

Morningside Matters

*The Newsletter for Morningside Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)*

www.morningsidemeeting.org

February 2020

Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	Riverside Church 490 Riverside Drive, room 12T (childcare provided in room 13T)	11:00 am
Monthly	First Sunday	Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	First Sunday	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business	room 12T	12:30 pm
	Second Sunday	Bible study: Genesis	room 12T	9:30 am
	Second Sunday	Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting. Everyone welcome	room 12T	1:00 pm
	Fourth Sunday	Welcome Breakfast: An easy way of getting to know other members and attenders. Just tell the cashier you're with the Quakers. The tab is picked up by our hosts, the Ministry & Counsel Committee	Riverside Café	9:30 am
	Fourth Sunday	Racial Justice Study Group	room 12T	1:00 pm
Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting events	Thursdays	Downtown Manhattan Quaker Meeting (May – September)	Battery Park	6:00 pm
	February 10	Women's Worship Sharing: potluck 6:30 – 7:00; worship sharing 7:00 – 8:00 pm	15 st Street Meeting	6:30 – 8:00 pm
	April 3 – 5	NYYM Spring Sessions	Oakwood Friends School	
	April 19	NYQM meeting	15 th Street Meeting	1:00 pm
	July 18	NYQM meeting	Friends Cemetery	1:00 pm
	July 19 – 25	NYYM Summer Sessions	Silver Bay, NY	
	August 1	Ribbon International Peace Walk, NYC		
	October 17	NYQM meeting	Flushing Meeting	1:00 pm
	October 23 – 25	Morningside Fall Retreat	Stony Point, NY	
	November 6 – 8, 2020	NYYM Fall Sessions	Shrewsbury & Plainfield, NJ	
	First Sundays	Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	Saturdays	Vigil for Yemen	Union Square	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
	February 7 – 9	Beauty, Truth. Love & Life	Powell House	
	February 14 – 16	Annual Winter Wonderland	Powell House	

Events of interest	March 6 – 8	Journey Toward Wholeness	Pendle Hill	
	March 20 – 22	Facing Transitions Together: Couples Enrichment Retreat	Pendle Hill	
	March 22 – 29	Perfection of the Moment: 7-day Mindfulness Retreat	Pendle Hill	
	March 27 – 29	The Sankofa Path: Healing from the Traumas of Racism	Pendle Hill	
	March 27 – 29	Creating in the Light: Creativity and Spirituality	Powell House	
	April 2 – 10	The Student Dharma Project,	Powell House	
	April 3 – 5	Opening the Heart of Worship	Pendle Hill	
	April 10 – 12	Spring Work, Messiah Sing, Scavenger Hunt 2020	Powell House	
	April 17 – 19	The Meaning & Challenge of Resurrection with John Dominic Crossan	Pendle Hill	
	April 23-28	An Invitation to Sacred Silence	Powell House	
	April 24 – 26	Bless the Night	Pendle Hill	
	April 30-May 3	Working Toward Right Relationships with Indigenous Peoples	Pendle Hill	
	May 29-31	Drinking Deep at the Well—the Passionate Spirituality of Early Quaker Women	Pendle Hill	
	June 5-10	Continuing Revolution 2020	Pendle Hill	
	June 12-14	Spirit of Hope—Living Courageously in Troubled Times	Pendle Hill	
July 17-19	Chanting as Spiritual Community Practice with Paulette Meier	Pendle Hill		

Remember to check the Calendar and the Bulletin Board at www.morningsidemeeting.org

Newsletter Submission Guidelines: The purpose of the newsletter is to inform members, attenders and other interested people of Meeting news, including member interviews, news of Friends, other Quaker-related subjects, news of Quaker organizations, upcoming events, Meeting-sponsored projects, book reviews, etc. Articles and pictures are welcome. The deadline for the newsletter is the Sunday of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Please e-mail your material in Word or text format to morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com by the end of that day. Past issues of the newsletter are archived at www.morningsidemeeting.org.

Reflection:

History as Process

The evaluation of the mysteries by the sons of all experience. All suffering, if we call the light a thing all men should know. Or find. Where ever, in the dark folds of the next second, there is some diminishing beauty we might one day understand, and scream to, in some wild fit of acknowledged Godliness.

Reality, is what it is. This suffering truth advertised in all men's loveliest histories.

The thing, There As Speed, is God, as mingling possibility. The Force. As simple future, what the freaky gipsies rolled through Europe on.

(The soul.)

2

What can I do to myself? Bones and dusty skin. Heavy eyes twisted between the adequate thighs of all humanity (a little h), strumming my head for a living. Bankrupt utopia sez tell me no utopias. I will not listen. (Except the raw wind makes the hero's eyes close, and the tears that come out are real.

Amiri Baraka

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
February 2, 2020

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:35 p.m., and Jane Alexandre read a selection from *The End of War*, by John Hogan
“Like cancer, war causes immense suffering, and it diverts vast amounts of human energy, intelligence, and resources away from other dire problems. But war and cancer differ in one crucial way: whereas cancer is something that happens to us, war is entirely our creation. This sets war apart not only from diseases like cancer but also from droughts, storms, floods, earthquakes, and tsunamis. Yes, we can stop smoking to curb cancer rates. We can reduce our consumption of fossil fuels to make droughts, floods, and hurricanes less likely. We can construct buildings and early-warning systems to minimize the devastation from earthquakes and tsunamis. But for the foreseeable future, these natural disasters will continue to afflict us. War, on the other hand, could end tomorrow through a simple act of will on the part of a relatively small number of leaders and combatants around the world.” John Horgan, *The End of War*
2. Jane Alexandre gave the Clerk’s Report. The written report is attached. Jane gave reminders as to procedures for a business meeting. Friends accepted the clerk’s report.
3. Mason Jenkins gave the final reading of the 2020 nominations from the Nominating Committee. A table of positions and those who have accepted the positions was shared. The written report is attached. Mason clarified questions. Discussion followed. Edits were made. Friends accepted the Nominating report. Friends approved the nominations.
- minutes read back and approved.
4. Corona Macheimer gave the Communications Committee Report. The written report is attached. Questions and discussions followed on the subject of allocating funding towards advertising on social media. Friends accepted the report.
5. Daniel A. Seeger gave the Treasurer’s Report. The written report is attached. Questions were asked and Daniel clarified. Discussion followed as to our separate incorporation in the future.
Friends accepted the Treasurer’s report. Friends approve the 2020 budget as presented in the report.
6. Ed Elder read the report for Ministry and Counsel. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:15pm Monday, February 24th at the home of Pam Wood. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP to Pam. The written report is attached. Friends accept the report.
Question as to collecting emergency contact information from individuals who attend the meeting. A database could be formed. Friends approve the measure to begin an emergency contact database, to be held by the clerk of the meeting and the clerk of ministry and council. Friends approve a one-day retreat to be held in the Spring. A theme for a one-day retreat were discussed: gratitude, social activism, possibility of bringing in an ‘outside’ workshop leader.
Ed Elder will create a query.
- minutes read back and approved.
7. Ed Elder gave the second reading of the State of the Meeting Report. Discussion and suggestions for two edits followed. The written report is attached. Friends approve the State of the Meeting report.
8. Corona Macheimer gave the Peace and Social Concerns Report. The written report is attached. The next meeting of peace and Social concerns will be held on February 9th, at 1:00pm
Friends accepted the report.
9. Jason McGill presented the Space Committee report. The written report is attached. A new lease has been signed with Riverside Church. Questions and discussion followed. Friends accepted the Space Committee report.
10. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernard Winter

Present: Mason Jenkins, Nancy Britton, June Tano, Corona Macheimer, Kathy Stackhouse, Carly Rogers, Pamela Wood, Karen Taborn, Kaid Benattia, Ed Elder, Daniel Seeger, Tom Goodridge, Ronald Rieder, David Fletcher, Peter Beck, Charlotte Ehrman, Jason McGill, Angel Tueros, Richard Schmidt, Sally Campbell, Ernestine (Ernie) Buscemi, Dave Britton, Joyce Richardson, Robert Renwick, Jane Alexandre, Bernard Winter.

Clerk's Report
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
February 2, 2020

1. Friends are reminded of some ongoing practices for business meeting:
 - Waiting until the Clerk calls on you to speak.
 - Understanding that at times the Clerk may wish to call on someone who hasn't spoken, before calling on someone who has already spoken so that more voices are heard.
 - Addressing comments to the Clerk rather than engaging in dialogue with each other.
 - Being thoughtful about speaking more than once to an issue after questions and clarifications have been addressed.
 - Periodically the clerk may ask for a time of reflective worship if it seems that might be helpful.
2. As the nominating slate will receive its second reading today, there will be no announcement of new positions from the clerk. There are no changes in membership to report.
3. There are no reports today from the First Day Caregivers, the Library Committee, or the Hospitality Committee.
4. At the request of the Communications Committee, committee clerks and conveners are asked to please update the web site calendar as to meeting dates and times.

Jane Alexandre

Communications Committee

The Committee met on Wednesday, January 15 at Bryan Oettel's home. Attending were Bryan and Kathy Stackhouse.

1. We discussed a committee budget of \$1000: \$500 for website maintenance and \$500 for advertising. We don't anticipate an address registry update in 2020.
2. We created a Facebook ad for input from the rest of the committee. Subsequent to the meeting, the ad's content was finalized and it was posted to run from January 25 through February 7. The "target"

is all people ages 18-65+ within 3 miles of Riverside Church. This represents a new targeting formula from Facebook, and includes the zip codes we intended to target originally (see previous reports) plus a good bit of additional territory. If you live in the target area and are on Facebook, keep an eye out for it and let the committee know what you think.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Stackhouse (acting as clerk) and Corona Machemer (outgoing clerk)

Treasurer's Report

Activity was low during the first month of the fiscal year (see page 2 attached).

Income exceeded expense by \$141.93. A major expense was the down payment to reserve Stony Point Center for the fall retreat. But there is not much to learn about the Meeting's fiscal health from one month's experience.

The important matter before us is the development of a budget for fiscal year 2020. Page 3 shows the income and expenses for fiscal year 2019. Page 4 shows the same figures in a way which exhibits the following: the impact of the year's activity on the Meeting's fund balances; the degree to which actual income and expenses tracked with the approved budget for 2019; and how the experience in 2019 compares with three previous fiscal years. Page 4 also includes a proposed budget for 2020, a proposal which has been reviewed by the Finance Committee. Figures for the proposed budget are highlighted in a yellow field.

In 2019 income exceeded what was budgeted by approximately \$770. This is shown on line 26, columns 4 and 5. Expenditures were approximately \$3,310 less than budgeted (shown on line 50, columns 4 and 5), allowing us to add approximately \$3,650 to the Meeting's reserves.

Looking at line 60 we see that the Meeting's reserves for the period from 2016 to the present have grown from approximately \$37,500 to approximately \$51,300. How much of a reserve is logical to maintain is a subjective judgment. For the past few years we have been assuming it should hover around a figure equal to the annual expenditure budget, which would allow a cushion for recovery if a major donor moved to a distant state. With this in view, the general situation suggests that it might be okay to propose a budget for 2020 where expected expenses might exceed expected income so as to draw down the reserves cautiously. So the proposed budget suggests an increase in Peace and Social Concerns expenditures (line 22) and a very modest increase in child care expenditures (line 42),

given that we are experiencing staff changes which may require more investment. The proposal also suggests an increase in scholarship funds in the hope that it would enable Meeting members to participate in wider Quaker activities like Yearly Meeting and Friends General Conference who might otherwise be unable to do so.

Right now the Monthly Meeting is legally tied up with the Quarterly Meeting, which means that institutional donors have to make out their checks to the Quarter earmarked for Morningside Meeting, introducing a note of confusion into these transactions. We also have no simple and easy

way to instruct people how to leave us bequests on account of this entanglement. The Meeting should look forward to achieving a fiscal stand-alone status, as all other monthly meetings routinely have. This will undoubtedly involve some legal and other expenses. Nothing for this is budgeted for 2020, but the awareness of the need to hold something in reserve for this expense accounts of the caution in the recommendation about drawing down the reserve.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

Income/Expense by Category
1/1/2020 through 1/31/2020 (Cash Basis)

Category	1/1/2020- 1/31/2020	2/1/2020-2/1/2020	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME			
General Fund Contribution	1,683.01	0.00	1,683.01
Interest and Dividends	2.17	0.00	2.17
TOTAL INCOME	1,685.18	0.00	1,685.18
EXPENSES			
Operations, Comm. – Advert. Listings	70.00	0.00	70.00
Operations, Comm. – Member Directory	273.25	0.00	273.25
Retreat Expense	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,543.25	0.00	1,543.25
OVERALL TOTAL	141.93	0.00	141.93

Balance as of January 31, 2020 = \$52,381.28

Checkbook balance as of January 31,2020 = \$54,605.95

Income/Expense by Category
1/1/2019 through 12/31/2019 (Cash Basis)

Category	1/1/2019- 3/31/2019	4/1/2019-6/30/2019	7/1/2019- 9/30/2019	10/1/2019- 12/31/2019	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME					
General Fund Contribution	6,909.40	6,874.33	6,667.33	18,037.33	38,488.39
Huntington House Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
Interest and Dividends	6.14	6.49	6.34	2.06	21.03
Retreat Fee Income	0.00	0.00	3,630.00	480.00	4,090.00
TOTAL INCOME	6,915.54	6,880.82	10,303.60	16,999.39	43,099.42
EXPENSES					
Huntington House	0.00	0.00	143.09	0.00	143.09
MMM Oper. - Hospitality	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
NYYM Allocation	4,331.25	4,331.25	4,331.25	4,331.25	17,325.00
Operations - Breakfast	0.00	10.00	0.00	210.00	220.00
Operations - Finance	0.00	156.48	0.00	110.65	267.13
Operations - First Day Child Care	0.00	0.00	1,205.00	1,040.00	2,245.00
Operations - Literature	0.00	0.00	146.51	161.61	298.12
Operations - Ministry and Counsel	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	60.00
Operations, Comm. - Website	120.00	100.86	0.00	0.00	220.88
Outreach - Friends in Unity w Nature	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Outreach - Peace, Social Concerns	1,300.00	4,080.00	3,300.00	4,246.63	13,625.63
Outreach - Scholarships, Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	480.00	480.00
Retreat Expense	1,200.00	0.00	3,630.00	0.00	4,830.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,951.25	8,878.59	13,755.85	10,899.14	40,184.83
OVERALL TOTAL	-35.71	-1,997.77	-3,452.18	8,400.25	2,914.59

Treasurer's Report (Proposed Budget)
February 2, 2020 (2020-02-02)

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Proposed
Balances at the Beginning of the Year						
Unrestricted Reserves		37,438	36,972	40,565	40,565	51,344
Funds Restricted as to Use						
Huntington House		782	663	463	463	857
Crumlish Bequest		500	500	500	500	500
Reintegration Fund			500	1,500	1,500	1,500
SUBTOTAL for Cash at TD Bank:		38,720	38,634	43,028	43,028	50,137
Minus uncashed checks plus un-posted deposits		(1,858)	615	6,367	6,367	4,035
Unrestricted funds in Schwab		500	500			
Unrestricted funds in petty cash (hospitality)		144	132	31	31	30
TOTAL:		37,506	39,881	49,426	49,426	54,201
Income						
Contributions — General	31,254	37,301	40,349	39,000	39,488	40,000.00
Contributions - Restricted as to Use:						
Reintegration Fund		500	1,000			500.00
Huntington House		400			500	
Interest and Dividends	18	19	22	22	21	25.00
Contributions earmarked for other organizations	(780.00)					
Retreat Fees		3,060	4,030	4,000	4,090	4,200.00
Transfers from Reserves — General	1,665		500	713		
Transfers from Reserves — Restricted						
Huntington House		119	200			
Crumlish Bequest						
Reintegration Fund						
TOTAL:	32,157	41,281	46,101	43,735	44,099	44,725.00
Expenses						
New York Yearly Meeting Covenant Contribution	15,397	15,976	16,500	17,325	17,325	17,845.00
New York Yearly Meeting One-Time Contribution						812.00
Outreach:						
Peace and Social Concerns/FUN	11,568	11,850	11,965	14,000	13,726	15,000.00
Miscellaneous Outreach	0	300		300		300.00
Huntington House		519	200		143	
Reintegration Allocations						
Scholarships/Relief	660	1,520	810	2,000	460	1,000.00
Operations:						
Communications: Website	2,100	2,100	380	1,000	461	1,000.00
Communications: Member Directory		567		600		
Communications: Newsletter						
Communications: Advertising/Listings			55	200		200.00
First Day: Child Care	1,460	2,000	2,090	2,400	2,245	2,500.00

43	First Day: Literature, etc.	0		25	30		30.00
44	Hospitality	373	362	601	600	400	600.00
45	Breakfast	101	166	123	230	220	300.00
46	Clerk/Ministry and Counsel	25	393	45	400	50	400.00
47	Retreat		3,060	4,075	4,000	4,830	4,200.00
48	Finance	177	144	263	350	267	350.00
49	Literature	297	108	181	300	298	300.00
50	SUBTOTAL:	32,157	39,065	37,313	43,735	40,425	44,837.00
51	Transfers to General Reserves		1,716	7,757		3,644	
52	Transfers to Restricted Reserves						
53	Reintegration Fund		500	1,000			
54	Huntington House					500	
55	Transfer to petty cash for Hospitality					30	
56	Transfer to petty cash other than Hospitality						
57	TOTAL EXPENSES:	32,157	41,281	46,070	43,735	44,099	44,837.00
58							
59	Balances at the End of the Year:						
60	Unrestricted Reserves	37,438	36,972	40,565		51,344	
61	Funds Restricted as to Use						
62	Huntington House	782	663	463		857	
63	Crumlish Bequest	500	500	500		500	
64	Reintegration Fund		500	1,500		1,500	
65	SUBTOTAL for Cash at TD Bank:	38,720	38,634	43,028		50,137	
66	Minus uncashed checks plus un-posted deposits	(2,218)	615	6,367		4,035	
67	Unrestricted funds in Schwab	500	500				
68	Unrestricted funds in petty cash (hospitality)	144	132	31		30	
69	TOTAL ENDING BALANCE:	37,146	39,881	49,426	0	54,201	

Ministry and Counsel

1. Next Meeting of M&C is scheduled for 7:15 pm, Monday, Feb. 24, in Pam Wood's home.
2. On Feb. 23rd Ministry & Counsel's Fourth Sunday breakfast will be hosted by Karen Tabor, beginning at 9:30 am. On March 22nd it will be hosted by Charlene Ray.
5. Moving With Spirit continues to meet the First Sunday of the month
5. Bible Study continues to meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning at 9:30 am. If you are not on the email list, please let Jerry Reisig know you are interested.
6. In its capacity of pastoral care, M&C is considering the option of having Friends provide emergency contact information that would be accessible to the clerk of the Meeting and the clerk of M&C. In this way, should we need to, we would have a way to notify or seek help in the case of an emergency. Would the Meeting be interested in having this information collected?
7. For the last number of years, M&C has organized a Spring Retreat for the Meeting. Does the Meeting want a one day retreat this year? If so, what are the themes or concerns of the Meeting that we might address at this retreat?
8. On March 29th, Charlene Ray will be leading an after Meeting discussion on "Quaker Values and End of Life Decision Making."
9. Currently Ministry & Counsel has 8 clearness and support committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Elder, Clerk

Morningside Monthly Meeting

Final 2019 State of the Meeting Report

On December 15, 2019, Morningside Monthly Meeting gathered to discern the spiritual state of the meeting and to meditate on the past year. Members and attenders initially responded to the Query provided by NYYM: *How has the Life of the Spirit been fresh and visibly at work in your Meeting during the past year?* Soon, however, the Spirit took Meeting in a direction of its own, providing fresh queries through messages:

- *Are we venturous? Intimate? Do we have fun?*
- *What were the big events? The small moments?*
- *Do we bring Meeting out to the world? Do we bring the world into the meeting?*
- *What do we need more of?*

The vitality and life of the community is reflected in its growth this year, and we rejoice in the increased numbers of Friends in our community. Morningside has had a net increase of 3 new members (3 new members, 2 - transfers out, 2 - transfers in), and these newcomers want to be an active part of us.

As a spiritual body, we express the life of the Meeting in our examination of ourselves and society, “our own and institutional racism.” The Racial Justice Study Group meets on the 4th Sundays of every month (except July and August), and continues to explore the personal, structural, and basis of racial injustice in the United States. The readings and discussions have enabled a small group of regular attenders and visitors a rare opportunity to deepen our understandings on race, racism and anti-racism in America.

We witness to prisons and to the prison worship that we continue to hold under the care of Meeting. Lofty thoughts on theory and policy manifest themselves on the ground with lobbying, letter writing, making phone calls, visiting representatives in Albany, and maintaining a relationship with the men in the worship group at the Woodbourne Correctional Facility. When we live the lives that we preach, we become both a mystical and practical religion. Friends expressed great appreciation for the depth of the silence during Worship, while honoring the centuries of worship and work that continue in this Meeting. We are unique not only in the manner of our worship, but also in its expression in social action. Meeting is a safety net; members and attenders share the silence while they provide assistance to one another; if someone needs to go to the hospital another Friend will go along. As one person said, “If something bad should happen to me, I know that I will not be alone.”

Morningside has become a safety net not only within the Meeting, but to the larger Morningside neighborhood. Students and faculty from nearby Columbia, Barnard, and several other schools, find Meeting to be a safe space where they can be with others in silence, without a requirement that they identify themselves or promise that they will be here the next week. It was noted, however, that although we are blessed with the attendance of students and faculty, we have no coordinated outreach to the schools. Perhaps we should revisit outreach at these colleges and work with NYYM on the possibility of a chaplain at Columbia and Barnard. We should at least consider a young adult committee that would interface with the schools.

This year, previous concerns with the exhaustion of committee members has been replaced with a new vitality. There is a new firmness and sense of purpose. Important to the life of the Meeting are the ongoing Spiritual Nurture Groups which provide some of the most intimate spaces offered to the community. Because of their extreme intimacy, these small groups can “become raw”, but they provide a safe space where members can express strong emotions together.

Several people described the Morningside community as a joyous place, where the experiences of anger and risk end in joy. In our monthly gathering of “Moving with Spirit,” we dance together, soaring beyond our words. We also support each other in our artistic endeavors. If, after Meeting for Worship, individuals announce that they are performing somewhere, you can be sure that Morningside Friends will be there for them. The sense of fun is shown in the smiles of retreat attenders. During hospitality hour, we are not only sharing and enjoying each other, but we are also talking with new people. Because hospitality is so essential to who we are, Friends expressed the need for an additional member on the Hospitality Committee. In addition, we need more proactive involvement by members and attenders in the setup and cleanup before and after Meeting for Worship as well as other Meeting functions.

We take risks when we provide hospitality, which requires that we put ourselves out there for others, sharing who we are, what we believe, and what we have. We are experimenting with having a designated person from Ministry and Counsel in place after Meeting for Worship, in order to answer questions about the Meeting and Quakerism. Morningside was privileged to host Quarterly Meeting as NYQM risked its inauguration of a Jubilee Year. It was a joyous and meaningful time for reflection, allowing us to better know one another. The quality of hospitality to NYQM was commented on by Friends outside of Morningside, as was the joy and fun that was generally felt. At the retreat, we embraced the experience of the Council of All Beings, a communal ritual in which participants step aside from their human identity and speak on behalf of another life-form. Although this experience might have been uncomfortable, it was a risk accompanied by shared laughter.

We need to remember the important part that Child Care plays in hospitality, providing a worshipful space for parents who attend meeting, as well as a space where children can enjoy one another. The small moment when children come down to worship feels big, as there is something wondrous in their intermingling with adults, as they increasingly become an important part of the community. In immediate and practical terms, we need another childcare person, as well as more volunteers. We need to consider how Meeting can help provide space for parents and children, so that there is more family time and less screen time.

Attendees of Bible Study stretch and take risks, exposing themselves and their reading of the text to the larger study group. The group meets before Meeting for Worship and provides a foundation for that worship. For some members, Bible Study is the activity that binds them to Meeting. As one Friend observed, “You don’t have to be into everything, to participate in Meeting.”

At this time in history, many Friends come to Meeting out of great (dis)stress. We bring the noisy world with us which makes it imperative that we not allow the noise to affect the quality of our Worship. We move away from the chaos of the world, but not the world itself, for as we move away from the world in order to worship, we move closer in order to create a world of compassion, family, safety, and consistency. To those who share in worship, Meeting feels like a community that has been built upon a rock, and members expressed their gratefulness for that bedrock; noting with gratitude that it provides a secure foundation for our Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business. One unique way that we move out into the world is through the small group of five or six worshippers at the Quarterly open-air downtown Meeting that we share in the summer. Being quiet and being together in the middle of the noise and activity of the city is a wonderful expression of how we are present in the world.

Our voice is out there, whether at the workplace or letters we have sent to the governor. In all these relations, we present the world with a Third Way. Specifically, Morningside is involved in preparing for the Ribbon Project International next summer, commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as we work for a world without nuclear weapons. This fall, one Friend participated in the inaugural cohort of The Collaborative for Faith Leadership at Union Theological Seminary. A group of six people from various religious institutions met over five sessions to discuss issues of faith, leadership, and social justice. This was a way of reaching out to other religious institutions in our city. It is through specific acts that we are known. A Friend summed up the Meeting with the quote: “By their fruits/action, you shall know him” (Matthew 7:16).

During our talk about social justice, we were reminded of the strength of a past member whose life was committed to fighting social injustice, and who continued to be involved in Peace and Social Concerns as her own health waned. The departure of another Friend reminded us that one of our strengths is how we support members and attendees who are very sick and preparing for death. In many ways, Meeting feels alive, partly because we remember those who have passed, whose lives gave testimony to their beliefs, and who trusted Meeting to be with them in their final and most intimate moments.

In Friendship,
Jane Alexandre,
Clerk

Peace and Social Concerns

Peace & Social Concerns met on January 12.

Attending were Karen Taborn; Robert Renwick; David Fletcher; David Britton; Bryan Wigfall; Charlotte Ehrman; Pam Wood; Sally Campbell; Robert Schwab; Jane Alexandre; Richard Schmidt; June Tano; Corona Macheimer (Acting as Clerk)

The meeting opened with a few minutes of silence.

1. Corona Macheimer volunteers to be clerk for another year. Sally Campbell asks to be relieved of her responsibilities as co-clerk so that she can devote as much of her energy as possible to her leading related to the getting the HALT Solitary Confinement legislation passed in Albany. Subsequent to the meeting, Robert Schwab volunteers to be co-clerk.
2. The P&SC Budget for 2020 is reviewed and approved. At Business Meeting today we learn that the Meeting has increased the P&SC budget from \$14,000 for 2019 to \$16,000 for 2020. In light of this increase, the committee will reconsider the 2020 budget at its next meeting, on February 9. The budget approved last month, which included no increase, will be circulated to Friends before that meeting. Those who have changes and/or additions to propose in light of the increase to \$16,000 should attend the meeting. If this is impossible, please contact Corona Macheimer ASAP.
3. Friends decide to donate \$500 from the 2019 Emergency Fund to the Friends Ugandan Safe Transport Fund, which helps Ugandan LGBTQ people flee their homeland as the Ugandan government ramps up efforts to revive the country's Anti-Homosexuality Act (originally passed in 2013), encouraging attacks on LGBTQ Ugandans and renewing calls for the death penalty. A number of those under attack are members of the Bulungi Tree Shade Meeting. For more information, go to friends.ugandansafetransport.org.
4. Friends decide that, going forward, if an emergency request for funds comes in during a time when there is no meeting of the committee scheduled, the Clerk and co-Clerk of Peace & Social Concerns should be empowered to act on the request. [It is

subsequently suggested that an ad-hoc meeting of P&SC to consider the request be called following the rise of Meeting for Worship on the Sunday after the request is received.]

5. June Tano and Sally Campbell report on the Quarter-wide Ribbon-panel making event at 15th Street on January 11. Twenty-five people attended, including 6 children. Each made a panel. With additional blank panels available, June and Sally propose scheduling a panel-making event for Morningsiders on a third or fifth Sunday coming up. We will try to plan for this during the next meeting of Peace & Social Concerns. Already, the schedule for the next few months is tight.
6. Friends note that World Conference 2020 (world-conference2020.org) has scheduled a conference on abolishing nuclear weapons and on resisting and reversing climate change to be held at Riverside Church the weekend of April 24–26. June Tano (who is already involved) and Sally Campbell will find out more and liaise with Riverside. The American Friends Service Committee is among many organizations sponsoring the event.
7. Once again, Morningside is asked by FCNL to join other Friends meetings, churches, and organizations in helping discern FCNL's legislative priorities for the new Congress (the 117th), which convenes in January 2021, after the election in November. The results of our discernment are due by April 10. The committee will take up discussion of the process and the date of our meeting for discernment at its next meeting.
8. Because of the tightness of third-Sunday schedules going forward, the Committee decides to table plans for presentations in the immediate future about the organizations to which Morningside contributes.

The next meeting of Peace & Social Concerns will be Sunday February 9 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Macheimer (acting as clerk)

Space Committee

1. The Committee is pleased to report that the 2020 rental agreement for the use of 12T and 13T has been signed by the Quarterly Meeting on our behalf and will be signed by Riverside Church in the very near term.
2. The agreement was revised with the Church's approval to fix our chair count at 60 for each week. Lauren Pearlstone, who oversees our and other rental agreements on behalf of the Church, will work with the facilities team to ensure the chairs are in the room not later than 10:45 each Sunday.

- a. 40 chairs will be placed in the main room on 12T and another 20 will be in one of the side rooms. Riverside asks that we leave only 40 chairs in the main room.
 - b. Lauren visited 12T just before Meeting on 1/26. She and Jane Alexandre met informally and verified that the right number of chairs were present. Lauren is normally at Riverside on Sunday mornings and can be paged by security if needed.
3. I had a long conversation with Lauren on behalf of the Space Committee on January 15. Several points from that phone call may provide helpful context for the Meeting as we continue to worship at Riverside:
- a. Morningside is one of many organizations and informal groups that have space contracts with Riverside. Longer-standing tenants like Morningside often have more generous rental terms than do newer arrivals, and Riverside will work over time to improve parity across all the contracts; we should thus expect to see modest increases in our rent each year, along the lines of

the \$50/month increase we accepted for 2020 (to \$1050).

- i. Related to this, Lauren noted that in our library and other storage arrangements, Morningside enjoys greater privileges as a renter than do other groups. She explicitly said that we may continue to use the library and other storage as we do but that the Church takes no responsibility for our property.
- b. Riverside's rental policy allows organizations to provide juice and water at their events. The Church normally requires payment of a \$100 cleaning fee for any food provided beyond this, whether catered or potluck. Lauren explained this fee covers any staff time needed following group events, including spills, abandoned food, and trash removal.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason McGill
On behalf of the Space Committee

Morningside Monthly Meeting Committee/Liaison Appointments for 2020

Position	# of Positions	Term	Responsibilities	2019 Holders	Nominees
Clerk	1	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets agenda and runs the Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business • Acts as Principal correspondent on behalf of the Meeting • Maintains Meeting records including Business Meeting minutes and correspondence • Serves on Committee for Ministry and Counsel 	Jane Alexandre	Jane Alexandre
Assistant Clerk	1-2	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes minutes at Business Meeting and conveys them to the Newsletter Committee • Assists Clerk with correspondence as needed • Serves as Clerk pro tempore of Business Meeting when Clerk is absent 	Stephen McDonnell	Bernard Winter
Treasurer	1	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeps the accounts of the Meeting, pays all bills, accepts and deposits contributions • Reports periodically to Business Meeting • Presents by the March Business Meeting a report of the previous year's finances, audited as arranged for by Ministry and Counsel. Such report will include a statement of the Meeting's assets and obligations, and the condition of the Crumlish Bequest and any other separate funds. • Serves on Finance Committee 	Daniel A. Seeger	Stephen McDonnell
Assistant Treasurer	1	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becomes familiar with the Meeting's accounts and its accounting practices • Has authority to sign for the Meeting's accounts in the Treasurer's absence • Serves on Finance Committee 	Bryan Oettel	Bryan Oettel
Recorder for Membership/Historian	1	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeps track of memberships, marriages, divorces, births, deaths and addresses • Forwards new information to Yearly Meeting office • Annually forwards total number of adult Monthly Meeting members to Quarterly Meeting Audit and Budget Committee • Maintains Meeting records regarding membership • Organizes our papers and submits appropriate items to the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College 	Helen Garay Toppins	Helen Garay Toppins
Finance Committee	4, flexible (including the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer)	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raises money for the Monthly Meeting through letters of appeal and other methods • Solicits proposed expenditures from the various committees of the Meeting and proposes a budget to the December Business Meeting for final approval in January • Attends the General Services Meeting of the New York Yearly Meeting to discuss the Yearly Meeting budget and allocation • Meets as needed, usually about three times a year 	Charlene Ray, Pamela Wood	Charlene Ray, Pamela Wood, Bart Dominus
Nominating Committee	4; ideally two will be serving their first year, two their second	2 years, renewable once	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fills positions and committees in Monthly Meeting by asking people what they would like to do, getting suggestions, and searching for hidden talents • In December, presents nominations for positions and committees to Business Meeting, for final approval in January • Meets as needed, but more frequently in the fall 	Convenor: _____ Dave Britton, Peter Beck, Mason Jenkins	1 st term to 2021 Peter Beck Mason Jenkins -----

Ministry and Counsel Committee	10, including Clerk of the Meeting,	3 years, renewable once	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All members of Nominating Committee who are members of the Society of Friends also serve on Quarterly Meeting Nominating Committee, which meets about four times per year Is concerned with the pastoral care of the Meeting Recommends acceptance and release of members, for approval by Business Meeting Oversees marriages and funerals Appoints clearness committees as needed Visits the sick and counsels those in need of pastoral care Arranges programs and retreats on Quaker topics Arranges an audit of the Treasurer's annual report before the report is presented to the March Business Meeting Considers and approves/denies requests for scholarships and travel assistance to Quaker events Considers and approves/denies requests for financial assistance from the John Bohne Memorial Fund Ideally the terms of three will expire each year Young Adult Friends: currently Ministry & Counsel is in charge 	<p>1st term to 2022 Bryan Oettel, Robert Renwick</p> <p>2nd term to 2023 Ed Elder (clerk), Karen Taborn, Tom Goodrich, David Fletcher, Charlene Ray, Jerry Reisig, Ron Rieder, Jason McGill, Pamela Wood</p>
Communications and Website Committee	4-5, flexible	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three ex-officio members include the MMM webmaster, the email communicator, and the newsletter editor Works on issues related to digital communication within the meeting, including distribution of the newsletter, the MMM website, policies concerning use of the MMM email list to transmit messages to meeting members. Prepares and distributes the monthly newsletter, issued September through June, which includes the minutes of the Monthly Meeting with a Concern for Business, the calendar, and articles or announcements that may be submitted Editor assembles and formats the newsletter for copying Maintains library and coordinates lending of books Coordinates the selection and purchase of books with New York Yearly Meeting's annual \$50 contribution from the Mosher Fund Makes literature, such as Faith and Practice and various other pamphlets available to Meeting attendees Arranges the literature table before each Meeting for worship and stores the literature after Meeting A Committee of the Whole Others may join on a voluntary, ad hoc basis. Proposes to Business Meeting activities to be undertaken by the Meeting and financial contributions to be made by the Meeting Undertakes such social action activities, on its own responsibility, as it may wish, without representing the Meeting A local group of the North American Quaker FCUN organization. Other interested Morningside members and attendees are invited to join. The group members work among themselves and with the Meeting at large in understanding and living the goals of FCUN. These goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To search for the life that affirms the unity of all Creation To apply Friends' practice to live in deep communion with all life spirit 	<p>Bryan Oettel (Convener), Emily Bishop, Corona Machemer, Kathy Stackhouse</p>
Librarian	1-3, flexible	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains library and coordinates lending of books Coordinates the selection and purchase of books with New York Yearly Meeting's annual \$50 contribution from the Mosher Fund Makes literature, such as Faith and Practice and various other pamphlets available to Meeting attendees Arranges the literature table before each Meeting for worship and stores the literature after Meeting 	<p>Bryan Oettel, Scott Blumenthal, Kathy Stackhouse, Derek McIver</p>
Library Committee	1-3 flexible	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains library and coordinates lending of books Coordinates the selection and purchase of books with New York Yearly Meeting's annual \$50 contribution from the Mosher Fund Makes literature, such as Faith and Practice and various other pamphlets available to Meeting attendees Arranges the literature table before each Meeting for worship and stores the literature after Meeting 	<p>Sally Campbell</p>
Peace and Social Concerns Committee	A Convener and Assistant Convener	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains library and coordinates lending of books Coordinates the selection and purchase of books with New York Yearly Meeting's annual \$50 contribution from the Mosher Fund Makes literature, such as Faith and Practice and various other pamphlets available to Meeting attendees Arranges the literature table before each Meeting for worship and stores the literature after Meeting A Committee of the Whole Others may join on a voluntary, ad hoc basis. Proposes to Business Meeting activities to be undertaken by the Meeting and financial contributions to be made by the Meeting Undertakes such social action activities, on its own responsibility, as it may wish, without representing the Meeting A local group of the North American Quaker FCUN organization. Other interested Morningside members and attendees are invited to join. The group members work among themselves and with the Meeting at large in understanding and living the goals of FCUN. These goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To search for the life that affirms the unity of all Creation To apply Friends' practice to live in deep communion with all life spirit 	<p>Jane Alexandre, Corona Machemer, Richard Schmidt</p>
Friends' Committee on Unity with Nature (Friends Earthcare Witness)	1 Convener and 1 Asst. Convener	1 year, renewable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains library and coordinates lending of books Coordinates the selection and purchase of books with New York Yearly Meeting's annual \$50 contribution from the Mosher Fund Makes literature, such as Faith and Practice and various other pamphlets available to Meeting attendees Arranges the literature table before each Meeting for worship and stores the literature after Meeting A Committee of the Whole Others may join on a voluntary, ad hoc basis. Proposes to Business Meeting activities to be undertaken by the Meeting and financial contributions to be made by the Meeting Undertakes such social action activities, on its own responsibility, as it may wish, without representing the Meeting A local group of the North American Quaker FCUN organization. Other interested Morningside members and attendees are invited to join. The group members work among themselves and with the Meeting at large in understanding and living the goals of FCUN. These goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To search for the life that affirms the unity of all Creation To apply Friends' practice to live in deep communion with all life spirit 	<p>*Corona Machemer and *Robert Schwab (Co-Clerks)</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be guided by the Light within us to participate in the healing of the Earth To be a reflective and energetic forum within the Religious Society of Friends to strengthen and deepen our spiritual unity with nature Arranges for Child care during the Meeting for Worship and Monthly Meeting with a Concern for Business Does long-range planning for First Day School 	Ernie Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Tom Goodridge, June Tano	
First Day Caregivers	4-5, flexible	1 year, renewable		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule volunteers to welcome attendees to Meeting for Worship and break the silence afterwards instructs them as to their responsibilities, Manages Morningside's tenant-landlord relationship with Riverside Church Monitors and attempts to resolve issues relating to our meeting space Responsible for renewing the contract with Riverside Church Recruits volunteers to prepare simple refreshments for after Meeting, and forwards list of volunteers to Newsletter Committee Keeps track of and replenishes general supplies such as cups Greets (along with Coordinator) newcomers and visitors to the Meeting Prepares special literature for an inquirers' table and speaks with visitors to the table after Meeting for Worship ARCH [Aging Resources Consultation and Help] is a program of the New York Yearly Meeting. ARCH visitors are trained to help Friends deal with aging or disability-related concerns 	Ernie Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Tom Goodridge	
First Day Coordinators	2, flexible	1 year, renewable			Richard Schmidt, Pam Wood	
Riverside Space Committee	2-3, flexible	1 year, renewable			Charlotte Ehrman, Sally Campbell	
Hospitality Committee	3-4, flexible	1 year, renewable			Joyce Richardson, Charlene Ray, Richard Schmidt, Bryan Wigfall	
ARCH representative					A committee of the whole, Charlene Ray (Convener)	ARCH Visitors: Sally Campbell, Kathy Hinton, Dot Savage, John Tweddle, Charlene Ray, David Fletcher, Schuyler Osborne, Bryan Wigfall
Committee for Prison Ministry					Ernie Buscemi, David Fletcher, Helen Garay, Toppins, Pamela Wood,	Stephen McDonnell, Ernie Buscemi, David Fletcher, Helen Garay, Toppins, Pamela Wood
				Representatives to Friends Groups		
Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)				•	Kathy Stackhouse	Kathy Stackhouse
American Friends Service Committee				•	Pamela Wood	Pamela Wood
Powell House				•	Charlene Ray	Charlene Ray

Young Adult Friends				•	Currently Ministry & Counsel is in charge	-----
Pendle Hill				•	Stephen McDonnell	Charlene Ray
Quaker United Nations Office				•		QUINO does not want a liaison at this time
New York Yearly Meeting				•	Pamela Wood	Pamela Wood
New York Quarterly Meeting				•	Ed Elder	Ed Elder
Friends World Committee on Consultation				•		Bryan Wigfall
Friends General Conference				•	Sally Campbell	Sally Campbell

**Morningside Appointments to
New York Quarterly and Yearly Meeting Committees
Nominated from the Quarter or Yearly Meeting**

Audit and Budget Committee	1	3 years, maximum two consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets once per month • Sets the budget for Quarterly Meeting, and assures that the funds are expended appropriately 	Kathy Stackhouse, Charlene Ray
Relief Committee	1	Three-year term, maximum three consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers funds to help Quarterly Meeting people in need • Determines whether there are Morningside Friends in need, through consultation with NYQM Ministry and Counsel • Meets about once per year; most business done by phone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meets monthly ▪ Leads spring and fall work days ▪ Provide NYQM Friends and family help with routine tasks associated with plot selection and burial, assisting with visits to the cemetery, and tending to the long-term care of the cemetery's physical property. 	John Slater
Cemetery Committee	1	3 year term, max 3 consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers funds and property of Quarterly Meeting and supervises employees • Meets once per month 	Bryan Oettel
Trustees of Quarterly Meeting Corporation	1	Three-year term, two consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers funds and property of Quarterly Meeting and supervises employees • Meets once per month 	Katherine Alford, Barton Dominus
Communications Committee			•	Bryan Oettel, Dave Britton

Education Fund and Phoebe Anna Thorne Scholarship Committee	1	Three-year term, two consecutive terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administers funds that support children who are members and who attend Quaker educational institutions Morningside's member lets any children of Morningside Meeting know of opportunities available Meets occasionally, most business done by phone 	Bryan Wigfall
Ministry and Counsel Committee	1	Two-year term, maximum three terms		Ed Elder
NYQM Joint Nominating Committee	1	1 year term, renewable	Should be a member of Morningside Nominating Committee Must be a Morningside Member- Nominated by Morningside	David Britton
Friends Seminary School Committee				Lee Rada
Great Lakes Region (Africa) Education Committee				Corona Machemer
Committee for Downtown Manhattan Allowed Meeting				Sally Campbell, Richard Schmidt
Yearly Meeting M&C Committee Member			Must be a member of the Meeting who has at some time served on our own Ministry and Counsel Committee.	vacancy
Yearly Meeting Right Sharing of World Resources				
Yearly Meeting Committee on Discernment				Peter Beck

* updated February 2020