

Morningside Monthly Meeting  
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business  
1/5/2014

Meeting begins at 1:00 pm with silent Worship.

present: Ernie Buscemi, Vince Buscemi, Charlotte Ehrman, Sally Campbell, Tom Goodridge, Dave Evans, Nancy Britton, Corona Machemer, Patricia Chernoff, Pam Wood, Helen Garay Toppins, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Charlene Ray, David Fletcher, Jerry Reisig, Dave Britton, Lee Rada (clerk).

The clerk reads from Jerry Reisig, "Meeting as Worship".

20140105.1 Naomi Paz Greenberg reports from Peace and Social Concerns. She describes the Human Rights Sabbath and letter writing, describing a focus on the gift and loss of Nelson Mandela. Naomi and Corona Machemer note the signing of the Second Flushing Remonstrance. A full report on it exists on the Infoshare newsletter section of the Yearly Meeting's nyym.org web site. Friends are reminded that next Sunday, 1/12/2014, is the next P&SC meeting to begin the budget process for 2014 outreach contributions.

20140105.2 Naomi presents a request laid over from last month, that Morningside apply for membership in the Flushing Interfaith Council, appointing her to serve as Morningside's representative. Friends ask questions about what Morningside's role could be given that Morningside is not in Flushing. Naomi, who is from Flushing, describes her personal leading to pursue this avenue of interfaith cooperation. Naomi describes the other religious organizations that participate, the planned outreach to others, including other organizations outside of Queens. Friends approve the request for membership as worded in Naomi's letter, which is attached: "Morningside Meeting approves of submitting an application for membership in the Flushing Interfaith Council."

20140105.3 Joyce Richardson presents a concern from the Hospitality committee to continue the process of reimbursing Friends for contributions to hospitality. Friends approve maintaining the policy of leaving it up to the person to request reimbursement, in cash if they choose.

20140105.4 Charlene Ray presents the Treasurer's report. The Meeting exceeded its 2013 contributions target, receiving \$36,700 vs a \$34,000 budget, while disbursing \$27,600 in 2013, leaving a surplus of \$8,600 due to anticipated but unrealized expenses. The Meeting contributed about 30% of its budget to other organizations through Peace and Social Concerns and donations to the New York Yearly Meeting Sharing Fund and NYYM Young Adult Friends staffing. Fifty-two percent of the Meeting's income was received in November and December. In December we disbursed \$6,980. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

20140105.5 Friends approve spending \$33 to continue our listing in "Quaker Life", a publication of FUM, from the communications budget.

20140105.6 Friends note that we have \$37,865.69 in reserve funds. Friends seek a process for discussing the concern for maintaining a reserve fund and the concern as to how to spend any surplus funds. Friends agree to spend funds from 2013 in excess of \$30,000 fixed for the reserve fund. Friends create an ad-hoc committee to discern recommendations for spending the \$7,865 remaining from the reserves. Pam Wood, Helen Garay Toppins, Corona Machemer, Vince Buscemi and Jerry Reisig agree to serve on the committee, to be convened by Pam.

20140105.7 Charlene Ray presents the Finance committee's proposed 2014 budget, as attached, as a first reading. The NYYM increase is already covenanted; other categories are kept the same except hospitality is raised by \$200 to reflect the value of in-kind contributions. Friends with concerns may take them to Charlene, Bart Dominus, Pam Wood or Greg Batista (the Finance committee) in anticipation of a final reading in February.

20140105.8 Dave Evans presents the Nominating committee's nominations for committee and liaison positions for a second reading. Patricia Chernoff is nominated for Right Sharing of World Resources liaison and Katherine Alford is recommended for the Nominating committee. Friends approve the slate of appointments as presented.

20140105.9 Pam Wood presents the Ministry and Counsel Report. The next meeting is 1/30 at 7:15 at the office of Stephen McDonnell. The next newcomers breakfast is 1/26 at 9:30 at the Riverside Cafe. Susan Berger's letter requesting release from membership is brought. Emily Eckstut's letter requesting membership is brought for first reading with approval from the committee. On 2/23 the after-meeting discussion will be a thoughtful consideration about money. The Bible Study group sign-up is still being circulated and the address list is still being updated. There are 9 support committees in place. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

20140105.10 Friends hear the first reading of Emily Eckstut's letter requesting membership.

20140105.11 After hearing her letter read, Friends approve the release of Susan Berger, at her request, from membership in Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

20140105.12 Jerry Reisig reads the State of the Meeting report he prepared based on last month's discussion on 12/15/2013 in response to NYYM's queries. Friends approve the report with minor changes, for submission to NYYM. The report is attached.

Meeting ends at 3:25 with silent Worship.

In Friendship,

Dave Britton, recording clerk