

**The Minutes of the Business Meeting Session of Western Quarterly Meeting held on  
19 July 2015 at Mill Creek Friends Meeting**

Western Quarterly Business Meeting was held at Mill Creek Friends Meeting. Friends from Centre, Fallowfield, Hockessin, Kennett, Kendal, London Grove, Mill Creek, Newark, New Garden, and West Grove Meetings met to constitute the third session of Western Quarterly Meeting (WQM) in 2015 at 12:30 PM. We had a special guest from Birmingham Meeting (Concord Quarterly): Charlie Spadoni. Friends from London Grove, Fallowfield, and Centre read responses to the Sixth Query.

**15.43— Friends approved the minutes of the Western Quarterly Meeting (WQM)'s Support Committee Meeting held on 14 June 2015 at Kennett Monthly Meeting.** There was some discussion about covenants and annual funds.

**15.44—Friends approved Minutes of Appreciation for outgoing officers Pam Leland, Ariana Langford, and Shelley Hastings.**

**Pam Leland, Outgoing Clerk:** *We, the constituents of Monthly Meetings that together make Western Quarterly Meeting, express our appreciation to Pamela Leland for her extended years of service as the Co-Clerk, then Clerk of Western Quarterly Meeting. Her dedication to the continuation of Western Quarter over the past five years is notable as we faced multiple staff changes, a possible laying down of the quarter, and a lengthy self-examination process, which resulted in changes in our structure, and the establishment of the Western Quarter Support Committee. Pam has provided valuable leadership and insights along the way, as well as a patient and listening Spirit when needed. This has been a time of great transitions, and we are deeply grateful for this Friend's contributions.*

**Ariana Langford, Outgoing Treasurer:** *We extend our gratitude to Ariana Langford for her extended years of service as Treasurer for Western Quarterly Meeting. Ariana's presence as a trustworthy and dependable treasurer has been crucial to the stability of the Quarter. Over the years, she has provided critical institutional memory during several unexpected transitions, and a solid foundation for the future. Her support of the quarter continues as she steps into the more demanding role of Co-Clerk, and we express our appreciation of her gifts.*

**Shelley Hastings, Outgoing Clerk of Nominations:** We extend our appreciation to Shelley Hastings for her years of service on Western Quarterly Meeting's Nominating Committee. Shelley's kindness and approachability resonates with other Friends, and she has been able to bring much needed volunteers to fill positions within the Quarter over they years. We are grateful for her Spirit-led execution of an often thankless job. Shelley will continue to support the Quarter as Co-Clerk, and we look forward to her leadership.

**15.45— Annual Reports**

- a) Fallowfield Orthodox Burial Ground: All records are good and in order.
- b) Auditor: *Deferred to October Quarterly Meeting. A suggested recommendation is that the Auditor's report is permanently placed in the report given at the fourth quarterly because all of the records are incomplete before then.*
- c) Trustees of Friends Home— *Carried to next Quarterly Meeting.*

**15.46— Friends approved Response to Request from Marlborough Friends Meeting. The following is the Report and Minute from the Clearness Committee as presented to the Western Quarterly:**

**“Report to Western Quarter:** *The Clearness Committee appointed by Clerk of Western Quarter has met three times: May 31 to prepare queries for Marlborough, June 15 with Marlborough Friends to hear their responses to queries and discuss their desire to be released from their affiliation with Western Quarter and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and June 28 to follow up and prepare our report to Western Quarter. Committee members appointed were: Richard Bernard, Wright Horne, Mark Myers, Ariana Langford, and Katherine Gamble.*

**Minute for Western Quarterly to Consider:** *Having appointed a committee to meet with Marlborough Friends regarding their request to be released from membership affiliation with Western Quarter of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, we have found clearness for releasing Marlborough Monthly Meeting from membership affiliation in Western Quarter. Throughout our time together, it was evident that Friends of Marlborough Monthly Meeting have found a spiritual home in Rockingham Quarterly Meeting, Ohio Yearly Meeting Conservative. It is with love they hold Western Quarterly Meeting, and it is with joy they look to Rockingham as their new spiritual family. We believe we should stand ready to welcome the Marlborough Friends into our community in the future as the ways opens.”*

**15.47—Friends approved the Proposed Western Quarterly Budget for FY16:** Finance Committee Clerk Richard Logan (Hockessin) presented the FY16 budget. Richard provided and reviewed Western Quarterly Meeting’s FY2015 Profit Loss and Balance Sheets. The Quarter will not be in the deficit as previously thought. We will start to highlight payments to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) as a liability.

**15.48—Uniform Budgeting Process**

After discussion that too much time has been spent on discussing the Uniform Budgeting, Friends from various meetings reported the status of their meetings: Fallowfield (keep); Hockessin (keep); New Garden (annual fund to PYM; covenant to WQ); London Grove (PYM-separate to Quarterly); Mill Creek (keep); West Grove (no discussion); Centre (Under discussion); Kennett Square, New Garden, and Kendal (send covenant to WQ, but allows individual solicitations); all meetings will still send their covenant to WQ.

**15.49— Leadership Needs in the Western Quarterly Meeting—**The Western Quarterly Meeting still needs the following leadership positions: Clerk of Nominating Committee; Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer; Assistant Recording Clerk, and an Auditor.

**15.50— Working with PYM.** Friends approved Linda Pastor (Centre) to serve as the WQ Representative for the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s Nomination Committee.

**15.51— Consideration of two Minutes of Appreciation**

**(a) Friends approved Minute of Appreciation for West Grove Monthly Meeting for Hosting Quarterly Meeting on the Nineteenth Day, Fourth Month, 2015:** *West Grove Monthly Meeting for Hosting Quarterly Meeting on Nineteenth Day, Fourth Month, 2015: We extend our appreciation to West Grove Monthly Meeting for hosting Western Quarterly Meeting on the Fourth Month of the year 2015. The warmth and hospitality was felt by all who attended. Thank you for accommodating such a large group of children along with the adults, and for welcoming us all in Worship and in fellowship. We are grateful to Gail Newbold, member of Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT) for sharing her personal experiences in environmental activism, and her spiritual path to civil disobedience in the name of social justice. It was also agreed and approved that Gail Newbold would receive a separate Minute of Appreciation.*

(b) **Friends approved Minute of Appreciation for Mill Creek Monthly Meeting for Hosting Quarterly Meeting on the Nineteenth Day, Seventh Month, 2015.** *Sarah Kastriner read a draft of the minute and it was approved. She will send out the minute to Mill Creek and present language to Western Quarter in September 2015.*

**15.52—Coordinator Report & Updates on Recent and Future Gatherings**

- (a) August 23— Tubing on the Brandywine & Picnic (w/ Concord QM);
- (b) Several Western Quarterly Meeting's Property Survey still outstanding.
- (c) Next Meeting of Support Committee: September 2015 (Third Sunday).
- (d) Next Quarterly Meeting: Sunday, October at Centre Monthly Meeting

**15.53—** Our time was concluded with a time of brief worship, with the intention of gathering together again for business at our next Support Committee Meeting in September 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,  
tonya thames taylor, Recording Clerk  
Seventh Month 19th, 2015