

## **Minutes**

### Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business Eighth Month 13, 2006

#### **Opening**

The meeting was opened with a period of silent worship with 30 Friends present. Our clerk, Ann Marie Moriarty, read the queries of Baltimore Yearly Meeting for the eighth month, which are focused on the topic of outreach. They are:

*Do you, as way opens, share Friends' principles with non-Friends? Do you witness to your Quaker faith by letting your life speak? Do you make non-Friends welcome in your meetings for worship? Do you find ways to encourage their continued attendance?*

#### **Finance Committee Report - Phil Martens**

Phil reported that a small improvement was made in giving in the last month, but that there will still be a significant shortfall if giving does not improve.

#### **Transfer of Membership and request for letter of introduction**

Pam Tyng has requested that her membership be transferred to Williamsburg Friends Meeting\* In her letter, Pam expressed the many ways she feels linked to our meeting after attending for 32 years and raising her two daughters here, serving as clerk and helping the meeting in many ways. **Pam Tyng's request for transfer of membership to Williamsburg Friends Meeting was approved with gratitude for Pam's years of involvement with our meeting.** This transfer will be referred to our corresponding clerk.

It was noted that our meeting will send a minute of introduction to Boulder Friends Meeting on behalf of Carly Fox who recently moved to that area and plans to attend that meeting.

#### **Ad Hoc Long Range Planning Committee - Cheryl Morden**

Cheryl gave a brief report on the work so far of this committee. A copy of the report is attached. The committee plans to spend time between September's anniversary celebration and Easter of 2007 to go through whole long range planning process. The committee wants to find a way to work on this with everyone in the meeting even though people are busy.

#### **Work Opportunities - from Clerk's Mail - Ann Marie Moriarty**

Camp Catocin Caretaker position is open. More information about this position is available by email - Ann Marie can send this to you,

#### **Reports from Yearly Meeting**

Friends briefly reported on some of their experiences attending the annual sessions of Baltimore Yearly Meeting earlier in August.

**Memorial Garden Sub-Comm. and Finance Comm. - Martha Gay, Phil Martens** A budget for preparing a garden, making plantings, and providing benches was brought forward. The committee hopes to get the basic garden established so that the work accomplished on a normal work day will be enough to maintain it.

The Finance Committee suggested that funds from Reserve for Replacement be used for repairing or replacing the shed on the property now used to store gardening and yard tools. It

was also suggested that the bequest of funds from Alice Konig be used for this initial phase of the memorial garden. It was noted that covering expenses for the memorial garden would be in keeping with the family's intentions for use of these funds. The Finance Committee will work in conjunction with the memorial garden subcommittee for plans for the next phase of the development of the garden. No amendment to the budget is needed at this time.

**It was approved that the \$9,875 allocated for the memorial garden be activated now to cover the expenses of phase one of the plan for the memorial garden.**

A Friend asked that all parts of the garden be sustainable.

#### **Anniversary Committee and Finance Committee - Michael Newheart**

A request of \$4,500 was made to cover the expenses of our anniversary weekend celebration. It is thought that \$1,500 of this total will be recouped from donations given for the dinner on Friday evening. **It was decided that \$3,000 of our current surplus from previous years be allocated to cover the expenses of the anniversary weekend.** The plans for the weekend are to begin with a shared meal Friday evening\* Those attending will be asked to pay for the meal. After the meal there will be a slide show and a time of storytelling. On Saturday, the Ad Hoc Long-Range Planning Committee will lead a retreat, followed by the dedication of the memorial garden and then a picnic dinner with food that the meeting provides. On Sunday we will have meeting for worship followed by refreshments and the taking of a meeting picture.

#### **Tutoring Program at Mother Jones Elementary School - Margaret Cahalan**

The meeting endorsed the program that Margaret presented, which brought together the tutoring program with an environmental program. The meeting would not be asked to directly support this program financially, but will be invited to participate in four clean up day that will take place through the year. **It was approved that Adelphi Friends Meeting support Adelphi Quaker Earth Care Witness (QEW), partnering with Chesapeake Education, Art & Research Society (CHEARS), and Mother Jones (James) Tutoring/Earth Squad's application to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) Adopt a Trail Program to adopt the portion of the Northwest Branch Anacostia Tributary Trail System.**

#### **Other Business and Closing**

Stephanie Warner offered an appreciation of our meeting for being a place that has welcomed same sex couples through the last two decades and has married^samelsex puple/. Stephanie especially appreciated the fact that her daughter could grow up in the meeting in an atmosphere of acceptance of same sex couples.

After a brief period of silent worship, the meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Seitel  
Recording Clerk

## ADELPHI FRIENDS MEETING LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROCESS

Initial discussions about the need for a long-range planning process for Adelphi Friends Meeting have been carried out by an ad-hoc group convened by Trustees, with representation from most of the Meeting's committees.

There is a sense of the ad-hoc group that AFM is currently a strong community. At the same time, however, there is a need for a shared vision and direction that will strengthen our witness, deepen our community life, and develop further our capacity to support the spiritual life and growth of members and attenders.

The impetus for a long-range planning stems from a variety of factors:

- The AFM community has changed over time and we need to understand and build on those changes. Such reflection could help to deepen our sense of community and provide clearness about how changes in the community may require changes in how we operate (for example, people seem to have less time to volunteer).
- There is a need to reflect on our collective decision making, to strengthen our institutional memory, and standardize some of our operations and committee work.
- We have accumulated some modest financial surpluses, which suggests a greater capacity to mobilize financial resources.
- Our decision making processes, however, have not kept pace with our potential financial capacity to consider more big ticket, multi-year expenditures (e.g. Memorial Garden, air conditioning, improved energy efficiencies for Meeting facilities).
- There are recurring questions about the use of our grounds and physical space, which can be incorporated into the long-range planning.
- Finally, significant change and growth at Friends Community School's also provides cause for reflection about Meeting's relationship with PCS.

Based on the above, the ad-hoc committee envisions a long-range planning process that will enable us to reflect on our *identity* as a community, asking "Who are we and who do we want to be?" The process will also allow us to reflect on *ova purpose*, asking, "What would God have us do?" We hope to design a planning process that will allow us to focus on three levels: how AFM supports individual faith and practice, how we function as a faith community, and the nature of our corporate witness in the wider world. We will aim for a very inclusive process, one that reaches out to newcomers.

We propose an eight-month planning process to formulate a three- to -five year plan for the Meeting.