

Kennett Square, PA 19348
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Kennett Friends Meetinghouse
125 W. Sickle Street
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Western Quarterly Meeting Support Committee Draft Agenda
19 March, 2023 1pm
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92668234836>

Present: Margaret Walton, Kim Brosnan-Myers, Susanna Davison (LG), tonya thames taylor (F), Stan Glowiak (C), Shelley Hastongs (N), Teresa Engeman, Judy Hinds (KDL), Pownall Jones, KAren Halstead, Nancy Pratt (NG), Mary Sproat (WG), Dave Nuttall, and Deb Wood, coordinator

Our clerk opened the meeting with a period of worship.

From January Agenda:

- AntiRacism Collaborative - Update from Susanna Davison

The collaborative changed its name to the Addressing Racism Collaborative and its goal remains the same, working to end racism. They focus on learning how and practicing anti-racism along the lines of Ibram Kendi's work. They have done two trainings with Eppchez Yes, and will have a thread gathering on April 29. The theme for the thread is noticing racism and microaggressions.

Updates from MMs

Kendal - they have arranged in-person gatherings to participate in Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas meetings. Friends are invited to join. The coordinator will email the schedule to clerks to forward to members.

Newark - on Easter Sunday there will be 8:30 worship at London Britain, and regular time worship in Newark. Newark Meeting plans joint activities with Mill Creek Meeting as nearby small meetings.

London Grove - The attendance for the presentation and book signing for *Freedom Road* was excellent. There were plenty of children and chicks in meeting for worship this morning. There are plans for a 25th anniversary event on April 29 for Kennett Underground Railroad to be at London Grove.

Fallowfield - They had a wonderful memorial for Chet Ramsay, the Fallowfield member who inspired the work of the quarter's aging concerns committee. Fallowfield also has care for People's Hall. They have made roof repairs to People's Hall and met with local officials about the building. There will be a folk and spoken word concert fundraiser on June 23 for People's Hall.

West Grove - On April 12 there will be a history presentation by Dave Porter on the MASON DIXON line.

Share Query responses for January's meeting for business

MARGARET HAD ONE FROM LONDON GROVE - LGFriends Kindergarten

FCNL Discernment Request

FCNL mailed packets in the post and electronically requesting meetings and individuals share their discernment on abortion. There has not been unity among Friends on this topic. FCNL will have a virtual session on Wednesday the 22nd for individuals and meetings seeking guidance on discernment sessions.

Kendal Meeting shared that they will have a discussion or discernment on the request from FCNL to see if there is unity among Friends on abortion to shape their priorities and work.

London Grove is sending out a survey to its members.

Fallowfield requested the materials from FCNL be emailed again.

We were reminded that the Braver Angels training several of us participated in at a quarterly meeting provided key skills for discussion and discernment: reflective listening and restating.

Coordinator's Report: - Deb

Western Quarter will gather next at Mill Creek Meeting on 16 April.

Breakfast, Tai Qi, and worship will be at Mill Creek. Meeting of r worship with attention to business will be held via Zoom at 1:00.

We approved moving forward with a joint quarterly meeting gathering in July with Concord Quarter. It is typically on the third Sunday. The Western Quarter host is London Grove. Deb will start discussions with London Grove and Concord Quarter.

Technology/Outreach

We have \$1200 in grants to use towards technology or outreach.

Technology expenses would be for equipment to support projection of online programs at meetinghouses for quarterly or monthly meeting programs. Friends had also requested information about cost of a brochure about meetings in the area to replace an outdated one at Brandywine Visitor's Center and other locations.

Friends approved purchasing a projector, laptop, and perhaps microphone or screen.

If there are monies leftover, we can explore production of a brochure.

We need to be sure to provide training in using the equipment we purchase and make available to Friends.

Minutes of appreciation:

Western Quarterly Meeting minutes its appreciation to Kennett Friends Meeting for hosting Western Quarterly Meeting on the 16th of tenth month, 2022. Kennett Friends provided nourishing worship and fellowship. We met 19th century Friend Sarah Mapps Douglas in an intergenerational program presented by Barabara Clarke, and enjoyed a delicious supply of desserts to accompany our lunches.

Western Quarterly Meeting minutes its appreciation to Centre Friends Meeting for hosting Western Quarter Friends on 15th of first month, 2023. Centre Friends welcomed the Quarter for fellowship in the schoolhouse and the program on Focusing on Family Awareness and Support featuring worship sharing using queries Centre Friends adapted from Crosslands Friends, a video from tonya thames taylor of Fallowfield Meeting, and an overview of yearly meeting programs by Sheila Sorkin, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Aging Support coordinator. All enjoyed a soul warming worship in the woodstove-warmed meetinghouse. More fellowship closed our day with homemade chilis the main attraction. Tom Shipman's technology support for the day's hybrid programs kept all connected and running smoothly.

Friends approved the minutes of appreciation for Kennett and Centre.

Outing to Harriet Tubman museum in Maryland

Kennett Meeting organized a trip to the Harriet Tubman museum in Maryland those able to participate said it was fantastic, and recommend the quarter explore planning such a trip perhaps together with Kennett Underground Railroad.

It would be best done by charter bus so we could have a guided tour around locations on the eastern shore. Additional costs would be for museum and guide fees. Friends could pack their own lunch.

Friends present responded enthusiastically to the idea, and suggested that if we had enough details by the April 29 Kennett Underground Railroad event at London Grove Meetinghouse, it would be a great opportunity to let Friends know and start sign-ups. Deb will connect with Kennett Underground Railroad.

Concord Quarter's Climate Action Working Group and the Ecojustice Collaborative are sponsoring a series titled *Greening Sacred Spaces*. They are planning a tour to Friends sites where landscaping and building work support native biodiversity. Friends suggested Kendal and William's Woods at London Grove as two most likely locations. The first in the series was quite good. Several encouraged Friends to join the second part on April 5, see the calendar at pym.org.

Historic Property Working Group Update - Deb

The committee has focused recently on preparing a survey of the burial grounds in Western Quarter. There are 18 under the care of the quarter and its meetings. Fallowfield is the first to return its completed survey!

We have also talked about green burials and may do a session in April. Deb will contact a Friend at Lancaster MM, David Miller, to see if he can partner with Lars Farmer of Kennett MM to share wisdom and answer our questions.

Nominating Committee wants to remind Friends that we seek a treasurer, and an assistant clerk, and will need a clerk in just over a year's time.

Upcoming dates:

March 22 6:30pm - Wednesday - As Friends begin holding these critical and challenging conversations, FCNL is hosting an event with members of the Policy Committee to offer perspectives and advice on how to engage your Quaker community in this undertaking.

[Please register to join our conversation on Wednesday, March 22, at 6:30 p.m. EDT.](#)

16 April - Western Quarterly Meeting at Mill Creek - fellowship, Tai Chi, worship; meeting for business over Zoom will include Property Committee Annual Reports / Annual Meeting of Western Quarterly Meeting, Inc