

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
3/3/2013

Present: Nancy Britton, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Chris Whipf, Tom Goodridge, Jack Patterson,, Deborah Dahl, Jerry Reisig, Ernie Buscemi, Vince Buscemi, Charlene Ray, Pat Chernoff, Pam Wood, Dave Britton, Lee Rada (clerk)

Meeting begins at 1:05 with silent Worship. The clerk reads from the 2009 Forbes Magazine article, "Doing Business the Quaker Way" downloaded from this link:
<http://www.forbes.com/2009/10/09/quaker-business-meetings-leadership-society-friends.html>
(attached)

The agenda is reviewed and approved.

2013.3.3.1 Dave Britton reports for the Communications Committee. Deborah Dahl is acting as the newsletter editor. The committee recommends that Meeting appoint her to the Communications Committee. A newsletter for March, 2013 is now available. The committee recommends that the newsletter be brought outside the password protected area of the web site. Friends accept the report.

2013.3.3.2 Friends discuss the newsletter distribution People who need or request it may have it postal mailed to them. The new printed format will be used as a template for the website design in the future. Friends defer until next Meeting deciding whether to put the newsletter outside the login area of the website, so that Friends can review the new format. Friends review the status of the website development and ask the Communications Committee to review the option of using the new FGC "Quaker Cloud" website system instead of Vonn New for web site development.

2013.3.3.3 Charlene Ray presents the Treasurer's report. February had \$658 in disbursements and Meeting received \$788 in contributions. Friends are reminded that they may arrange to have contributions made directly from their banks. The new budget approved last month included transferring surplus from 2012 to increase reserves and this is incorporated in the attached financial statement, bringing our net worth to \$30,076. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

2013.3.3.4 Friends discuss using the balance remaining of the 2012 surplus as outreach contributions. Friends suggest that Peace and Social Concerns (P&SC) review the suggestions and bring a recommendation. The Treasurer reminds Meeting that the allocating the balance of funds saved by not paying rent was not necessarily a P&SC budget decision. Friends approve making a one time donation of \$2,000 to Powell House, \$2,000 to support New York Yearly Meetings Young Adult Friends program and \$773 each to American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) and Unite for Sight.

2013.3.3.5 Vince Buscemi reports for Peace and Social Concerns. P&SC began planning expenditures for 2013. Six groups were approved (so far) for 2013 and three were dropped. Support for the Lambi Fund organization for Haiti relief and development is continued with a \$500 contribution. Six hundred dollars was approved for a new project, the Urban Community

Food Project, to support creating jobs for formerly incarcerated people. The committee plans to provide Meeting with short descriptions of all the groups we currently support. The committee asks Meeting to minute support for the New York Yearly Meeting Minute on Hydrofracking.

2013.3.3.6 Friends approve the position that we are in unity with with New York Yearly Meeting's Minute on Hydrofracking, opposing the practice of hydraulic fracturing to mine natural gas. The clerk will send a letter expressing this position to the governor. Meeting will hold a letter-writing campaign on this issue after Meeting on 3/17 for individuals to express support on this issue. P&SC will consider further actions.

2013.3.3.7 Friends approve expressing our continuing support for the S.A.F.E. Parole Act in 2013, for the new state legislative session.

2013.3.3.8 Pamela Wood presents the Ministry and Counsel report. The next meeting will be 4/4 at Pam's apartment at 7:30. The next welcoming breakfast is scheduled for 3/24 at 9:30 am in the Riverside Church Cafe. On 3/24 after Meeting at 1:00 pm the New York Yearly Meeting Priorities Working Group representatives will meet with Friends to discuss our priorities for NYYM. Queries for Friends to consider for this meeting are in the newsletter. On 4/28 "Concerns and Leadings, How do We Respond?" will be the topic of the after-Meeting discussion. The Meeting Retreat will be held at Greymoor on 5/3-5 with the theme of "Sharing our Spiritual Journeys." M&C continues to contact absent members and updating the mailing list. There are currently 7 support committees. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

Meeting ends at 2:50 pm with a query from the clerk: "How do I integrate my Quakerism in the wider world?" followed by silent Worship.

In Friendship

Dave Britton, recording clerk

Doing Business The Quaker Way

Mark Lewis, 10.09.09, 02:42 PM EDT

Office meetings might be more effective if the participants emulated the Society of Friends.

Imagine filing into the conference room for a business meeting, only to find the other participants sitting there in thoughtful silence. If someone has something to say, they stand up and speak; then others take their turn. No one ever interrupts. When a person finishes having his say, the silence resumes until someone else is moved to speak. No authority figure presides over the meeting, no vote is taken, and there is no agenda.

The faith was born in England during the 17th century. Persecuted for their beliefs, Quakers banded together for self-protection, forming communities and networks based on mutual trust. Supported by those communities and empowered by those networks, Quakers invented new ways of doing business

Quakers soon crossed the ocean to Nantucket, which they made into the world capital of whaling, and to Philadelphia, where they planted the seeds of America's own Industrial Revolution. **Bethlehem Steel** for example, was founded by the innovative Quaker entrepreneur Joseph Wharton, who also endowed the world's first collegiate business school at the University of Pennsylvania.

These days, the Wharton School is not known for propagating Quaker business techniques, and most people associate Quakers more with oatmeal or activist organizations like Greenpeace. But Quaker business methods are not necessarily obsolete; they have merely fallen into disuse, which is not quite the same thing.

If their methods sound eccentric, consider this: In centuries past, Quaker meetings produced decisions that shaped the course of capitalism. Given the poor-quality decisions emerging from corporate conference rooms these days, a revival of Quaker methods may be long overdue.

Those elements include "a quiet, reflective frame of mind, mutual respect, [and] the idea that no one person has all the truth, but must listen deeply to others to gain a fuller picture of the truth," said (Margaret) Benefiel, who is a Quaker herself, and teaches at Massachusetts' Andover Newton Theological School when she is not advising managers.

Nevertheless, some firms may feel that they have little to lose by experimenting with Quaker methods. After all, most managers already spend much of each day in meetings that seem like a complete waste of time. These meetings may be conducted "efficiently" in that they plow through a long agenda and produce decisions for each item. But as those early Quakers knew, efficiency is not necessarily the same thing as effectiveness.

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/10/09/quaker-business-meetings-leadership-society-friends.html>

New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Minute on Hydrofracking

Approved Fall Sessions, November 11, 2012

New York Yearly Meeting has considered the potential consequences of HighVolume Hydraulic Fracturing (also known as HVHF, horizontal hydrofracking, or fracking) in New York State. We oppose hydrofracking in New York State and beyond.

We urge our political representatives to prohibit the practice of HVHF in New York State. As Quakers, we experience the Divine through loving and truthful relationships with all people and all creation. After extensive efforts to inform ourselves about fracking we have concluded that it is inconsistent with our faith and practices which include a commitment to integrity, community, equality and care of God's creation. We observe that the natural gas industry and government agencies have placed financial gain over the health of our communities and the environment. We see no legitimate reason to exempt hydrofracking from existing laws protecting water, air, land, and health, as is currently the case. In other states where horizontal hydrofracking has been performed, it has resulted in the loss of vast amounts of fresh water, the release of toxins into the environment, damage to communities, and cost to the tax payers.

We support legislation and incentives which promote research, development, and use of renewable and sustainable energy; support local farms and farmers; protect the air and water; enforce accountability for industries that risk environmental harm; and create economic policies that promote work for New York State residents that they can do in good conscience. We urge all citizens to thoughtfully consider the long term effects of hydrofracking on the water, land, local economy, infrastructure, services, and the community as a whole. We are encouraged by the many communities coming together to seek a way forward based on truth and respect. We are called to stand against fracking, and invite others to join us in opposition to this practice.

We, the task group of Witness Coordinating Committee charged with creating this minute suggest the following actions:

- We ask that the NYYM clerk and general secretary disseminate this minute widely through press releases, letters to our elected officials, to other yearly meetings and other Quaker organizations.
- We charge our representatives to the New York and New Jersey Council of Churches to bring this concern to those bodies, and to

advocate for those bodies getting under the weight of this concern.

- We urge Friends to examine our own lives to discern the seeds which might inadvertently support the practice of fracking, and, to the degree possible, do what we can to limit or eliminate those seeds.

- We ask Friends to prayerfully consider adding their names to the list of people, started in part by Friends, who have made a public commitment to join with others to engage in non-violent acts of protest, as their conscience leads them. The link to this list is as follows
:<http://www.dontfrackny.org/pledge/>

Respectfully submitted,

The ad hoc task group on a minute regarding fracking,

Suzanne Blackburn, Jens Braun, Patricia Chernoff, Naomi Paz

Greenburg, Diane Keefe, Paddy Lane, Greta Mickey, Christopher

Sammond

**Report of Ministry & Counsel to Meeting for Concerns
March 3, 2013**

1. The next meeting of Ministry & Counsel will take place on Thursday, April 4, 2013, at 7:15 PM, at the home of Pamela Wood. 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. Our next breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 24, at 9:30 am in the Riverside Café, on the first floor. Stephen McDonald and Dot Savage will host.
3. On Sunday, March 24, at 1 pm, the Priorities Working Group will visit us. The Meeting is invited to share on the following queries with the New York Yearly Meeting Priorities Working Group:
Query #1 (Q1): Where is the Life in your Meeting; what ministry and witness are your Meeting and individual Friends engaged in? How can the rest of New York Yearly Meeting support you in that Life?
Query #2 (Q2): What are your hopes, expectations, and leadings for our Yearly Meeting as a whole? What work is God calling our Yearly Meeting to do?
4. Ministry & Counsel has planned an after Meeting workshop on Sunday, April 28, at 1 pm. We will reflect on "Concerns and Leadings: How Do We Respond to Them?"
5. We are currently planning our retreat, "Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys."
6. The Ministry & Counsel Committee continues to contact absent members and to up date our address list.
7. We currently have 7 support committees and one in formation.

March 3rd MMM Business Meeting
Peace and Social Concerns Report

Our last meeting was held on February 10, 2013 at 1:00 PM.

1. We began the process of approving the planned expenditures and schedule for each of the groups we are supporting. Charlene kindly provided a tabulation of our expenditures per group for the last 5 years up to 2012, so we started from there. Six group expenditures were approved for 2013 and 3 groups were dropped, resulting in a net increase of \$350 over their 2012 expenditures. These finalized decisions were given to Charlene for implementation, and we will provide approved information for the remaining 25 groups to her as we strive to remain within our 2013 total budget of \$11,000.

2. It should be noted that P&SC will now be funding \$500 for Haiti Relief through the "Lambi" organization. Two years ago the meeting provided \$500 for this purpose by using Crumlish money, and last year the \$500 for "Lambi" use was provided by our meeting's matching fund appeal.

3. We also approved a new project that is starting up, The Urban Community Food Project. This is a not-for-profit project which will include participation of the community including a Baptist Church and others, that will result in jobs for formerly incarcerated persons. The immediate start up appeal is to buy equipment to set up the farm so we approved \$600 to be sent in February. Pam will be the assigned P&SC person.

4. In the interest of improving communication with the meeting we will be writing a short description of the groups we are supporting, to be written by the assigned P&SC person and published in Morningside Matters. This month has an article on the Catholic Worker.

5. Because of time constraints in February, we were not able to discuss our meeting's position on hydrofracturing. Hopefully you have all read the yearly meeting's minute on hydrofracturing that was sent out to everyone, and now we can decide our unity with it, and perhaps take action such as writing a letter to Gov. Cuomo.

Vince Buscemi, 3/3/13.

Morningside Monthly Meeting

February 2013 Treasurer's Report

Revisions to Jan report: Scholarship expenses increased by \$40 and reserves to be disbursed increased to \$5,546.08

The attached financial report for the month of February includes \$788.14 in income and \$658.25 in disbursements (\$600 P&SC allocation to Urban Community Food Project, plus charges for transportation, breakfast and 20 copies of Silence & Speech) and \$129.89 in excess of income over expenses.

A reminder: Contributions to the work of the meeting may be made directly from your bank; for information, please contact Charlene Ray, moneycoach@earthlink.net or leave a message at 212-757-3504.

In addition to this report there is the matter of the allocation of \$5,546.08. By way of background, the NYQM paid our rent of \$9,888 in 2012; NYYQ has been experiencing a surplus but is unable, as part of its bylaws, to make donations. These allocations are in lieu of our rent. Some recommendations include:

- American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) is a leading provider of health, development, and education programs in the Middle East. Incorporated in 1968 to help ease the suffering of Palestinian refugees after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, ANERA is non-political and non-religious and has been working in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon and/or Jordan. Its programs include mother & child health, in-kind assistance and medical supplies, emergency water & sanitation, restoration of farms, assistance to educational institutions, information technology, psycho-social work with children in conflicts and fostering music and art in schools.
- Powell House and/or
- more assistance for the NYYM Young Adult Secretary
- Smile Train is committed to helping children no one else will help in some of the poorest regions on earth. In 2011, it provided more than 117,000 surgeries, total revenue for the year exceeded \$193million, 80% of total expenses went to Programs Expenses; Smile Train has 1,014 partners worldwide, and initiated work in Burkina Faso, Kazakhstan, Niger, Sierra Leone and Tajikistan.
- Unite for Sight (**100% of all donations provide eye care to patients living in poverty in developing countries; it has other funding sources for the 1 % of costs that are administrative expenses**), **partners** with local clinics in Ghana, India, and Honduras. Unite for Sight invests human and financial resources in the social ventures of the local healthcare professionals. On a daily, year-round basis, eye care is brought to remote villages by the local eye doctors. Its \$1.76 million in revenues in 2011 assisted more than 1.2 million people, including over 43,000 vision-restoring surgeries.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Ray

Treasurer

March 3, 2013

Morningside Monthly Meeting Treasurer's Report: 2013

	2013 Budget	Jan Actual	Feb Actual	YTD Actual	% Spent or Raised
Disbursements					
Fixed NY Yearly Meeting	13,611.00			0.00	0.0%
Outreach P&SC/FUN	11,000.00		600.00	600.00	5.5%
& Suppot Misc. Contrib.	300.00			0.00	0.0%
Contribution In Lieu Of Rent*				0.00	
Scholarship/Relief	2,000.00	40.00	5.00	45.00	2.3%
Outreach	13,300.00	40.00	605.00	645.00	4.8%
Operating Communications	1,100.00			0.00	0.0%
Expenses: 1st Day/Childcare	800.00			0.00	0.0%
Hospitality	500.00	34.01		34.01	6.8%
Breakfast	750.00	31.00	36.75	67.75	9.0%
Clerk/ M & C	150.00		16.50	16.50	11.0%
Finance	300.00	35.15		35.15	11.7%
Literature	300.00			0.00	0.0%
Operating	3,900.00	100.16	53.25	153.41	3.9%
Total Disbursements	30,811.00	140.16	658.25	798.41	2.6%
Income					
Contributions		1,361.15	785.00	2,146.15	
Books		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Interest		3.04	3.14	6.18	
Total Income	34,000.00	1,364.19	788.14	2,152.33	6.3%
Net Income	3,189.00	1,224.03	129.89	1,353.92	
Assets					
Ending Bank Balance	35,674.85	36,923.89	37,036.52		
Cash Pam	161.00	121.00	85.25		
Hospitality Petty Cash	200.00	200.00	200.00		
Cash at Schwab	500.00	500.00	500.00		
Liabilities					
Crumlish Bequest	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)		
Hope Lives for Lifers	(169.09)	(169.09)	(169.09)		
Huntington House	(1,029.72)	(1,029.72)	(1,029.72)		
From 2012	(9,481.46)	(9,031.46)	(5,546.08)		
Net Worth	24,855.58	26,514.62	30,076.88		

*Actual annual paid by NYQM is \$11,000 , 1/1/13 through 12/31/15
YTD Contributions in 2012 : 356.28 2,207.20