

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
January 12, 2020

26 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made based on the 'sense of the meeting':

- Meeting agreed to use \$708.00 of the 2019 budget surplus to complete payment of our 2019 allocation to Baltimore Yearly Meeting.
- Meeting agreed to move the remainder of the 2019 budget surplus to the capital improvements fund for use on the Memorial Garden, with any excess funds to be allocated to projects approved by Meeting.
- Meeting agreed to establish an ad hoc committee to consider the remaining design and accessibility issues for the Memorial Garden.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
February 9, 2020

17 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made based on the 'sense of the meeting':

- Meeting agreed to designate the inner circle of the Memorial Garden as a space for reflection and contemplation rather than as a place for the burial of cremains.
- Meeting agreed to the SPICES for Life board's request to move the swing set to an area behind the deck of the meeting house and, when funding is available, to level the area of former playground to be used as a playing field.
- Meeting agreed to the SPICES for Life board's request to install raised garden beds in the front section of the yard between the religious education building and the parking lot.
- Meeting agreed to the SPICES for Life board's request to install a small storage shed on the right side of the religious education building.
- Meeting agreed to the SPICES for Life board's request to install a new path using pavers from the meditation garden to the gravel road at the back of the property. This will allow for safer access to the llama farm.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
March 8, 2020

8 Friends were present.

The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- Meeting agreed that the Memorial Garden design will include crushed gravel in the inner circle and a permanent sign at the entrance to the garden reading "Midlothian Friends Meeting Memorial Garden" and "Peace to All Who Enter Here." Cremains will be buried or spread outside of the inner circle. No containers of any kind will be permitted.
- Meeting agreed to suspend the practice of shaking hands or hugging at rise of Meeting until further notice due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Meeting approved the following FCNL legislative priorities proposed by the Peace and Social Action Committee:
 - Peacebuilding, diplomacy and the peaceful prevention and resolution of violent conflict.
 - Reduction of military spending and armed interventions, with more equitable cost-sharing among nations.
 - An immigration system that promotes and respects the rights, safety and dignity of all immigrants, refugees and migrants.
 - Equitable access for all to participation in an open and transparent political process.
 - Ending gun violence including through the support of policies informed by public health best practices and universal background checks.
 - Economic justice and equity; strengthen programs that meet basic needs including universal access to quality, affordable healthcare; tax fairness.
 - Sustainable solutions to climate change, including reducing fossil and nuclear fuel use, increasing renewable energy, strengthening environmental protections, promoting international cooperation, and protecting vulnerable populations.

Midlothian Friends Meeting for Discernment

May 10, 2020

15 Friends were present

- Meeting for Discernment was spent reviewing and discussing the 2019 Spiritual State of the Meeting Report. No specific decisions were made.

Midlothian Friends Meeting
Meeting for Discernment
June 14, 2020

8 Friends were present on Zoom

The following decisions were made after reaching the 'sense of the meeting':

- Meeting approved the 2019 Spiritual State of the Meeting Report, with revisions.
- Meeting agreed that the members of the "Men's Group" will rename the group to one that is non-exclusive, and that all groups created in the future will be clearly non-exclusive in name and practice.
- Meeting agreed to hold over until next meeting the decision whether to reopen for in-person worship.

Midlothian Friends Meeting

Meeting for Discernment, July 12, 2020

16 members were in attendance.

Friends agreed to:

- Adopt Permanent Complete Solution B for resuming worship on the Meetinghouse grounds (described in the attached);
- Install Verizon WIFI in the Meetinghouse as soon as possible; and
- Purchase and install the “Meeting Owl Pro” in the Meetinghouse, a video conferencing device.

The cost to purchase the Owl will be paid through a combination of special donations and use of the Meeting’s Emergency Fund. To the extent it is used, the Fund will be reimbursed by the end of 2021.

Friends agreed to support the Peace & Social Action Committee’s recommendation to read *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo and join PSAC’s Zoom discussion of the book on August 26, 2020 at 7:00pm.