

Adelphi Friends Meeting
DRAFT Minutes Meeting for Business
11th Month, 2006

The 25 people present settled into worship, and considered Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Query on Education:

Do you provide religious education, including study of the Bible and of Friends' history and practices, in your Meeting? Do you ensure that schools under the care of Friends exemplify Friends' principles? Do you support and strive to improve the public schools?

The minutes of the previous month's Meeting for Business were read, and approved as corrected.

From the Clerk's mail:

We received a letter asking that we confirm our reservation for the Meeting's next camping weekend at Catoctin. This was referred to Robb Oerter.

A copy of Friends Community School's 5-Year Strategic Plan was referred to Cheryl Morden, who is clerking our ad hoc Long Range Planning committee.

Finance Committee Giving Report: Phil Martens

Giving continues to fall behind the level needed to meet our budget. Based on prior years, however, there is some hope. We hope for increased giving in both November (the month in which our fiscal year ends) and December (to launch the new fiscal year). The Finance committee is happy with predictability, although the amounts are not yet "up to snuff."

Nominating Committee: Wendy Eck

First Readings --

Martha Gay, Finance	07-09
John Wolfrum, Safe Haven Coordinator	06 - ?
April Downs, Religious Education	07-09
Ray Lane, Peace & Social Concerns	07-09
Stephen Schwenke, Peace & Social Concerns	07-09
Suzanne Costillo, Hospitality	07-09
Phillip Payette, Hospitality	07-09
Amy Greene, Outreach & Fellowship	07-09
Wendy Eck, Outreach & Fellowship	07-09
Carole Hoage, Outreach & Fellowship	04-09
Alaine Duncan, Adult Religious Education	07-09
Rob Duncan, Adult Religious Educations	07-09
Peter Curtis, Ministry & Worship (beginning in spring)	07-09
Carol Beigel, House & Grounds	07-09
Chris Hough, William Penn House Board	07-09
Alexander Barnes, FCNL contact	99-09
Steve Woods, Adult Religious Education	04-09
Carol Ann "Pud" Baker, Recording Clerk	
Beth Anderson, Coord., Silent Announcements	

The clerk reported that she had communicated with Susan Koenig as to the use of the bequest to Meeting by her mother, Alice Sharpless Koenig, to complete the first phase of the Memorial Garden. The clerk also requested that Susan send us copies of any memorial minutes written for her parents, and any obituaries, that the information might be included in the Memorial Garden's Book.

The clerk read a letter from Matty Lau requesting membership. This was referred to Pastoral Care committee (Robb Oerter).

Vignette Project: Deborah James

"Listening for the Seasons of our Lives," is the theme of the BYM Women's Retreat this winter - a theme that reflects the four volumes of Deborah's collection of personal vignettes. Deborah spoke of a leading to develop workshops to encourage the writing of their own vignettes, that would have people going out to other meetings, and inviting people to come to Adelphi's workshops every month after pot luck.

BYM minutes on Torture, and on the situation in the Sudan (approved at Interim Meeting) were read and referred to Peace & Social Concerns committee. These should be circulated. They appear on the BYM Web site.

Minute on Torture

Approved at Interim Meeting

Tenth Month 21, 2006

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) deeply believes in the dignity and value of every human life. This flows from our belief that there is "That of God" in every person, which is a fundamental reason for our opposition to war.

We also believe that torture is absolutely wrong. It is wrong to torture anyone, for any reason. Further, all people should be treated with dignity and respect. We are, therefore especially troubled by recent legislation passed by the U.S. Congress that legitimizes and condones forms of torture used by agents of the government. We stand firmly opposed to torture, and ask all government leaders, especially those of our country, to stop using torture in any way, for any purpose. We utterly reject its use. We call upon all people of faith to join us in opposition to torture, and we renew our call of August, 2005, to support the Quaker Initiative to end Torture, which will be held next June, 2007, at Guilford College.

Minute on Darfur

Approved at Interim Meeting

Tenth Month 21, 2006

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) unites with the statement of the Friends Committee on National Legislation on Darfur (Ending Genocide in Darfur, Promoting Peace in Sudan-FCNL recommendations for U.S. Policy, January, 2006), particularly with its recommendations on ways to stop the violence taking place. We encourage all monthly meetings in BYM to contact their members of Congress, asking them to support the FCNL proposals. Peace and Social Concerns committee is invited to recommend any additional action on the part of Adelphi Meeting.

Pastoral Care: Robb Oerter

Joy Conley-Cooke, Martha Woods and Steve Woods met with **Konrad Ege regarding his request for membership. The clearness committee had a good and fruitful meeting with him, and recommend that we approve his membership request. This was approved, with enthusiasm.**

Nominating Committee: Wendy Eck

Second readings -

Arthur David Olson, Assistant Treasurer	02-07
Karen Cunningham, Treasurer	04-07
Joy Newheart, School Board	05-08
Mary Robinson, School Board	05-07
Chase Clement, Trustees	04-09

These names were approved.

It was noted that all officers' appointments are for one year. Meeting approved that Melanie Gifford is authorized to continue as assistant treasurer until such time as the nomination for assistant treasurer is approved.

BYM Young Friends

Meeting received a request from Sean Wilner, clerk of BYM Young Friends, that they be permitted to use the Adelphi facility for a Young Friends conference on the weekend of December 1-3. This was approved. An Adelphi coordinator will be named, but needn't stay overnight at the Meeting, since it is a BYM activity and there will be Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) with the Young Friends.

Takoma Park Preparative: Arthur David Olson

In its 2007 Budget, Takoma Park Preparative Meeting predicts a modest surplus this coming year. While the Meeting's rent is increasing, they also project a modest increase in donations, and plan to make up any difference by eliminating their telephone service. They report that their bank no longer is sending them the actual canceled checks, but provides images of the checks, which are sufficient for auditing purposes. Adelphi was assured that if Takoma Park Preparative were to be laid down, there would be sufficient reserves to pay that Meeting's obligations, including apportionment for its 20 or so households. The Meeting approved Takoma Park's 2007 budget. A copy will be attached for our records.

Finance Committee: Phil Martens

Phil presented the second reading of Adelphi's 2007 budget. This was approved as corrected. A copy of that budget document will be attached for our records.

Finance Committee: Cheryl Morden

Cheryl presented a first reading of the 2006 Adelphi Contributions to Quaker organizations. Finance Committee will try to divest itself of this responsibility next year, upon ascertaining which committee is most appropriate to do the task. This year, Finance committee reviewed the Quaker organizations that it was asked to consider, coming up with a list of 12 which they felt should receive funding. They recommend equal amounts of \$1,000 each.

The committee also reviewed the history of Adelphi's contributions to FGC and FUM. It was noted that Ramallah Friends School is heavily dependent on foreign teachers, and that the policies of the occupation by Israel is making it very difficult to attract and keep such staff. Peace and Social Concerns committee may wish to take this matter up.

Memorial Garden Subcommittee: Jamesen Goodman

A proposed charge for the subcommittee and a proposal for the division of labor and responsibility was presented. This was a report, not an action item. The proposal will be circulated to other committees: House and Grounds, Pastoral Care, Ministry and Worship, Finance, Nominating, and possibly others, with a request for feedback. The committee is continuing its work, the next phase of which will likely include a plan for building a retaining wall at the back of the garden, finishing the shed, and more.

A friend pointed out that before the Garden receives its first ashes, we would need to authorize the Treasurer to establish a fund to accept the fees that will be charged. Friends then expressed appreciation for the Memorial Garden Committee's patience and persistence in doing this work on behalf of the Meeting.

Communications Subcommittee: Reuben Snipper

Ministry & Worship and several other committees have heard and dealt with problems concerning communications issues. Ministry & Worship would like to establish a communications subcommittee. The members would be Reuben, the recorder (Carol Beigel), the newsletter editor (Ann Marlowe), the coordinator of Silent Announcements (Beth Anderson), and the Recording Clerk.

One of the concerns is that Meeting Minutes be made more readily available. Adding this subcommittee will necessitate revision of the charge for the Ministry & Worship committee. Meeting should consider whether the communications task is appropriate for Ministry & Worship to take on, or if it is more appropriate to another committee's charge.

Action Items were read back and approved. Meeting closed with a period of open worship.