at the rise of meeting. They will present the Social Justice University. This will be open to people of other faiths. Beth Rappe will be providing a light lunch. Looking at economic justice, predatory lending, environment, immigration and how to talk to legislators about social justice issues will be part of this event.

The peace and social action committee also announced that a month of the Thrifty Quaker donations was given for a soup kitchen to purchase an industrial stove. The August donation will go to Caritas and September is again designated for the Richmond Peace Education Center.

The spiritual nurture committee announced that their next meeting would include a discussion about a discussion period on sacred books to be held before worship. They will meet the second Sunday of September at 12:30 p.m. - all are welcome.

The meeting closed with silence.