



The Support Committee of Western Quarterly Meeting was held via Zoom on **Sixth mo. 11, 2023** with Clerk Margaret Walton presiding. Present were Bob Frye, (London Grove), Stan Glowiak (Centre), Richard Logan (Hockessin), Judy Hinds (Kendal), Ariana Langford (Newark), Karen Halstead and Nancy Pratt (New Garden), and Mary Sproat (West Grove). Regrets were received from Shelley Hastings of Newark and David Nuttall.

The Meeting opened with a period of Worship.

Updates from Meetings: West Grove - New West Grove meetinghouse was scheduled to be open this afternoon for an Open House but termites were discovered so Friends chose not to enter. Kendal- Next Saturday Kendal will be on the Ecological Landscape Tour of Concord Quarter in cooperation with the Natural Areas Conservancy. At Kennett Meeting, Dr. Cheryl Gooch will give a lecture as part of Kennett Square's Juneteenth celebration. The discussion group will be discussing Lancaster Monthly Meeting's minute on Christian Nationalism.

Karen - New Garden is still there!

Bob - Children's Day was celebrated at London Grove today as they now have 8-12 children each week. The climate group is assessing solar panels for the Meetinghouse. They are considering Lancaster Monthly Meeting's minute on Christian Nationalism & women's reproductive health.

Bob also noted that the Pennsgrove Meetinghouse exterior was painted and floor work was done inside. Hockessin - Dick Logan noted that Friends enjoyed a picnic today. The disposition of the house next door by turning it into an inexpensive short-term rental has been taking Meeting's attention; a representative from PhYM has aided the discussion. It is a quiet Meeting, causing some to leave.

Stan - Much time has been spent updating the Meeting handbook. There will be another concert in the graveyard in August. Descendants of a founding family visited today from the Midwest and were greeted warmly.

Ariana - Newark is now meeting at London Britain at 10:30AM. Frances Beer's ashes were interred with a memorial service. The 8/13 Art Show will include a celebration for Ruth Thompson, who attended London Grove today after celebrating her 104th birthday earlier this month.

"Liberty and Freedom at People's Hall" on 6/23 from 6-8PM will feature music, poetry, and historical re-enactors to illustrate its history.

Bookkeeper Update: Ariana reported that the former bookkeeper ended their service to non-profits. The only proposal that the Quarter received was for more than double the current payment. As a result, Deb and new Treasurer Karen Conlan will work together on bookkeeping. Karen is pleased with this proposal.

Budget - Bob reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024. Most Meetings will send the same covenant as this year. Friends Fiduciary Corp. expects a small increase for next year. Staff budget increased to \$33,577, with a 6% increase to Deb because she helps with bookkeeping. Bookkeeping has therefore been removed from the budget. The deficit is estimated to be only \$2800. Members of Support Committee approved the budget, so the budget will be presented to the Quarterly Meeting business meeting next month. Thanks were expressed to Bob for his work.

P.O. Box 693
Kennett Square, PA 19348
www.westernquarterquakers.org

Kennett Friends Meetinghouse
125 W. Sickle Street
610-444-1012

Nominating Committee - Karen Conlan of London Grove Meeting has agreed to become Western Quarter Treasurer. Also, Mary Sproat of West Grove agreed to record Support Committee meetings. Deb will continue to record Quarterly Meeting sessions but the Committee is still trying to find relief for Deb.

WQ Support Committee 6/2023

Joint Quarter - Deb announced the schedule for the joint Quarterly Meeting with Concord Quarter 7/16 at London Grove. She is still working on final details, including tech problems. London Grove will provide lunch. She asked whether business should be that day or later, since it is a long day. Concord Quarter will not do their business the same day. The Committee decided to have business after lunch with a Zoom link.

Historic Properties - The Committee is now working on burial grounds - most have responded to the survey. As several are not sure about location of deeds, Dave Nuttall will work with Friends Historical Library to determine their location. The Committee is scheduled to meet next First Day. Several attended the program on life cycle of meetings. Should there be discussion on meetings of concern?

Support Committee time and frequency? - The same Friends attend Support Committee and Western Quarter business meeting. Therefore, has this committee served its time? Dick pointed out that the history of this committee was reviewed, showing that it started because the work of the Quarter was not getting done. Perhaps this committee work needs to be streamlined to make time more valuable for those who participate. For a while, each meeting sent representatives. But partly because of a lack of streamlining we have lost participants. Please continue to consider this.

The Western Quarter committees are not working as they have in the past. Are we mission driven rather than business driven?

Harriet Tubman field trip - Deb suggested the dates of 9/30 or 10/28. A registration sheet will be at Quarter to determine the feasibility before reserving a bus, which will cost \$1400-1800 for the 9/30 date.

Friends Home Capital Campaign - The Western Quarter Friends Home (Friends Home in Kennett) has initiated a capital campaign for the building of an elevator tower because of the small size of the current elevator. They expect to break ground before all of the money is raised. Bob proposed donating \$1000 toward the campaign, and urging monthly meetings to give as well. Ariana proposed \$2000. Hockessin has already agreed to make donations over a period of 3 years. Quarter may do the same, as a budget item for future years. Monthly meetings will be notified and it will be brought up at Quarter.

Meeting closed with appreciation for the work of Friends and a period of worship.

Margaret I. Walton, Clerk
Mary M. Sproat, Recording Clerk