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Kennett Friends Meetinghouse
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**Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
The Minutes of the Meeting on Thirteenth Day, Eleventh Month, 2013**

Business Meeting was held at Kennett Friends Meeting in a spirit of worship and fellowship. Friends from Hockessin, London Grove, Newark, and West Grove Meetings were in attendance. Pamela Leland, of London Grove Meeting and Clerk of Western Quarterly Meeting, presided. Zachary T. Dutton, of Wilmington Friends Meeting and Coordinator for Western Quarterly Meeting, recorded.

*An asterisk * indicates the need for follow-up.*

13-21 Friends from West Grove shared their joy that they usually have twenty to twenty-five worshipers each First Day, a new member, and increasing vitality. Kennett Meeting is preparing a Quaker Fair on November 23, and on December 15 Hockessin will have a Carol sing. West Grove will have a carol sing on December 16, and this weekend on Saturday and Sunday, London Grove Kindergarten is having a book sale—over a thousand books. Kennett Meeting has invited the Boy Scouts to be housed at Kennett, and a member of Kennett Meeting will come to worship on Sunday to speak to the issue of how to rebuild community after conflict. Outgoing Philadelphia Yearly Meeting General Secretary, Arthur Larrabee, will give a talk at London Grove as part of his farewell tour on the future of Quakerism on November 25.

13-22 Friends reviewed the minutes of the Western Quarterly Meeting Business Meeting held on Third Day, Ninth Month, 2013, and after offering corrections, we approved them.

*13-23 Friends received an informal report from our Coordinator on concerns related to record keeping in lieu of a formal report from our Records Committee. A specific concern about the Quaker books in our office emerged after our Coordinator suggested that the Quarterly Meeting involve the volunteer librarians of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in cataloguing them. **John Beer, of Newark Meeting, will meet with our Coordinator to help him re-organize our archival records and Peggy Jones of London Grove and Pat Horrocks of London Grove will help with compiling a list of our books before moving forward. Friends will report back on these efforts in early spring.**

13-24* Pat Horrocks of London Grove presented the report from our Friends Support Committee. **We accepted this report.** A question was raised about the accuracy of the numbers presented in the report, and we deferred to the Auditors report slated to occur later in this meeting (minute 13-26). We then spent time discussing the investments, the dividends, and the yield of our William Jackson Education Fund. Friends resonated with the need to find ways to increase our fiscal support for Friends Education. **We asked our**

Finance Committee to investigate the different regulations and laws surrounding our William Jackson Education Fund. This is the first step in a discernment process, and we hope it leads to further seasoning by our Friends Support Committee.

13-25 Mary Sproat of West Grove Meeting presented a report from the Parkersville Property Committee. **We accepted this report.**

13-26* Richard Wortman of London Grove Meeting presented the Auditors report. **We accepted this report.** The Auditors report also brought several recommendations for consideration based on a concern for the proper reporting of transactions and the proper maintenance of our ledgers. Our Clerk noted that we have lacked a consistent process by which to manage our finances due to turn over and a diminishing source of volunteers. We now confront a larger structural deficiency. **We tested the question of hiring someone to perform accounting duties. Friends agreed to investigate hiring a firm or a person to perform such duties. Our Clerk will seek estimates for the cost. We also approved the recommendations from our Auditors in full. The recommendations were, in summary: to keep records in the Western Quarterly Meeting office, to maintain records by year and to file them in a systematic manner, to back up all computer files in full on a regular basis, and to secure financial records held on the office computer while limiting access with password protection to our Bookkeeper and Treasurer.**

13-27 Margaret Walton of London Grove Meeting reported that Quarterly Meeting will be held on First Day, 19 First Month at London Grove Meeting. It will begin at 9:30am, rather than the regular practice of beginning at 9:00am. We released London Grove Meeting to complete their discernment process with trust.

13-28 We approved the minute of appreciation to Hockessin Meeting for hosting Quarterly Meeting sessions on 20 Tenth Month 2013.

13-29 Richard Bernard of Hockessin Meeting presented a report from the Committee and Leadership Reevaluation Advisory Group. Friends raised two questions: 1) How would consolidating our committees into one committee positively impact our challenges; wouldn't we just have the same problems with differently arranged deck chairs, 2) Don't we just need to keep encouraging Monthly Meetings to send representatives to Quarterly Meeting Business Meeting? Friends agreed we need to involve young people in our work. We continued with a lively discussion about our challenges, our past structures, and this took us to the end of our time.

We then adjourned after a brief moment of un-programmed worship.

Respectfully Submitted,
Zachary T. Dutton, Coordinator
Western Quarterly Meeting