

Minutes of the Business Meeting Session of Western Quarterly Meeting held on 15 January 2017 at London Grove Meeting, 1-3:07 PM

London Grove Monthly Meeting hosted the January Business Meeting of Western Quarterly Meeting (WQM), in attendance were 24 Friends from Centre, Hockessin, London Grove, Fallowfield, Kennett, Mill Creek, Newark, and New Garden Monthly Meetings.

After 10 minutes of silent worship, Friends from Newark, Mill Creek, and West Grove MMs shared their reflections of the January Meeting for Worship Query.

20.07—Friends approved the minutes of the WQM’s Meeting for Business held on 15 October 2016 at Kendal Monthly Meeting noting one CORRECTION: 19.97 add “i” to the word “vigil” and one REQUEST: 20.04 add actual Bylaws Review Committee Report to the formal October minutes.

20.08—Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Stan Glowiak provided a detailed account of the Income and Expenses, Budget v. Actual Report. After a slow First Quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17, covenant payments picked up in the Second Quarter and WQM is closer to where it ought to be with regard to both income and expenditures at the half way point of the fiscal year. Total payroll, office, and program expenses are at 48.1% of budget. Covenant income lags a bit behind at 46.7% because six Monthly Meetings (MM) have met half of their annual covenant amounts, one Monthly Meeting is one quarter behind, and three Monthly Meetings, as of Dec. 31, 2016, have not made any payment toward covenant. WQM is operating one month in arrears with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM), yet we are meeting our covenant obligations to PYM. We are running a small deficit for this fiscal year’s budget. Yet, we have a healthy reserve in our checking account because of last fiscal year’s budget surplus. Other reserves remain untouched. More transparency appeared in this financial quarterly report regarding Friends Fiduciary Corporation (FFC)’s funds and distributions. Treasurer Stan Glowiak shared that he appreciates the proficient work and solid advice of our new bookkeeper Christine Walsh. Anyone who wants more information should feel free to contact the treasurer.

Accepted Suggestions:

- (a) Moving forward, WQM will provide a standard tax deductible “Thank You” acknowledgement for donations made directly to WQM that lists donation, person/organization, and language compliant with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), for example: *“Thank you for your cash/check contribution of [amount] that [person’s/organization’s name] received on [date]. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.”*
- (b) Friends will have access to the Friends Fiduciary Corp. Report at WQM Business Meetings or upon request made to the WQM Coordinator. However, the Friends Fiduciary Corp. Report will not accompany the formal, distributed Treasurer’s Report.

20.09—Minute of Appreciation for the Life Among Us of Jane P. Rushmore

Susanna Davison, a Friend at London Grove Monthly Meeting (LGMM), provided a biographical sketch of Jane P. Rushmore. Next, LGMM Clerk Robert “Bob” Frye read the formal minute (also found in the WQM’s Winter 2016-17 Newsletter, p. 3) and stressed the desire to recognize formally Rushmore’s administrative organizing. Additionally, he explained that the Friends Center in Philadelphia has a conference room named after Friend Rufus Jones, who worked closely with Rushmore in modernizing the Religious Society of Friends. Chiefly, LGMM’s Minute

of Appreciation for Rushmore is seeking for the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) to name a space after her in one of its property holdings. Next, a Friend asked for silent worship to discern this Minute of Appreciation. After brief worship, Friends affirmed the Minute.

ACTION: WQM endorsed the Minute. The LGMM Clerk will forward the Minute to the Clerks of PYM and Quaker Life Council for consideration noting that WQM endorsed London Grove MM's Minute of Appreciation for the Life Among Us of Jane P. Rushmore.

20.10- Proposal for Recognizing needs for our Aging Quaker Communities, and Participation a Model of Support (like NYYM ARCH program).

WQM Coordinator Sarah Kastriner sought approval to pilot a local Working Group to assist elderly members find resources that might arise as they age. Attached is Proposed Minute Indicating Support and Agreement to Participate (also found in the WQM's Winter 2016-17 Newsletter, p. 6)

ACTION: Friends approved WQM Coordinator's request to establish a local Working Group to determine the feasibility of this program in WQM. She will consult with WQM's MM Clerks and report on this initiative at the WQM April meeting.

20.11— Letter for Concern- For Consideration authored by Friend Thomas Swain

ACTION: WQM will distribute Friend Thomas Swain's Letter to PYM regarding Annual Sessions and Quaker process to Monthly Meetings (MM). WQM will ask MMs to do as each MM sees fit in regards to the content of the letter. **OF NOTE:** One Friend, who opposed the measure, stepped aside and the sense of WQM was to distribute the letter.

20.12—PYM Request of WQM to Co-Sponsor a Retreat

PYM's new Children's Religious Life Coordinator Meg Rose & PYM's Zachary Dutton have been working to shift focus and want to find ways to begin, support, and/or enrich Monthly Meetings' FDS programs. Recently, PYM distributed a survey and had 40 responses returned. To follow through on input from the surveys and implement this initiative, PYM is hoping to have a retreat for interested teachers and supporters of First Day Schools. The retreat, led by Melinda Wenner Bradley & Beth Collea would focus on what the participants say they need and want. The retreat is open to all of PYM. PYM would like to collaborate and "pilot" their ongoing support program with WMQ and Concord Quarter. Therefore, PYM requests that WMQ and Concord Quarter co-sponsor a Religious Education (RE)/First Day Schools (FDS) Resources & Renew Retreat being held between May 5-7th. Chiefly, PYM is asking WMQ to ask one of its MMs to host the retreat (including overnights) and approve of WQM staff to dedicate some of their work hours to planning & promoting the retreat.

ACTION: WQM approved WQM staff to proceed with actions associated with the planning and implementing of this Religious ED/FDS Resources and Renew Retreat, May 5-7th.

20.13—Coordinating's Report

(a) April Quarterly Meeting: APRIL 23rd and at Westtown, 8:30 AM- 3 PM. For WQM's April Meeting, Westtown MM is the host. WQM will follow the schedule of Concord QM, which is to start with the Meeting for Business and segue into the planned events. Consequently, the tentative schedule for April is as follows:

8:30-10:15 AM—Meeting for Business
10:30-11:30 AM—Worship
11:45-12:45 PM—Lunch
1-3 PM—Program

Adult program will be PLAYBACK Theater! Older children (and Westtown students) are invited to join the Playback program as well. Children's program will begin in early morning with ropes course, followed by lunch, then canoeing (3rd – 12th). There is a separate program for young children. There are alternative plans, if it rains. Lunch: Main dish provided by Westtown MM, but potluck for sides, drinks, & desserts. There is a \$325 cost associated with coordinating with Concord QM.

(b) **Social Justice/Racism Workshop, possible Fall 2017 event.** Linda Lucero & Apryl Walker of The Delaware Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow are willing to facilitate a full or half-day workshop: *United to End Racism*. The workshop includes parts on privilege and oppression. that uses listening partnerships to ground participants between exercises. The associated costs range from \$300-500, depending on size and length. WQM Coordinator Sarah Kastriner sought approval to proceed with talking to the workshop organizers to discuss logistics, but not making any firm commitment(s).

ACTION: WQM approved for WQM Coordinator Sarah Kastriner to discuss the project with its coordinators in the upcoming weeks. She will have a report and recommendation(s) at the April Quarterly Meeting.

(c) **Save a Dates**

Feb 10th, 10 AM-Noon: PYM Middle School overnight at Kennett MM

Feb 11th (Time To Be Announced): WQM Youth Program.

March 25th, 8 AM-3 PM: PYM Continuing Sessions, Arch Street Meetinghouse, Philadelphia

April 23rd: Western Quarterly Meeting and Ropes course w/ Concord QM at Westtown

Adjourned Business Meeting Session of WQM at 2:55 PM.

**Annual Business Meeting of Western Quarterly Inc., held on
15 January 2017 at London Grove Meeting, 2:55-3:02 PM**

(A) Bylaws Review Committee Report—Bylaws should be put into a WORD document. Any suggestions for changes in the bylaws should be submitted before the next business meeting.

(B) Property Survey- A reminder to return property surveys will be sent to those MMs not in compliance.

(C) Property Committee Annual Reports

1. London Britain- Clerk Shelley Hastings read the attached report from Friend Mike McDowell, London Britain Property Committee.
2. Colora Property Update- WQM Coordinator Sarah Kastriner reported that West Grove Friend Mary Sproat shared that the residential building located on Colora Meeting's property had been demolished and no funds were needed from WQM.

Adjourned Meeting at 3:01.

Reopened Business Meeting Session of Western Quarterly Meeting

Meeting reconvened at 3:02.

20.14 Reminder:

Next WQM Support Committee Meeting: Sunday, March 19th at 3 PM at Kennett MM.

Meeting ended at 3:07 PM, after silent worship.

Peace and Progress and Faithfully submitted on January 16, 2017,
tonya thames taylor, WQM Recording Clerk, Fallowfield MM