

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business
Minutes 1/2/2016

Meeting begins at 12:05 transitioning from Meeting for Worship.

Present: Bart Dominus, Stephen McDonnell, Joyce Richardson, David Fletcher, Susan Carmody, Jerry Reisig, Nancy Britton, Rob Stevens, Bryan Oettel, Robert Leuze, Tim ?, Corona Machermer, Charlene Ray, Lucille Adinoff, Helen Garay Toppins, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Kathy Stackhouse, Charlotte Ehrman, Sally Campbell, Calvin Ramsey, Richard Schmidt, Pamela Wood, Dave Britton, Lee Rada (clerk).

1. Pam Wood reads the State of the Meeting report from Woodbourne Prison Worship Group. The group has had Friends who have been released from prison and now may need more registered Friends to meet prison requirements. Morningside Friends continue to work on getting paperwork processed for volunteers from outside the prison to participate.
2. Jerry Reisig reads a draft of the State of the Meeting Report based on our meeting of 12/20/2015. Friends approve the report as written. It will be included in the next newsletter.
3. Charlene Ray presents the Ministry and Counsel report. The committee met on 12/30 and meets next on 2/2/2016 at the home of Dave Evans. Bible Study is planned for 1/10/2016. The next welcoming breakfast is planned for 1/24/2016. There are 6 clearness and support committees. The committee brings forward the membership of Susan Carmody and the associate membership of her son Cole Carmody-Harmaty. The clerk reads Susans's letter requesting membership for herself and associate membership for Cole, and reads a letter of support for Cole from Borys Harmaty. Friends accept the report, which is attached.
4. Corona Machermer presents the Peace and Social Concerns committee report. The committee did not meet as usual on the second Sunday in December, but instead Morningsiders observed Human Rights Day by participating in Amnesty International's Write for Rights campaign. In December Morningside contributed \$300 for Christmas gifts and winter clothing for 73 unattached immigrant children staying in a Yonkers shelter. The committee next meets on the third Sunday in January, the 17th, as the second Sunday will have a presentation on Theater of the Oppressed. Friends accept the report, which is attached.
5. Friends are in unity to pay our childcare support person's share of Social Security taxes for 2015 and 2016. The Quarterly Meeting General Manager will be notified to prepare the Federal forms and payment.
6. Naomi Paz Greenberg presents the Treasurer's Report. We collected about \$10,000 during December and paid out about the same. The full report is not available for this meeting, but is attached to these minutes after the fact.
7. Pam Wood presents the nominating committee report. A finalized roster of nominations for Meeting positions is presented. Friends approve the appointments as presented. A list of the appointments is attached.

8. The Finance Committee presents a first reading of the proposed budget for 2016. Changes between 2015 and 2016 are reviewed. Friends add \$500 to the scholarship line. The total budget is now \$38,886.50. Next month a final reading will be presented. Friends accept the report, and the draft budget is attached.

Friends present various announcements of upcoming events.

The Meeting ends at 1:15 pm with silent Worship.

In Friendship,
Dave Britton (recording clerk)

DECEMBER 2015 CHILD CARE COMMITTEE REPORT TO MORNINGSIDE MONTHLY MEETING

Committee Clerks

Through joint discernment with members of the Nominating Committee and the Child Care Committee Ernie Buscemi and Naomi Paz Greenberg are approved as Co-Clerks of the Child Care Committee for 2016.

2016 Budget Request

The committee approved a budget request of \$ 3,350 to include year-round paid child care, and also to include payment of Social Security and Medicare on earnings, and to include \$150 for incidentals. Please see separate budget request worksheet attached to the report to the Business Meeting. The budget amount approved by the meeting for this committee for 2015 was \$800. Please see page 2 of this report for details included in the 2016 budget request.

Safety

Issues of non-climbable window safety-guards are currently being considered by the committee and negotiated with the Riverside Church.

We recalled for everyone's information that about 10 years ago the liability insurance company engaged by NYQM asked the Quarter to adopt practices and guidelines to protect children against abuse. NYQM adopted the practice of always having at least two adults present with the children. This is a practice consistent with the recommendations of New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM) as well.

Religious Education

One member of our committee attended the Powell House Youth Institute weekend in late March of this year. Resources which were distributed have been shared with committee members and parents.

Our committee continues to explore what is expected of us by parents in terms of religious education. Some aspects of that exploration include: age-appropriate expectations, 5 minutes of sitting quietly for the older kids at the beginning of meeting for worship, teachable moments for the younger kids, allowing the children to select their own activities within limits.

Day-long Retreat

Our committee is considering a day-long retreat as a community building activity for both children and parents. It would also include paid child care all day. The date Sunday, May 1 is discussed as a possible date.

We hope that such retreat would also give parents a day-long break from attending to every one of their kids' immediate needs while knowing the kids are very nearby.

Ernestine Buscemi
Sally Campbell
Tom Goodridge
Naomi Paz Greenberg

Jack Patterson

MORNINGSIDE MONTHLY MEETING CHILD CARE COMMITTEE 2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Our committee has approved year-round paid child care and extended hours for business meeting.

There are 52 Sundays in the year.

Of those, 10 would be for business meeting.

And then once every other year we host Quarterly Meeting. So that would be \$75 every other year.

Assuming that other rare afternoon events would require additional child care we are calculating \$75 **every** year.

Possible annual retreat would require two child care workers, so \$40 per hour for 10 hours, or \$400

So: 42 x \$35 = \$ 1,470	(<i>whatever we pay them includes \$5 carfare reimbursement so</i>
	<i>+ that doesn't get included in their income</i>)
10 x \$55 = 550	For when we have Business Meeting
	+
1 x \$75 = 75	Special afternoon event
	+
1 x \$400 = 400	Day-long retreat
Total:	\$ <u>2,495</u>

Even if the work were evenly split they would each still have earnings of approximately \$ 890 for the year from us.

The minimum reportable income is \$400. However, if this is their only income, they would still be below the taxable minimum. So that it would be reportable yes, taxable no.

If either of them has other income this would be added to it and they might owe some additional taxes on this. Yes they have to prepare a return even if they don't owe taxes.

They would also owe 12.4% in Social Security and 2.4 in Medicare on any earnings.

That would work out to \$ 309.38 in Soc. Sec. and \$ 59.88 in Medicare on \$2,495 assuming no sharing the work or salary. (If the work were split they would each owe a proportion of that amount but, the amount owed would be the same.) So Social Security and Medicare together would add up to \$429.14.

Committee approved proposing that the meeting pay this on behalf of Shiksha and Roxy, with the understanding that if we do, that that payment also counts as income to them.

Backing it out to come to a number, it would work out to a total income (to be split or not) of \$ 2,924.14 (*reported income amount*) of which \$2,495 (*paid to Shiksha and Roxy*) would be paid in salary, \$ 429.14 (*paid by us on their behalf to IRS*) would be paid in Soc. Sec. & Medicare, and then there would be 55 carfare reimbursements or \$ 275 (*also paid to Shiksha and Roxy but not counted as income to them*).

***So total child care costs \$3,199.14,
3,200***

or rounding up to \$

We are also requesting \$150 in incidental costs, tissues, bandaids, baby wipes, toys
150

For a total 2016 budget request of

\$ 3,350

2015 Morningside State of the Meeting Report

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law (Galatians 5:22-23)

On December 20, 2015, Members and Attenders of Morningside Meeting met to consider the spiritual state of the Meeting over the past year. In keeping with the Yearly Meeting theme, “What is the Spiritual State of the Meeting,” the convener presented the gathering with two queries: “Where are the fruits?” and “Where are we not producing fruit?”

Where are the fruits?

Morningside is a lively meeting blessed with the gift of humor. We tell our stories to each other; we continue to transform, to be stretched, and to find courage. Our fourth Sunday breakfast continues to generate conversations that connect us. Attending the breakfasts is a good way not to be the new kid on the block; eating together as one family, even though we don’t live next door to each other.

As more families with children continue to attend, the Morningside family has a growing number of small Friends. Meeting for Children—a Morningside term for child care and 1st Day School—has become an increasingly important part of the Meeting. It has deepened worship as we better learn how to “listen to what each child wants from us in the moment” and to better hear a “small piece of what we are.”

Our Retreat was a manifestation of our ability to be a family that cares for its members and honestly share stories. Spiritual Nurture groups give us another chance to “step off the cliff with members of the group.” We “share a common framework for how we see ourselves in the world and how we engage with others.” We engage with sincerity, truly listening to one other. Although we may “struggle with our love for each other, there is a deep abiding love amongst us,” because we believe that there is God in all of us “trying to act accordingly.”

Morningsiders care for each other as they care for others outside of Meeting. The Meeting has an on-going commitment to social justice through which we “enter into relationships that demonstrate our faith in people’s ability to transform themselves by listening to the Inner Light within. In our shared commitment to Restorative Justice, for example, we “come to terms with the potential of God in each person.”

Spirituality in the form of action comes from individuals, and we support one another’s leadings to action. Peace and Social Concerns is an expansion and a support of those individual leadings. We also support Quaker organizations outside of our Meeting. We show up and contribute to the Quarter, participating beyond our proportional numbers. We provide scholarships for the attendance of Quaker gatherings. This year scholarships for Friends of color were especially appreciated.

Where are we not producing fruit?

We need to bring what we have to the world with passion.

We need to take our introductory discussions of Quakerism to a level beyond Quakerism 101 where we can challenge each other.

We also need to become more flexible in listening to potential members of our family. Middle-aged professionals are coming to Meeting and staying, but the millennials are not. We need to be more flexible, considering what would be a better time to reach younger people.

There has been a problem with communications in some committees. There is an expectation that we be trustworthy with one another. It's an expectation that isn't always met. We need to be committed to what we say we are going to do. When we are asked to do a job, we need to ask ourselves, "Do I have the time?"

An elephant is in the room: leadership is changing; how we work is changing; people are more mobile. We are moving from an oral tradition (sense of evolution, memory) to an electronic mode. There are new spiritual opportunities but also challenges for us. How do we hold ourselves accountable?

We need to move out of our "comfortable bedroom slippers." Naming the elephant in the room builds trust and shows that we are living into wholeness.

Pruning Vines for New Fruit

We are in a time of transition from more experienced older members—who have other concerns at this moment—to younger and less experienced members and attenders. We see new faces and something is happening. We need to trust the Spirit to create the spaces that wear new faces.

Sadness has appeared because age, illness and death, all present within in a certain age group that we need to address. In all of this it is important to place our growth in perspective. Historically Friends have always been in transition, always had newbies, weighty Friends, people in the middle, new Friends coming and old Friends going.

From our pruning and care for one another in the Spirit we are assured of new fruits in the future, new families and new communities, new rejoicings and new life in a family called Morningside.

Morningside Monthly Meeting Committee members for 2016

Morningside Committees and positions

All positions are for one year, renewable except for the Nominating Committee terms which are for two years, staggered terms, and Ministry & Counsel terms for 3 years, renewable once, staggered terms. Underlined names do not need to be approved.

CLERK: Pamela Wood

RECORDING CLERK: Susan Carmody

MINISTRY & COUNSEL: Terms end in January

2017: Larry White, Jack Patterson, (all first term) Rob Stevens (partial term)

2018: David Evans, David Fletcher, Charlene Ray (all first term)

2019: David Britton (first term) Mason Jenkins (2nd term)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

2016: Ed Elder, Stephen McDonnell (partial term)

2017: Lee Rada, Nancy Britton

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Barton Dominus, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Charlene Ray, Pamela Wood

TREASURER: Naomi Paz Greenberg

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Pamela Wood

COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE COMMITTEE: Bryan Oettel, convenor, Robert Leuze, Corona Macheimer, Kathy Stackhouse

FIRST DAY CAREGIVERS: Ernie Buscemi & Naomi Paz Greenberg (Co-Coordiators), Sally Campbell, Tom Goodridge, , Jack Patterson

FIRST DAY COORDINATORS: Richard Schmidt and Sally Campbell

LIBRARIAN: Sally Campbell LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Corona Macheimer, Richard Schmidt

RIVERSIDE SPACE COMMITTEE: Charlotte Ehrman and Sally Campbell

FRIENDS IN UNITY WITH NATURE: Tom Goodridge,

PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS: Corona Macheimer (Convener), Vince Buscemi, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Pamela Wood, Karen Taborn (A committee of the whole)

HOSPITALITY: Katharine Alford, Joyce Richardson, Charlene Ray, Richard Schmidt

ARCH VISITORS: Sally Campbell, Kathy Hinton, Dot Savage, John Tweddle, Convener: Charlene Ray. AGING CONCERNS is a committee of the whole.

COMMITTEE FOR PRISON MINISTRY: Ernie Buscemi, David Fletcher, Helen Garay Toppins, Pamela Wood, Sally Campbell for correspondence

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS: Currently Ministry & Counsel is in charge.

FIRST DAY MONTHLY SING:

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE QUARTERLY MEETING AND FRIENDS SEMINARY: Katharine Alford, Corona Machermer, Ed Elder, (appointed by NYQM M & C)

Representatives to Friends Groups

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION: Jack Patterson

NY YEARLY MEETING: Pamela Wood

NY YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEE ON DISCERNMENT:

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES OF NYQM:

Sources of information for the following Organizations

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE: Pamela Wood

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE: Ernie Buscemi

PENDLE HILL: Stephen McDonnell

POWELL HOUSE: Nancy Britton

QUARTERLY MEETING LIAISON: Ed Elder

New York Quarterly Meeting Appointments

(Filled by Joint Nominating, except for Morningside's Appointment to the Joint Nominating Committee)

AUDIT & BUDGET: Beth Bugdaycay (end April 2017), Bart Dominus (end April 2016)

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: Charlene Ray (end April 2016)

COMMITTEE FOR THE DOWNTOWN ALLOWED MEETING:

Sally Campbell (end April 2017)

EDUCATION FUND: David Britton, Clerk (end April 2016)

RELIEF COMMITTEE: John Slater (end April 2017)

NYQM MINISTRY & COUNSEL: David Britton, Charlotte Ehrman (for terms expiring April 2017). David Fletcher (term ending April 2016)

NYQM NOMINATING: John Slater (appointed by Morningside, end 2017) & Naomi Paz Greenberg (co-opted)

THE GREAT LAKES (Africa) EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Corona Machermer (end April 2018)

TRUSTEES: Katherine Alford (end April 2018)

Morningside Meeting

Ministry and Counsel Report

January 3, 2016

1. M&C met on Wednesday December 30th. The next meeting will be Thursday February 4th at the home of David Evans.
2. Bible Study will be January 10th
3. Our next welcome breakfast will be on January 24th hosted by David Fletcher. All are welcome. If any Friends have an interest in hosting a breakfast see an M&C member.
4. M&C currently has 6 support committees.
5. Susan Carmody and her clearness committee have come to clearness regarding her request for membership and her request for associate membership for her son Cole. Susan's letter is attached to this report for its first reading. Attached to this report is also a letter from Borys Harmaty in support of Cole's associate membership.

Morningside Monthly Meeting 2016 Draft Budget Request Dec 6, 2015

		Budget 2015	Budget 2016
Disbursements			
Fixed	NY Yearly Meeting	14840	15396.5
Total Fixed		14840	15396.5
Outreach	P&SC/FUN	12800	12800
& Support	Misc. Contrib.	300	300
	Scholarship/Relief	2000	2000
Total Outreach		15100	15100
Operating	Communications	2190	2790 additional \$600 for website
Expenses	1st Day/Childcare	800	3350 additional funding request explained in report
	Hospitality	700	200
	Breakfast	750	750
	Clerk/ M & C	200	200
	Finance	300	300
	Literature	300	300
Total Operating	Expenses	5240	7890
Total Disbursements		35180	38386.5
Income	Contributions	35180	38386.5
	Net of Match		
	Interest		
Total Income		35180	38386.5
Net Income		0	0