

## **Morningside Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, March 6, 2016**

In attendance:

Pamela Wood, Bryan Oettel, Sally Campbell, Dot Savage, Jerry Reisig, David Fletcher, Mason Jenkins, Artis Klavins, Joyce Richardson, Robert Leuze, Helen Garay Toppins, Miguel Adams, Lashena Irvin-Smith, Rob Stevens, Charlotte Ehrman, Vince Buscemi, Calvin Alexander Ramsey, Corona Machermer, Nancy Britton, Ernie Buscemi, Naomi Paz Greenberg

- Reading by Pamela Wood from New York Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice opens Meeting with Concern for Business.
- Bryan Oettel is approved as Recording Clerk for the day.
- Treasurer's Report is read by Naomi Paz Greenberg.
  - The Report is accepted and attached to the minutes.
  - The proposed 2016 Budget is approved and attached to the minutes.
- Ministry & Counsel report is read by Mason Jenkins
  - The report is approved and attached to the minutes.
  - Larry White requests that he be released from Ministry & Counsel. His request is approved.
  - First reading by Mason Jenkins of Rob Stevens' membership request.
  - NYYM Federal Tax ID issue is discussed
    - Morningside Meeting's email system was hacked in October 2015 and Vonn New disconnected the email system from the Morningside Meeting server.
    - Jerry Reisig then set up a new corporate non-profit Gmail account, mistakenly using the New York Yearly Meeting's Federal Tax ID as authorization.
    - New York Yearly Meeting now cannot use this Tax ID to create its own account and website.
    - One option discussed was to delete the account that Jerry Reisig created. That means that Morningside would have to create a new domain for its website. At the moment, it is not clear how that would be done or whether it would even help.
    - Second option discussed would be to create a branch from the Google account that NYYM can use. This option isn't feasible since the NYYM cannot support the continued use of the Federal Tax ID by Morningside Meeting.
    - New steps agreed to by the Meeting :
      - 1) Bryan Oettel will reach out to a contact at Google for a possible source within Google to help address the issue and free up the Federal Tax ID.
      - 2) NYYM will produce a letter stating that the NYYM never supported Morningside Meeting's use of the Federal Tax ID.
- Peace & Social Concerns report is read by Corona Machermer.
  - The report as corrected is accepted and attached to the minutes.
  - Peace & Social Concerns forwarded a proposal to the Meeting to use \$500 from the Crumlish Fund as a matching fund in response to Friends Peace Teams African Great Lakes Initiative request for two projects:
    - 1) Peacemaking Response to Current Conflict in Bujumbura, Burundi.
    - 2) Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities (HROC) With Central African immigrants in the United States.
  - The Meeting approves opening the funding for both projects.
- A Young Adult Friends Quaker Party is scheduled for June 17-19, 2016 and New York Quarterly Meeting has requested that Morningside Meeting sponsor a Friday potluck dinner.
  - Meeting agrees to explore the possibility of a Friday potluck dinner at 15<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting.
  - Nancy Britton will discuss planning with Ernie Buscemi.
  - Pam Woods will forward the request to the Peace & Social Concerns Google group.
  - Meeting will discuss at the April Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business.
- Communications Committee report is ready by Corona Machermer.
  - The report as amended is accepted and attached to the minutes.

**Morningside Monthly Meeting  
Treasurer's Report March 6, 2016**

	January	February	YTD	Budget
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
NY Yearly Meeting				15,396.50
Peace & Social Concerns/Friends in Unity w Nature				12,800.00
Misc. Contributions				300.00
Scholarship/Relief				2,500.00
Communications				2,790.00
1st Day School/ Child Care	120.00	200.00		3,350.00
Hospitality	36.64	14.97		200.00
Breakfast				750.00
Clerk, M&C	25.00			200.00
Finance				300.00
Library	22.74			300.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>204.38</b>	<b>214.97</b>		<b>38,886.50</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Contributions	501.00	930.80		38,886.50
Book & Rummage Sale				
Interest	1.69			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>502.69</b>	<b>930.80</b>		<b>38,886.50</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>298.31</b>	<b>715.83</b>		<b>0.00</b>

In Kind Contributions of \$19.96.

<b>Assets</b>	Ending Bank Balance	38,976.61
	Hospitality Petty Cash	200.00
	Cash at Schwab	500.00
	Cash for Child Care	200.00
	MMM Retreat Deposit	1,100.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40,976.61</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	Crumlish Bequest	(1,000.00)
	Hope Lives for Lifers	(157.89)
	Huntington House	(243.93)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,401.82)</b>
<b>Net Worth</b>		<b>39,574.79</b>

### **Ministry and Counsel Report March 6 2016**

- M & C met on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Dave Evans
- Our next meeting will be on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Dave Evans will host the fourth Sunday breakfast on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the Riverside Cafe. Anyone is welcome to attend and Morningside will pick up the tab. If you are interested in helping to host a breakfast please see a member of M & C.
- Charlene Ray and Pam Wood will lead the fourth Sunday discussion after meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the discussion will be "Growth and Change in Quaker Spirituality."
- Bible Study will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Larry White has asked to be released from M & C. M & C requests that nominating seek to fill his vacancy.
- M & C currently has five support committees and two clearness committees under its care.
- It has come to the attention of M & C that the meeting has accidentally and wrongfully used the New York Yearly Meeting Federal Tax ID Number in the set-up of our new website. Our use blocks NYYM's ability to use it, which is obviously problematic. M & C suggests to the meeting that we fix to this error as quickly as possible and to do so we recommend enlisting professional assistance.
- M & C forwards a membership request from Rob Stevens to the meeting for its consideration.

## **Report from Peace & Social Concerns**

### **(Proposal requiring action from Business Meeting are in boldface)**

Peace & Social Concerns meets on February 14, 2016, at 1:00 pm, following Meeting for Worship.

Attending are Robert Renwick, Pam Wood, Richard Schmidt, Sally Campbell, and Corona Macheimer (clerk)

The meeting begins with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. Friends consider an urgent request for funds from the Friends Peace Teams African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) to support two initiatives: 1) A peacemaking response to the current conflict in Burundi; 2) establishing a Healing and Rebuilding our Communities (HROC) program in the US for immigrants from Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (one of the original developers of the program in Rwanda is now living in the United States). The letter detailing the proposal is attached to this report. (AGLI is one of the organizations to which Morningsiders contribute through Peace & Social Concerns.)

**P&SC recommends that the Meeting launch a matching fund campaign in which contributions from individual Friends will be matched with up to \$500 from the Crumlish bequest. The campaign, which would begin immediately (with the publication of the March newsletter) would have an end-of-April deadline, with a first installment being sent to AGLI at the end of March.**

2. Friends decide to call a special meeting to discern which of many possible legislative priorities Morningsiders deem most important for the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) to pursue in the next congress (2017-2018). [The meeting was called for the February 28 and was well attended. Notes on the meeting are being compiled. The final results of the discernment process must be posted to FCNL by April 15.]

Respectfully Submitted,  
Corona Macheimer, Clerk



# FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

## *AFRICAN GREAT LAKES INITIATIVE*

1001 Park Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104, USA, phone/fax: (314) 647-1287 e-mail: [dave@aglifpt.org](mailto:dave@aglifpt.org) webpage: [www.aglifpt.org](http://www.aglifpt.org)

February 2016

Dear Friend,

Below are two projects that urgently need funding; I hope you will consider helping.

### 1. Peacemaking Response to Current Conflict in Bujumbura, Burundi -- \$6,900.

Since April 2015, Burundi has fallen into a new crisis over leadership in the country which has precipitated considerable violence and perhaps a new civil war. Over 200,000 people, 2% of the population, have fled the country and at least 400 people, mostly youth in protesting neighborhoods of Bujumbura, the capital, have been killed. This requires as robust a response as is possible from the HROC program.

HROC-Burundi's first objective is to conduct 4-day peace dialogues in twelve of the thirteen communes (local communities) in Bujumbura that have experienced violence. Each day brings a different group of people together – elected local officials, leaders from various political parties, and youth from the conflicting political parties who are often involved in the community violence. These dialogues have been completed successfully in two communes. \$2116 has already been donated which will cover three and a half workshops. This leaves six and a half communes at \$600 per series of dialogues for a total of \$3900 needed.

Some communes prominent in the protests have received police and military retaliation with many youth found assassinated on the streets in the morning. The people of these communes are in need of HROC workshops to promote healing and reconciliation. Each three-day workshop for 20 participants costs \$300 and HROC-Burundi would like to conduct at least 10 of them for a total of \$3000.

To better inform people about the situation in Burundi, AGLI is sponsoring a tour by Elie Nahimana in April and May. Elie is the Administrative Coordinator of the Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities program in Burundi. His presentation is titled "The Crisis in Burundi and the Quaker Response". For more details or if you would like him to speak at your meeting/church or in your community, please contact me at [dave@aglifpt.org](mailto:dave@aglifpt.org).

HROC-Burundi is also raising funds to buy a small plot of land to build a HROC center similar to the one developed by HROC-Rwanda in order to have a cheaper, secure place to conduct workshops and an office. At \$35,000 to \$40,000 the cost is going to be considerable. If you are interested in more details please contact me at [dave@aglifpt.org](mailto:dave@aglifpt.org).

### 2. HROC with Central African Immigrants in the US – \$5,000.

In January 2003 Theoneste Bizimana was one of the original developers of Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities (HROC) in Rwanda. He was the HROC coordinator in Rwanda until last year when he came to the United States to live. With all his experience and expertise, it

is a shame not to use his skills here in the United States. Consequently we would like to begin a HROC program with immigrants to the United States from Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Problem Statement:** When Africans come to the USA they do not leave behind their past traumatic experiences. Due to unaddressed trauma, depression, and anger, there is much mistrust, suspicion, anger and frustration towards each other among different African tribes who are living in the US. If people are not given a chance to talk about their hidden pains from past experiences and explore alternatives to violence and ways for healing, this pain and anger can become hatred which can trigger violence and keep people in a cycle of violence in their new resettlement communities in the US.

**Purpose:** To help to develop HROC in the US with an African cultural-based approach to trauma healing, reconciliation, and trust rebuilding among Africans living in the USA.

**Objectives of the project**

1. To conduct 8 community-based HROC workshops in four communities, offering a forum for 160 participants to begin personal journeys of healing and trust building.
2. To establish an ongoing presence in each community through follow-up meetings after the completion of all workshops.

**Approach:** The project will first concentrate on four communities to develop a model for future expansion into other communities. At the beginning the project will focus on immigrants and refugees from the African Great Lakes Region: Rwanda, Burundi, and Democratic Republic of Congo. Theoneste Bizimana will be the lead facilitator, together with Americans who have completed the HROC International Training in Rwanda and have facilitated HROC workshops in the US.

I hope that you will consider these needs. If you would like to make a (tax-deductible) contribution to either or both of these projects, please write a check made out to "Friends Peace Teams-AGLI" with a notation on the project(s) you would like to support and mail it in the enclosed remittance envelope. You can also go to the webpage, [www.friendspeacetteams.org](http://www.friendspeacetteams.org) and donate with a debit/credit card. Thanks for your consideration.

Peace,



David Zarembka, Coordinator  
African Great Lakes Initiative  
Friends Peace Teams

**Note to Canadians:** You may send your donation to Canadian Friends Service Committee, 60 Lowther Avenue Toronto, ON Canada M5R 1C7, earmarked for "AGLI and the specific project." CFSC will forward the funds to AGLI in US dollars.

## Communications Committee Report

The Committee has met twice since the last business meeting, on February 21 at 1:00 pm in 12T (Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse and Corona Machermer attending) and on March 2 at 6:30 pm at Robert Leuze's home (Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse, Robert Leuze and Corona Machermer attending.) Since the first meeting was an attempt at a workshop on managing the website, this report references the second.

The meeting opens with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. At Business Meeting on February 7, it was brought to our attention that there is currently no mechanism for sending out personal news and announcements Morningsiders want to share with each other, such as information about events they are involved in, like plays and concerts. (The Peace & Social Concerns Google Group is currently being used, but it doesn't reach everyone who might like to be informed about such things.) Accordingly, Kathy Stackhouse will establish an email list for this purpose. We have not yet settled on what to call it ("MorningsideMeetingShares"; "NewsOfMorningsideFriends" have been suggested. Does anyone have any ideas?). Once we do, Friends will be invited to "subscribe" to it through the email list that is used for all-Meeting announcements and the newsletter ([morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com)). We expect to have this up and running before the next business meeting.
2. The committee has determined that we need a website operations manual, so that those who come after us (not to mention ourselves) can manage the site. We also have to make some basic decisions about the database. The email-post system that was moved over from the old website is no longer operative, and we are not certain it can be revived securely. We plan to consult with Vonn New to determine the way forward.
3. Corona Machermer will serve as clerk of the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Corona Machermer, Clerk