



Draft Minutes of the Support Committee of Western Quarterly Meeting held 28 September 2014 at Kennett Monthly Meeting

The Support Committee was held at Kennett Monthly Meeting. Friends from London Grove, Fallowfield, Kennett, Hockessin, West Grove, Newark, and Centre Meeting met to constitute the Support Committee.

14.41- After a period of un-programmed worship, Friends were welcomed to share news in the life of their Meetings London Grove 300th Anniversary on October 18th, 1-7 PM; West Grove is hosting an inter-faith dialogue speaker series during the month of October. London Britain Meeting House was recently vandalized. Hockessin hosted a presentation about the architecture and had a threshing session on the future vision of its tenant's house. On 10/27 Hockessin Friends will host a speaker from the Underground Railroad Coalition of Delaware on slave-catcher Thomas McCreary. Centre increased starting pay as they search for a coordinator for their First Day School program. Other general announcements from Monthly Meetings: September 30 week-- Religious Education Forum; some Friends will be attending "Heeding God's Call" at Unitarian Universalism Church in Wilmington, DE on October 5th to advocate against gun violence. Some Friends already participated in rally in NE Wilmington against gun violence. Kennett is offering Quakerism 101 over eight months. Some members of Fallowfield attended an AFSC Program on the prison industrial complex and announced the local historical society wants to know what interest Fallowfield has in talking custodial responsibilities of People's Hall.

14.42- **We approved the minutes of the WQ Meeting Support Committee Meeting held on 24 August 2014, with one correction.** That correction relates to 14-37 to add "Fallowfield" to the sentence, "We discussed the desire for [Fallowfield] Monthly Meeting to take control of the Orthodox Fallowfield burial ground."

14.43- **Friends agreed on Minute drafted for Fallowfield Monthly Meeting for hosting Western Quarterly Session. Minute reads:** *"We take this opportunity to minute our appreciation to Fallowfield Monthly Meeting in the hosting of the July 2014 session of Western Quarterly Meeting. It was a joy to be welcomed and brought into a space of close-knit community. The program was well matched to the theme, "Lighting the Fire Within." Utilizing segments of Quaker Speak and guided discussion opened the way for a deeper level of worship, sharing and introspection. Friends had the opportunity to feel their roots grow a bit deeper and open their arms a bit wider. We left this gathering with gratitude, feeling well nourished spiritually, socially and physically."* Agreed to send minute to Dan Tracey, Clerk of Fallowfield.

14.44- **Tour Committee Participation and Minute of Appreciation of Ruth Thompson. Friends approved** Ruth Thompson's plan to publicly acknowledge her gratitude for Monthly Meetings' participation in the July tours of meetinghouses of the Western Quarter at the October 2014 Quarterly Meeting. Additionally, Friends agreed to write a Minute of Appreciation for Ruth Thompson for her hard work in organizing the tour of the WQ.

14.45- **October Quarterly Meeting.** Reviewed schedule for the next Quarterly, "Ministry of Elderly Care" on October 19th. Friends agreed to meditate on Query #8 and provide an overview of the Western Quarterly website.

14.46- Western Quarterly Meeting Coordinator Transition. Friend Sarah Kastriner will continue to serve as Interim WQ Coordinator. The Personnel Committee of the WQ will present a report at the October 19th Quarterly about its recommendation for the position.

14.47- Responses from Monthly Meetings to Western Quarterly Letter Regarding Finances dated September 12, 2014. The consideration for each meeting is “to consider an increase in its financial commitment to the Quarter when it develops its next annual budget.” London Grove and Fallowfield are discussing the letter at their next business meetings. Kennett is handling it in stages. Kennett uses unified budget. Financial discussions in Kennett center on a desire for transparency for why the numbers are what they are. Hockessin has not discussed it. Centre is just in the beginning of the budget year and we will receive updates from clerk when to discuss it. Newark will discuss it next year. From the perspective of the Support Committee, the hope is that each meeting will be intentional in discussing its allocations to Western Quarterly and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM).

14.48- Update Fundraising & Finance Summit- Saturday, October 4, 10 AM-3 PM. Hockessin will host the summit. Representatives from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will present the morning session and discussion. 10 AM- Workshop on Fundraising; 12 PM: Potluck; 1 PM Threshing Session. Primary query to consider: How we can support each other in fundraising and the management of our finances?

14.49- Laying Down of Youth Activities Committee, Appreciation for Youth Activities Committee, and laying down of Committee and Leadership Reevaluation Advisory Group (CLR). Friends approved laying down the WQ Youth Activities Committee, which has been inactive for some time. The Support Committee is united in lifting up the new First Day School Convergence Sprint Group. This group’s first program will be November 16, 2014 at 10 AM at West Grove Meeting. Approval of an action to express Appreciation for the Youth Activities Committee. Friends also approved laying down the Committee and Leadership Reevaluation Advisory Group (CLR).

14.50- Discussion of Intention and Frequency of QM Publication. Briefly discussed approved action to distribute newsletters online. However, discussion will continue at October’s meeting.

14.51- Friends are asked to review information about recent and future gatherings. Next meeting at the regularly scheduled Western Quarterly Meeting: Sunday, October 19, 2014 at Kennett Friends.

Respectfully Submitted,
tonya thames taylor
Recording Clerk