

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
MINUTES  
of Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business  
February 7th 2016

After an opening silence the Clerk read the following to be considered:

“When we begin our business as a Meeting, we begin in worship. This gives us the opportunity to gather ourselves, to be fully present in the moment, to set aside self and personal desires. Everyone has a part to play in Worship with a Concern for Business, which is a meaningful part of our process for the life and spirit of each of us and for the meeting. In addition, Friends’ practice of business asks us to continue in worship and to be open to the Inner Light, God, the Spirit, whatever expression helps each of us reach beyond our individual wills to a greater truth.

Together we need to work to create a safe community where people are able to speak their truth. Respectful listening and humor, a willingness to let go of previously held opinions and the willingness to express an opinion that might be uncomfortable when led to do so will take us far in creating that community and allow us to come to a Sense of the Meeting together.”

A . MINISTRY & COUNCIL: Mason Jenkins reads the report of Ministry and Counsel.  
(attached).

1. Friends accept the report.

2. Morningside Meeting approves the recommendation of Ministry and Counsel for the membership of Susan L. Carmody and the Associate membership of Cole Carmody Harmaty. The Welcoming Committee will be Charlene Ray, Pamela Wood, Dot Savage and Lucille Adinolf.

3. Meeting approves not including a lot of detail from the committee reports in the minutes of the meeting as long as the reports are published in the Morningside Newsletter.

B. PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS: Corona Macheimer reads the Peace and Social Concerns Committee report of the meeting February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. (attached)

1. Friends approve the report with a change of date for the next regular meeting of Peace and Social Concerns to be February 14th.

2. Friends consider the request (detailed in that Peace and Social Concerns report) from the Orchard Park Friends Meeting to provide funds for shoes for the pupils at the Crossroads Springs orphanage in Kenya. Friends agree to defer the request to the next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting for reconsideration in view of other pressing needs that Friends were made aware of.

3. Friends consider the request (detailed in the Peace and Social Concerns Committee report) from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers for an endorsement of the coalition 2016 Workers Voice Tour. Friends are not going to endorse the Coalition of Immokalee Workers 2016 Voice Tour at this time, but ask Peace and Social Concern to give us further education on the topic.

C. COMMUNICATIONS: Corona Macherer reads the February 7, 2016 report from the Communications Committee. Friends approved the report, as corrected.

D. BUDGET: The Meeting agrees to defer the approval of the 2016 budget until the March 2016 Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. The proposed budget will be submitted to the newsletter.

E. CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. I received the following from John Slater:  
Dear Pam  
I am spending so much time with Caryl in Larchmont that I have had to ask for release from Quarterly Nominating. I'm sending you this to cross the I s and dot the T s.  
In friendship  
John  
Morningside nominates one member to the NYQM Nominating Committee, whom the NYQM approves so this is a position for which our Nominating Committee needs to nominate someone whom we will approve and forward to the NYQM for the April QM for approval. The NYQM Nominating Committee is currently very short staffed.
2. There are at least 2 other committees where there will be openings on which it would be good to have a member of Morningside: the Cemetery Committee and the Audit and Budget Committee. These nominations are not approved by the Meeting, but it would help the nominating process to have names that could be forwarded as suggestions. If people have thoughts about possible nominees, they may speak to members of our Nominating Committee: Ed Elder, Lee Rada, Stephen McDonnell and Nancy Britton.
3. On the weekend of June 17-19 the Young Adults Concerns Committee of NYYM will be hosting a "Quaker Party" at the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Meetinghouse. They are inviting Friends, friends of Friends who graduated high school in 1990 or after to attend from Baltimore YM to NEYM. The members of the NYC Meetings are being asked to offer hospitality. We may also be asked to help with the Friday dinner potluck. I will be keeping you updated.
4. NYQM = A budget was approved. There will be a projected deficit of \$342,270 this year, in part because of the legal fees connected with the separate incorporation of the school. Audit and Budget does not expect any long term problem because of the increasing income that will be received from the school in the coming years.
5. There was one last piece of the Essential Principles, Practices and Procedures that needed to be worked on that dealt with the NYQM's control of the school property in case the school was dissolved or merged with another institution. My understanding is that the Committee has forwarded final language to the Trustees and the School Committee for final approval.

F. Child care for Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business was rendered by Ernie Buscemi.

ATTENDANCE: Susan Carmody, Pamela Wood, Mason Jenkins, Stephen McDonald, Dot Savage, Bryan Oettel, Charlene Ray, Matthew Bell, Sally Campbell, Tom Goodridge, Karen Taborn, Miguel Adams, Kathy Stackhouse, Lucille Adinolf, Seems Suri, Vince Buscemi, Richard Schmidt, Larry White, Rob Stevens, Tim Dalton, Corona Macherer,

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Carmody,  
Recording Clerk, Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Report of MINISTRY AND COUNSEL,  
dated February 7, 2016

#### Morningside Meeting Ministry and Counsel Report

1. M&C met on Thursday February 4th. The next meeting will be Thursday March 3rd at the home of David Evans.
2. Bible Study will be February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.
3. Fourth Sunday discussion will be held after meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>.
4. Our next welcome breakfast will be on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 and hosted by Charlene Ray in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome. If any Friends have an interest in hosting a breakfast see an M&C member.
5. M&C currently has 5 support committees and 2 clearness committees.
6. A letter requesting membership and associate membership for Susan Carmady and Cole will be read for a second time.

Morningside Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, February 7, 2016  
Report from PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS  
(Proposals requiring action from Business Meeting are in boldface)

Peace & Social Concerns meets on January 17, 2016, at 1:00 pm, following Meeting for Worship.

Attending are Robert Renwick, Naomi Paz-Greenberg, Karen Taborn, Charlene Ray, and David Fletcher (clerk)

The meeting begins with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. Friends review the budget for P&SC contributions to be made in 2016 and hear requests for additional contributions (beyond those approved at the meeting of P&SC on November 8, 2015 and reported to Business Meeting on December 6).
  - a. Friends approve making a \$200 contribution to ARCH. Charlene Ray will be liaison.
  - b. Friends approve adding the \$150 from the Meeting's budget that remains unallocated to the Meeting's Emergency Fund.

A spreadsheet showing P&SC's budgeted allocations for 2016 is attached to these minutes. (Note that there may still be some changes in the dates funds are to be distributed, and that, as can be seen by comparing the 2015 budgeted allocations with those actually made, the figures for 2016 are not written in stone.)

2. Friends consider a request from Orchard Park Friends Meeting in Orchard Park, New York (near Buffalo), forwarded by Helen Garay Toppins, to provide funds for shoes for pupils attending the primary and secondary schools at the Crossroads Springs orphanage in western Kenya, a region particularly devastated by the AIDS epidemic. For more information, in addition to that distributed with this report, go to [www.crossroadsspringsafrica.org](http://www.crossroadsspringsafrica.org). There are a total of 59 students in the schools. The cost of shoes for each is \$22.00, for a total of \$1,298.00.

**P&SC recommends that the Meeting launch a matching fund campaign in which contributions from individual Friends up to \$649 (half the total needed) would be matched by up to \$649 from the Crumlish bequest.**

3. Friends decline a request for \$400 to support Manna House Workshops in East Harlem ([www.mannahousejazz.org](http://www.mannahousejazz.org)) from the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Peace & Social Action Committee, also forwarded to us by Helen Garay Toppins. It is felt there are more pressing needs.
4. Morningside is asked by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to join with the Flushing Interfaith Council (of which we are a member) and T'ruah (the rabbinic call for human rights) in endorsing the Coalition's 2016 Workers' Voice Tour. (No money is involved.) Information about the endorsement request has been circulated to the P&SC Google group and is distributed with this report; copies are also available on the P&SC table. Additional information on the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and the history of the CIW's Campaign for Fair Food, along with its anti-slavery campaign (from [www.ciw-](http://www.ciw-)

[online.org/about](http://online.org/about)) is available on the P&SC table. More information on the 2016 actions, which are focused on getting Wendy's to participate in the Campaign for Fair Food, and which in New York City involve a march and rally on March 3, can be found by Googling CIW 2016 Workers' Voice Tour. P&SC will keep Morningside Friends posted.

**P&SC recommends that Business Meeting approve Morningside Meeting being listed as an endorser of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers 2016 Workers' Voice Tour.**

5. This report would not be complete without including the following, on The Theatre of the Oppressed, from David Fletcher:

On January 10, instead of the regular P&SC meeting, Jeremiah Drake, director of the Theatre of the Oppressed of Riverside Church, conducted a workshop in which he demonstrated, with the active participation of several Friends who attended, how, in Theatre of the Oppressed "performances," the traditional actor and spectator roles are changed into that of the "spect-actors," with spectators becoming actors to explore oppression that has deprived an individual or group or society of power and authentic choice. The traditional director is replaced by the "joker," who, through Socratic-dialectical questioning, assists and guides the spect-actors to discover hidden meanings of their experiences, challenges magical thinking, and explores possible new resolutions and insights. Traditional theatre is turned on its head and behind and every which way and with a good amount of fun and laughter in order to discover new interpretations and possibilities.

Jeremiah and David have begun exploring how engagement in the Theatre of the Oppressed can support, enhance and deepen current practices of restorative justice, with which Morningside has become involved. Their goal is to develop a program that both youth and adults can implement on the street, in schools, and in the community. Find out more at [www.facebook.com/jeremiah.drake.14](http://www.facebook.com/jeremiah.drake.14).

The next regular meeting of Peace & Social Concerns will take place on February 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Corona Machermer, based on notes of the meeting on January 17 taken by David Fletcher, Clerk, and other attendees

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Report of the COMMUNICATIONS Committee, dated February 7, 2016

The Committee meets at Robert Leuze's home at 6:00 pm. Attending are Robert Leuze, Corona Machermer, and Kathy Stackhouse. Bryan Oettel is unable to attend due to an unexpected and unavoidable business conflict.

The meeting opens with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. The Committee congratulates Kathy Stackhouse, editor, on publication of the January 2016 edition of the newsletter, "Morningside Matters."
2. The procedure for maintaining and updating the database on the website and the Meeting's Gmail account is reviewed. The process is as follows:
  - a. Entries in the Redbook are collected by Ministry and Counsel (weekly if possible).
  - b. Individuals who have given us their contact information are contacted—welcomed— by someone from M&C, who will make sure the person is serious about becoming part of our community, and that the Redbook entry form is complete and all the information on it correct and readable.
  - c. M&C will pass the completed form to the database administrator Robert Leuze, who will enter the data in the database.
  - d. Robert will give Kathy Stackhouse the names and email addresses of new Morningsiders, so that she can enter this information in the Meeting's Gmail account, which will be used to distribute the newsletter and other communications that should go to all Morningsiders (see #4 below).
3. Robert Leuze will undertake to make sure the data-entry fields on the Redbook forms correspond to the data fields in the database, and will consult on other possible changes to the forms with Ministry and Counsel. When approved, the new forms will replace the old ones.
4. Once a person's contact information is entered in the database at [www.morningsidemeeting.org](http://www.morningsidemeeting.org), he or she is able log in and change/correct that information. Changes in a Morningsider's email address must also be communicated separately to Kathy Stackhouse (see #4 below).
5. Kathy Stackhouse will maintain the Gmail account, which will include the names and email addresses of all Morningsiders. Clerks of committees should forward announcements and other communications that should be shared with everyone in the database to Kathy, who will distribute them. The email address for the newsletter ([morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com)) should be used. (The Google Group for P&SC, [morningsidequakers@googlegroups.com](http://morningsidequakers@googlegroups.com), will continue to operate for those Morningsiders who have signed up for it.)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Corona Machermer, Acting as Recording Clerk