

The Minutes of the Support Committee of Western Quarterly Meeting held 7 December 2014 at Kennett Monthly Meeting

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

14.62- Reporting on the Life in our Meetings. After a period of unprogrammed worship, we began our business. In good spirits, we opened our meeting with updates from Monthly Meetings. *London Grove* reported that a Celtic Harp concert of Gillian Grassie associated with the 300 Anniversary Celebration held on Saturday, December 6th at 7:30 PM was a well-attended and well-received success. Old Kennett was open for the event. *Kennett-* Quaker Fare/Luncheon benefit for American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) held on Saturday, November 11th at 11 AM raised nearly \$2200 for AFSC; At KMM, AFSC will host a Global Shared Security program on January 11, 2015. *West Grove-* *Dining for Women* will have its inaugural meeting on January 11, 2015 at 5:30 PM. While the name has women in the title, it is meant for all to gather for a meal (a potluck covered dish and dessert) and watch a video of the current month's *Dining for Women* project. According to the flyer, "Everyone who attends is requested to offer a donation approximately equal to what they would have spent had they gone out to a restaurant for dinner." Monies will be sent to DFW headquarters to support its programming. *Centre* provided gift cards to needy families. Also, Centre hosted a "You Are PYM!: Conversation with General Secretary Christie Duncan-Tessmer" on November 7, 2014 at 7PM. The well-attended program included pictures, potatoes, and an interactive conversation about PYM. General Secretary Duncan-Tressmer charged the group to (1) visit two meetings in a calendar year and share the experience on PYM's website; (2) inquire how the truth is fairing with a Friend; and (3) share spiritual stories via the PYM website. The general atmosphere was one of anticipation and excitement of taking part of an inter-visitation from PYM.

General Conversation centered on Western Quarterly involvement in Family Promise, an interfaith Homelessness Alleviation initiative. Particulars involving commitment (seven nights, four times a year, and volunteers for those weeks) were shared. Initial assessment is that the Western Quarterly would not be involved, but would support Kennett MM's direct request for meetings within the Quarter to share space and solicit volunteers.

14.63- Friends approved the minutes of the Western Quarterly's Support Committee Meeting held on 19 October 2014 at Kennett Monthly Meeting.

14.64- Friends approved the Minute of Appreciation to Kennett Monthly Meeting. The minute read: *Western Quarterly Meeting would like to thank the members and attenders of Kennett Monthly Meeting for hosting Quarterly Meeting this past Tenth Month. Their hospitality was filled with warmth and Spirit, and generous with food and fellowship. The morning program was interesting and informative, and we thank Wright Horne for enlightening us on the history of Quakers and Eldercare. We are always grateful for opportunities to gather in Worship and fellowship, for though we endeavor to let our individual Lights shine, the whole is also greater than the sum of its parts.*

14.65- Monthly Meeting Financial Discussion

London Grove discussed proposed budget in December and January, so no conclusion on higher contribution to the Western Quarterly. *Fallowfield* will discuss Western Quarterly allocation at their next business meeting. *Kennett-* Proposed budget will be discussed on Sunday, December 13th, which includes conversation about contribution to PYM and WQM.

West Grove- No discussion as of yet. May discuss in January 2015. *New Garden-* Financial discussions centered on decreasing members' amounts and keeping its current allocation to Western Quarterly. *Hockessin-* No decision until January 2015. *Kendal-* Agreed to increase Western Quarterly Contribution by \$800; *Newark*—Decided not going to increase in 2015. *Centre-* \$300 increase for Western Quarterly in 2015; this amount will be approved in January 2015. *In spring 2015, Support Committee may have to discuss budget reductions to meet goals.*

14.66- **Property Task Force-** Staffing a committee to further look into property we manage and/or have a relationship with was the center of discussion. Potential Friends for the committee: Larry Jones and Kathy Kirk. Lars Farmer of Kennett agreed to serve on committee.

14.67- **Youth Activities Coordinator:** Clerk Pamela Leland shared that we have no applicants as of yet. After discussion, Friends **approved** to employ on an “as needed” relationship. Also, Friends agreed not to re-advertise the position.

14.69- Report & Updates and Future Gathering

- A. *January Quarterly Meeting-* Kendal MM on SATURDAY, January 17th. Theme: *Nurturing the Seeds of Peace in a Culture of Violence*. Register to provide accurate head count for lunch.
- B. *November First Day School Convergence* held on Saturday, November 16, 2014 at 10 AM at West Grove Meeting had over 25 children present. Wilmington Friends came and illustrated the interconnectedness among Quarters.
- C. *Faith and Play* was rescheduled to March 2015 at Centre. Each meeting with an active First Day School will be invited.
- D. *Youth-* We have opened the invitation for youth in Concord Quarter to join us. Our Coordinator Sarah Kastriner is working with the FDS teachers at Wilmington Friends.
- E. *Support Committee Implementation-* Friends decided that communications is a major priority. Discussion also included youth programming, meeting enrichment, and outreach. Friends discussed that perhaps convening groups to ascertain what should be priorities should take place.
- F. *Mailing Lists-* Friends are encouraged to ask Monthly Meetings to update their mailing lists to help the Western Quarterly update its mailing list.

14.70- **Other Items of Business:** Clerk Pam Leland announced that we are seeking interested Friends to serve as Clerk as she is transitioning soon.

Respectfully Submitted,
tonya thames taylor
Recording Clerk
December 7, 2014