

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Morningside Monthly Meeting

September 13, 2009

Meeting opens at 1pm with a period of waiting worship. Acting clerk, Nancy Britton, reads the following: "Let no one go to Friends meetings with the expectation of finding everything to his taste." Caroline Stephen, *Quaker Spirituality*, pg. 251.

- 9.1 The agenda is reviewed and approved amended
- 9.2 Pamela Wood reports for Ministry & Counsel. Friends accept the report as attached.
- The next meeting of Ministry & Counsel will take place on Thursday, October 1, 7:15 pm, at the home of Ralph Zito. Meeting members and attenders are welcome to attend the first, non-confidential part of the meeting. M & C requests that concerns be forwarded in writing if they are not to be presented in person. We ask the Meeting to hold our work in the Light.
 - Ministry & Counsel's next welcoming breakfast will take place on Sunday, September 27, at 9:30 am, in the Riverside Café. Liberty Britton and Susan Hannigan will host.
 - We continue to plan the retreat. See attached M&C report for details and also minute 2009.09.05.
 - After Meeting workshops, reflecting a change from June minutes, are as follows:
 - October 18, "The Testimony of Equality"
 - November 15, "Membership in Meeting"
 - December 20, "State of the Meeting"
 - January 17, "The Process of Quaker Meeting for Business"
 - February 21, "How do we nurture our spiritual growth?"
- 9.3 Ministry & Council forwards its recommendation for approval of the transfer of membership of Edd Fenner from the Fifteenth Street Meeting to Morningside Meeting. This is the first reading.
- 9.4 Ministry & Council forwards the names of Ed Elder as clerk for the December Business Meeting and Joyce Richardson as clerk for the January Business Meeting. As a reminder, clerks for November and December are Sally Campbell & Jean Ferris. Friends approve.
- 9.5 M&C recommends that the retreat be held at the Anna Curtis center at Powell House on May 7-9 with food to be prepared by Powell House. Suggestions should be directed to M&C, Pamela Wood & Susan Hannigan co-clerks. Meeting approves.
- 9.6 Pamela Wood presents the treasurer's report. Friends accept the report as attached. Contributions for the past quarter are \$8632 and are ahead

of what they are normally are for the year. To date, Morningsiders have contributed a total of \$2450 to the Matching Fund campaign for renovation and construction projects at Quaker schools in East Africa, just \$50 short of the \$2500 Morningside agreed to match using funds from the Crumlish bequest. (All our contributions will be further matched by an anonymous donor.) Please make out your check to the NYQM African Education Committee and indicate on the memo line that your contribution is for the "Matching Fund." Send the check to Nancy Black, Clerk of New York Quarterly Meeting, 178 Lincoln Road, Brooklyn, NY 11225. (Note that the Matching Fund is for one-time capital projects, and is *not* a substitute for the annual fund that supports over a hundred children orphaned by AIDS at the Quaker schools at Kisangura, Tanzania.) For more information, see the brochure available on the information table at Meeting, or call Corona Machermer (212-740-6788).

- 9.7 Mason Jenkins reports for P&SC. Mason reminds us that considerations for the P&SC 2010 budget will begin in the November. Friends accept the report as amended.
- 9.8 We discussed our contribution to New York Yearly Meeting's budget. NYYM "Budget Saturday" is October 10. Friends are asked to consider being our representative. Meeting agrees to increase its contribution at this time by 1% (\$130), reflecting the overall increase in NYYM's proposed budget. We also agree to consider a further increase during our 2010 budget process. Friends approve.
- 9.9 Morningside notes with sadness the death of Pat Dominus, the wife of Bart Dominus. Contributions in lieu of flowers can be made to donorschoose.org, a public schools teachers' project that allows the donor to choose the organization to which the funds go. Friends approve.
- 9.10 Morningside Meeting agrees to serve as fiscal sponsor for Hope Lives for Lifers. Pamela Wood will serve as liaison through Peace & Social Concerns. The draft mission statement is attached. A contract of understanding will be developed. Meeting approves.
- 9.11 After a period of silence, meeting closes at 3:07 pm.

The clerk requests that committee reports be forwarded in writing prior to the next Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Reports should be forwarded to Sally Campbell, acting clerk for October, and Kathy Wood, recording clerk.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Wood
Recording Clerk

Attendance: David Britton, Liberty Britton, Nancy Britton, Vince Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Patricia Chernoff, Edd Fenner, Jean Ferris, Mason Jenkins, Sarah Leuze, Corona Machermer, Jason McGill, Charlene Ray, Joyce Richardson, Jen Spence, Liz Stone, Helen Garay Toppins, Larry White, Kathy Wood, Pamela Wood, Ralph Zito

Report of Ministry & Counsel to Meeting for Business, Sunday, September 13, 2009

1. The next meeting of Ministry & Counsel will take place on Thursday, October 1, 7:15 pm, at the home of Ralph Zito. Meeting members and attenders are welcome to attend the first, non-confidential part of the meeting. M & C requests that concerns be forwarded in writing if they are not to be presented in person. We ask the Meeting to hold our work in the Light.
2. Ministry & Counsel's next welcoming breakfast will take place on Sunday, September 27, at 9:30 am, in the Riverside Café. Liberty Britton and Susan Hannigan will host.
3. Currently there are seven support committees under the care of Ministry & Counsel.
4. Our after Meeting workshops, beginning in October, a chance from June.
 - October 18, The Testimony of Equality
 - November 15, Membership in Meeting
 - December 20, State of the Meeting
 - January 17, The Process of Quaker Meeting for Business
 - February 21, How do we nurture our spiritual growth?
5. We continue to plan for a retreat this spring. We would like to support Powell House, which is really struggling, by having our retreat there. The cost for an adult for the weekend would be \$160, for a child under 17, \$80 and infants are \$40. This includes having our meals prepared. We would like to propose a larger scholarship budget for 2010. We would use part of this budget to pay for 2 vans to support transportation to Powell House. Liberty and Susan recommend that we use the Ann Curtiss Center rather than Pitt Hall. The remodeling has created a much better space. Most rooms no longer have bunk beds, and there are rooms on the first floor. All rooms in Pitt Hall require use of a staircase. The date we would like to recommend for approval is May 7-9.
6. Ministry & Council forwards the request for the transfer of membership of Edd Fenner from the Fifteenth Street Meeting to Morningside Meeting with a recommendation for approval.
7. We would like to nominate Ed Elder as clerk for the December Business Meeting and Joyce Richardson as clerk for the January Business Meeting.

September 13, 2009
Peace and Social Concerns Report for September

At the last Peace and Social Concerns meeting on June 14th we discussed contributions from the Friends in Unity With Nature. We agreed to give \$200 to Broadway Community Inc. to supplement their Community Supported Agriculture program which offers assistance to low income folks. We also tentatively agreed to continue our support of Argus and Bronx food co-ops.

Further, we discussed options for speakers for the fall. We proposed getting a representative from the Africa Great Lakes Fund since we have organized the matching fund in support of their efforts. Speaker arrangements are still tentative.

PSC meeting to consider the yearly budget will take place on November 8.

Hope Lives for Lifers

Mission Statement

Hope Lives for Lifers is a program of the Doing Justice Coalition, committed to helping those incarcerated in prison with life or life without parole sentences establish lives based on faith, hope and enduring beliefs. By faith we mean the ability to trust sufficiently to be able to commit ourselves to what we hope and love. Hope is the vision a person has for him or herself of a better set of circumstances, and enduring beliefs are the framework of values on which a person depends to help them interpret and act on the world in a meaningful way. These may include specific religious beliefs, a personal philosophy or confidence in a transforming power, for example.

We believe that these ends may be accomplished through opportunities for experiences that allow people to reclaim their dignity and power, increase their sense of self-efficacy, and through programs that connect prisoners to the world. Contact with communities, both inside and outside of prison, which have faith in the resilience, ability to grow and change of those who are incarcerated, is also an important component of a program for lifers.

Goal: Joint Partnership with (Lifer?) groups inside prison to help Lifers, Lifers without Parole and Long termers establish lives based on faith, hope and enduring belief.

At the moment we are a work in progress, basing our ideas on feedback from those who have been incarcerated and ideas with proven effectiveness. Our ideas are subject to review and refinement.

1. **Orientation** of those who have recently been incarcerated to help individuals develop a **sentence plan**, which would include educational goals, family relationships and dealing with the deficits that caused the person to enter prison. This would become part of a contract. Ideally this would happen within the first four months. Our idea is that that work would be continued through organizations within the prisons such as lifer organizations.
2. Work on opportunities for **education** within the prison system by encouraging the pursuit of the GED, facilitating the use of correspondence courses to bridge the educational gap between the GED and college courses and working to support the restoration of TAP and Pell grants.
3. Encourage those who are incarcerated to develop **leadership skills**, for example, becoming facilitators with the Alternatives to Violence Program.
4. **Discussion** and **writing** on such topics as “What do you know that you can pass on that would be life giving?” or researching and developing position papers on various issues, such as a return to the 32 year sentence limit.

5. Making available programs, which would help people, **deal with traumatic events** in their lives such as “The Healing of Memories” program.
6. **Reconciliation** with the communities from which prisoners have come.
7. Making available writings of Lifers and Lifers without parole through publications and media.

**Morningside Morningside Meating Through August 09
Treasurer's Report for May 2009**

		2009							
		Budget	1st Qtr.	April	May	June	2nd Qtr.	First 6 mos	Jul/Aug
EXPENSE									
Fixed	NY Yearly Meeting	12970.00	3242.50	3242.50	0.00		3242.50	6485.00	3242.50
Overhead	NYQM (Rent)	<u>9888.00</u>	<u>2472.00</u>	<u>2872.00</u>	0.00		<u>2872.00</u>	<u>5344.00</u>	<u>2472.00</u>
		22858.00	5714.50	6114.50	0.00		6114.50	11829.00	5714.50
Outreach	Peace & Social Concerns/FUN	9750.00	1200.00	550.00	1100.00	500.00	2150.00	3350.00	800.00
& Support	Misc. Contrib.	300.00	300.00				0.00	300.00	
	Scholarship/Relief	<u>2000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	<u>500.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		12050.00	1500.00	550.00	1100.00	1000.00	2650.00	4150.00	800.00
Operating	Newsletter	1000.00					0.00	0.00	
Expense	1st Day/Childcare	1000.00	150.00	50.00			50.00	200.00	
	Hospitality	900.00	56.05	25.25		168.47	193.72	249.77	71.42
	Clerk/ M & C	350.00					0.00	0.00	
	Finance	450.00					0.00	0.00	
	Literature	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>			0.00	0.00	
		3900.00	206.05	75.25	0.00		<u>75.25</u>	<u>281.30</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense		38808.00	7420.55	6739.75	1100.00	1168.47	9008.22	16428.77	71.42
INCOME									
Contributions			7590.00	975.00	515.00	7142.00	8632.00	16222.00	519.00
Books			<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income			7590.00	975.00	515.00	7142.00	8632.00	16222.00	519.00
NET WORTH									
Assets	WaMu Balance		37809.03	32170.74	31325.74	37712.27	37712.27	37712.27	31013.97
	Cash		186.35	131.10	171.10	258.10	258.10	258.10	
Liabilities	Crumlish Bequest		(5000.00)	(5000.00)	(5000.00)	-5000.00	(5000.00)	(5000.00)	(5000.00)
	Incarcerated Girls		<u>(402.22)</u>	<u>(402.22)</u>	<u>(602.22)</u>	-602.22	(602.22)	(602.22)	(652.22)
Net Worth			32593.16	26899.62	25894.62	32368.15	32368.15	32368.15	25361.75