

DRAFT Minutes of Western Quarterly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 13
September 2020 3:00-5:00 pm on Zoom

Ten Friends from Centre, Hockessin, Kennett, London Grove, New Garden, Newark, and Kendal Monthly Meetings (MMs) were in attendance.

We began with a period of worship.

Updates from Monthly Meetings – Hockessin: Charles Jennings is serving as fill-in clerk. Meeting for worship is held in-person and virtually. Friends online view the outside of the meetinghouse.

London Grove MM is worshipping with a mix of Zoom and in-person outside under the oak tree. Meeting for business is held online.

Kendal MM has added a social time of about half an hour to their online worship. ///Newark is meeting via Zoom and has a check-in time after worship. Many Friends have actively supported NAACP and Black Lives Matter and the Meeting has made a corporate gift to NAACP.

Centre meets in a hybrid manner at the Meetinghouse and via Zoom. A screen in the Meetinghouse displays who is worshipping online. Worshippers in the Meetinghouse often have difficulty hearing those worshipping online. The microphone also picks up the road noise. Suggestions from Friends on how to address the noise dilemmas are welcome.

Kennett is worshipping with a hybrid format. They also have a screen in the Meetinghouse to view worshippers online.

Treasurer's Report - Stan Glowiak

As of September 15 we will be two and a half months into WQM's 1st fiscal quarter for WQM's Fiscal Year 2021 which started July 1.

On July 1 there was \$30,524 in checking. Currently checking balance is \$28,248. Two deposits have been made for Covenant payments by Monthly Meetings (Kendal and Hockessin have been making regular quarterly payments for years). Thank you.

Other than payroll and regular office expenses this quarter two large expenses were a \$1,000 check to Friends Home in Kennett to help them pay for Covid-19 related expenses (which was discussed and agreed to at July's Quarterly Meeting, and \$3,360 to Guide One Insurance for our annual premium for our Commercial policy due September 5th. That was an increase of \$300 over last year's premium.

A reminder to all: WQM encourages all Monthly Meetings to try to help us by making quarterly combined Covenant payments for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and Western Quarterly Meeting. We recognize that is not always possible and will work with you as best you can. Please be in touch if needed.

The clerk noted that we received a very appreciative letter of thanks from Friends Home and that a Friend made a matching gift of \$500 so the total amount received by Friends Home was \$1,500.

Insurance Policy Update - Stan shared that as he reviewed the documents from Guide One concerning the annual policy renewal, he was surprised by some of the features of the commercial policy Western Quarter has held since about 2008. This led him to conduct some research on Guide One's website, and to conversations with our agent, the home office in Des Moines, Iowa, a local representative for Friends Insurance Group, and Linell McCurry at PYM. These researches resulted in the discovery that Western Quarter can join the Friends Insurance Group. Joining would give Western Quarter increased coverage and less expenditure. There is also the possibility of an annual rebate with FIG. We would pay through our local agent to Guide One, and request to join FIG, our request is forwarded to PYM for approval to join FIG.

Friends approved making the switch to a policy through Friends Insurance Group.

Sexual Misconduct Policy - such a policy is recommended by our insurance carrier. In future years, there may be additional fees assessed if we do not have a policy. There are templates we can use to craft a policy. Friends agreed we should work on such a policy.

We viewed the Western Quarterly Meeting Child/Youth Protection Policy. This policy appears to meet the needs delineated in documents from our Guide One contact. We approved the Child/Youth Protection dated 12.09.2008 and revised 2.14.2009 and will share it with WQ Friends at upcoming meetings. A hard copy is available in a binder in the office.

Outreach - Planning next discussions and steps for the Quarter.

Friends agreed that as the role of the Quarter is to support the work of Monthly Meetings information about current outreach and community engagement work by Meetings is needed to discern how the Quarter moves forward on this matter. The clerk will write a letter asking for this information to be gathered and shared at the Tenth Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of Western Quarter.

Coordinator Report- Plans for October's gathering. It is unlikely that Covid-19 related guidelines will allow gatherings of more than 25. Of the next two Meetings on the host cycle,

Fallowfield and West Grove, one is meeting via phone, and one is currently meeting outdoors. Friends felt it was important to gather for worship together. Sarah Kastriner shared that Kennett has held hybrid worship for several weeks and will ask Kennett Meeting if they would host worship for the Quarter at the Tenth Month Meeting. A meeting for worship with attention to business will be held via Zoom at 2:00pm on 18 October.

Monthly Meeting clerks may have received a recent e-mail from PYM regarding three minutes. The Yearly Meeting clerks would like responses from Meetings by the end of October to help shape the agenda for the 7 November Continuing Sessions. The three minutes concern membership, climate action, and racial injustice.

Friends gathered agreed that the time frame to discuss these is short. London Grove MM does have discussions scheduled, and that perhaps invitations to London Grove's online discussions could be shared to allow Friends across the Quarter to provide some feedback for Yearly Meeting. The coordinator will follow up with London Grove and Friends in the Quarter.

The Coordinator also shared electronically Hockessin Monthly Meeting's State of the Meeting Report. Newark Monthly Meeting's report had been shared earlier with Friends, so it seemed in good order to share Hockessin's.

Respectfully submitted, Deb Wood, coordinator Western Quarterly Meeting