

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
1/12/97

The Clerk, Ted Robinson, being ill, and no Assistant Clerk having been appointed, the Recording Clerk, Elaine Duncan, presided. The Assistant Recording Clerk, Martha L. Gay, recorded the minutes. The meeting began at 11:05 AM, with 32 Friends and attenders present.

97-1 The acting clerk read the query on “Meetings for Worship” from the *Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*,

Are meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for Divine guidance? Are Friends encouraged to share spiritual insights? Are special gifts of ministry recognized and encouraged?

Do you come to meeting with heart and mind prepared? Are you careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by late arrival or in other ways?

She then also read the section on Vocal Ministry from the same source.

Waiting upon the Holy Spirit in silent expectation and prayer is the basis of our meeting for worship. Vocal ministry should arise out of a sense of being inwardly moved to share a message aloud. Sometimes a message is not ripe yet, or comes clearly but is meant only for the person receiving it, not for the group. Some Friends are led to speak frequently, and others only rarely; yet the timid or brief message of one who seldom speaks may be as moving and helpful as that of a more practiced speaker. The experienced speaker should be watchful not to speak too often or at undue length. No Friend should come to meeting for worship with an intention to speak or not to speak.

The most satisfactory vocal ministry arises out of a leading that is felt in the silence so strongly that it cannot be ignored. It should be delivered with as few words as possible, yet as many as necessary. Vocal prayer offered on behalf of the gathered meeting can also bring us into closer harmony with God.

97-2 Clerks mail: A letter from the senior editors of a publication of creative writing by Young Friends seeking an estimate of interest (and thus of how many to print) was referred to the Library Committee, which was encouraged to communicate with the meeting as a whole.

A letter from the Meeting School in New Hampshire was read, thanking us for our hospitality. The students left a donation to cover utilities and any other costs.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is seeking a Camp Administrative Secretary. The position description has been posted.

97-3 A Friend reported on a ceremony organized by Rev. Rhonda Addo in celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation. Last year this group honored John Brown. Polly Craft accepted on our behalf. The plaque was officially presented to Baltimore Yearly Meeting, to whom it will be forwarded. The inscription reads:

"In Humble and Heartfelt Gratitude, we the descendants of Africans, who were made slaves in America, salute the Descendants and Organization of Friends also known as Quakers. At the peril of their own lives they operated underground railroad stations which helped our people reach freedom." Presented to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends on January 1, 1997 by the Bible Lighthouse Missionary Church, Clinton, Maryland Pastor Rhonda Mitchell Addo.

97-4 Nominating Committee: The names presented for second reading were APPROVED. Bryan Camp has withdrawn his acceptance of the position of assistant treasurer, because he feels that the position should be held by someone who wishes to prepare to be the treasurer. He will continue to assist the current treasurer as appropriate. A meeting of Temporary Nominating Committee, which will bring forward names to fill vacancies on the Nominating Committee, has been scheduled. The clerk would like to know who committee clerks are. They should be selected at the earliest opportunity. It was noted that an assistant treasurer is needed.

97-5 Finance Committee: The committee presented the budget for first reading and raised related issues. In addition to the proposed budget, a balance sheet and a report on donations were also distributed.

The Meeting has four bank accounts: The mortgage is now at \$26,453. It is the current policy of the Finance Committee to sell stock as soon as it has been received. Recently it was discovered that previously donated stock (dating back to the mid 1980s) had not been sold. Sale of this stock has generated a one-time, sharp increase in the balance of our undesignated reserves. The recent history of our donations has told a story of optimism vs. reality. The Finance Committee proposed that anticipated donation shortfalls be offset by spending some of these recently enhanced reserves. Specifically, the Committee felt that as much as \$20,000 could be safely spent from reserves. Of this, \$10,000 has been incorporated in the proposed budget, but the Committee has no firm recommendation for spending the other \$10,000. The Finance Committee tentatively recommended paying down the mortgage, which is an ongoing significant expense. Friends expressed appreciation for the lucidity of the report. The subsequent discussion centered around several types of questions:

About last year: How does it happen that committees are overspending their budgets? Should they not be required to seek additional funds from Meeting?

What is the Sharing Fund? It was explained that when individuals come on hard times, Meeting tries to help. The amount in the budget is a place holder. Actual sharing funds are not carried in the budget.

The appropriateness of spending the reserves: Our older buildings may require that we maintain larger reserves for replacement.

If giving is stagnant or decreasing, we may want to exercise caution in spending reserves on line items. This approach has the disadvantage of disguising the fact that our income is less than our expenses. On the other hand, it's not quite honest to give the membership the idea that we are poor.

Spending our reserves without assurance that our income will, in the future, be higher than it is now, may create a difficult situation in which budgets must be cut. This is particularly true if they are spent on line items.

At least one suggested objective, paying off the mortgage in order to make money available to other Friends, could equally be met by depositing funds with the Friends Extension Corporation, which holds our mortgage.

Concern was expressed that in spending our reserves to make up for insufficient donor income, we may not encourage stewardship and giving as much as we should.

If we choose to spend some of our reserves, **how should we spend them?** One Friend pointed out that we have deferred some spending based on the perception that the money wasn't there. We could now undertake some of those projects.

Our Meeting was able to get started on a building using funds from the Irving Street Meeting, which had been laid down. We could pass on this tradition by putting some of our funds into the Takoma Park Preparative Meeting's building fund.

There was some feeling that Designated Outreach should be increased to account for inflation and in response to the increased Strawberry Festival. A Friend suggested that if Meeting desires to use reserves for this purpose, the money should go as one-time grants.

Friends thanked the Finance Committee for their work and encouraged the Committee to seek input from a variety of Friends before bringing a possibly revised budget to the next meeting for business. The Committee was also encouraged to continue to work in the Spirit; the Meeting needs to feel "provided for."

97-6 Reconciliation Working Group: Marcy Seitel reported that this group, which is under the care of the Pastoral Care Committee, is reopening. Members will be reading *Caring Enough to Confront*, by David Augsberger. Interested Friends should contact Marcy Seitel.

Alaine Duncan	Martha Gay
Acting Clerk	Assistant Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
2/9/97

The meeting began in worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 22 Friends and attenders present.

97-7 The Clerk read the query on “Meetings for Business” from the Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting,

*Are meetings for business held in a spirit of worship, understanding and forbearance?
When direction seems lacking, is this seen as a challenge to a more prayerful search for
truth? Do we humbly set aside our own preconceived notions as to proper action, seeking
instead Divine guidance as to the right course? Is the Meeting aware that it speaks not
only through its actions, but also through its failure to act?*

*Do you participate regularly in meetings for business, discharge faithfully your committee
responsibilities, and assume your share of financial support of the Meeting?*

97-8 Clerk’s mail. The Clerk read the following:

A letter from Housing Initiative Partnership, thanking us for our donation and enclosing photos describing their work providing low income housing to people in Prince George’s County.

A letter from the BYM Camping Program, enclosing applications for Catoctin Quaker Camp, Shiloh Quaker Camp and Teen Adventure. The letter and applications were referred to Tom Skallerup.

A letter from Dialogue House Associates, Inc. inviting Friends to attend a workshop on Intensive Journal Writing.

A letter from Richard Mounts, Clerk, Peace and Social Justice Committee, Bethesda Friends Meeting inviting Friends to attend a series of talks on conflict resolution.

A letter from Children’s Creative Response to Conflict, thanking us for our donation and including information on their schedule of training in conflict resolution.

A letter from Friends Music Camp, Yellow Springs, OH, enclosing applications.

A letter from Friends Committee on National Legislation, expressing thanks for our donation.

A letter from the young people of Stanley Isaac’s house in New York who stayed at Adelphi while visiting the Holocaust Museum, thanking us for our hospitality, and inviting Adelphi Young Friend’s to visit them in New York. They also expressed an interest in doing a workcamp together.

97-9 Report on our cemetery. Ted Robinson. Ted Robinson received a telephone call from an historian working for a consulting firm under contract to the State Highway Administration. They were conducting a survey of historic properties along State Route 5 which is being widened. She was following

up on a letter the Meeting had received in early January advising us that they were going to be looking at the property. She reported that both the survey and her research of the records had been completed.

The land was purchased by a couple of friends in the 1870's, and subsequently sold for a nominal amount to Baltimore Yearly Meeting in 1903. Later it was given to Adelphi Friends Meeting. As a result of the survey and records, the property qualifies to be preserved as a Historic Site by the state of Maryland. Bob Cahalan is our liaison. Referred to Trustees for oversight.

97-10 Religious Education Committee, Dee Clarkin, Clerk, reporting. The Committee presented a Minute of Appreciation for the service of Marcy Seitel to The Religious Education Committee, the Meeting's children and the Meeting as whole. The Minute was accepted with appreciation to Marcy and the Committee.

97-11 Temporary Nominating Committee Report. Shelly Thurber reporting. First reading of Roger Russell, 2000 to the Nominating Committee. Currently serving on the Nominating Committee are Ann Marie Moriarty and Rob Oerter. Mary Lord, Pam Tyng, and Shelly Thurber are on the Temporary Nominating Committee. The Committee also made a request for additional help on the committee. They will run a silent announcement and make a verbal announcement requesting additional assistance.

97-12 Friends in Christ. Letter from Bill Samuel requesting clarification of their request for use of the meeting house on May 3rd for a prayer workshop from 1-5 p.m. They will use the White House on March 9th so as not to conflict with Safe Haven use of the meeting house. The Meeting approved Friend's in Christ's use of the Meeting House on May 3rd and March 9th.

97-13 Finance Committee. Bryan Camp reporting. The Finance Committee brought the following proposal regarding the spending of the approximately \$34,000 in reserves. That we keep \$10,000 as an operating reserve so that we can meet our obligations without regard to fluctuations in donations throughout the year. The balance, \$24,056 to be used as a special projects fund. Approved. A proposal regarding the mechanism for fund dispersal will be presented to business meeting by an ad hoc committee of those interested, to be convened by Charlotte Miller, in consultation with Finance Committee and Trustees. Approved.

97-14 Finance Committee. Bryan Camp reporting. The Committee presented the 1997 Budget. Approved, with many thanks to the Finance Committee.

97-15 Takoma Park Friends Meeting - Preparative. Arthur David Olson reporting. Presenting the Proposed 1997 Budget for Takoma Park Friends Meeting - Preparative. A friend noted how meaningful it is to have a thriving preparative meeting in association with Adelphi. Another friend raised a question about including a line item of Sufferings in their budget. The budget was approved.

97-16 Washington Quaker Workcamps. Harold Confer gave a extensive report on their ongoing project of re-building burned Black churches.

97-17 Minutes for the first month, 1997 meeting for worship for the conduct of business. Correction to 97-5, Our meeting was able to get started on a building using funds from the Irving Street Meeting not 16th Street Meeting, which had been laid down. With this correction, the minutes were approved.

97-18 Announcements were made.

The meeting closed with a moment of silence.

Ted Robinson
Clerk

Alaine Duncan
Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
3/9/97

The meeting began in worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 31 members and attenders present, a number which grew to 34.

97-19 The Clerk read the section on Meeting as a Caring Community, from Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice:

The guidance of the Inner Light has generally led Friends to common standards of conduct. We believe that a vital faith must apply to daily life. Through sharing personal spiritual experiences with others, our own insights are clarified and our convictions undergirded. Meetings can help each of us to gain spiritual strength for the good ordering of our lives and the right direction of our energies.

We must be concerned about the welfare of every member of the Meeting community. While Friends need to guard against prying or invasion of privacy, it is nevertheless essential that Meetings be aware of the spiritual and material needs of members of the community and express caring concern in appropriate ways. Many Meetings have found that specially formed support or clearness groups, either appointed by the Meeting or informally gathered, are a helpful way to minister to special needs within the Meeting.

While Quakers believe that a seed of God is in every human being, it is sometimes easier to believe this of persons at a distance than it is of those near at hand. This is particularly true when the need arises to address contentious issues. A meeting community should always seek to consider openly matters at issue, seeking a loving resolution of conflict, rather than to preserve a semblance of community by ignoring issues. Even when resolution is not immediate, the Meeting should make room for different expressions of continuing revelation while persisting in earnest search for unity.

At the same time, it is well for Meetings consciously to cultivate fellowship and unity. The goal, in George Fox's words, is to "know one another in that which is eternal, which was before the world was." Religious education programs for Friends of all ages are a primary bond. In the common experience of worship we draw together in a most essential way. The discussion of matters of concern, as well as fellowship based on recreation, intellectual pursuits, music and other aesthetic interests, can help unify the Meeting community. Working together also builds bonds of trust, understanding, and communication. In all things the principle of simplicity suggests that leisure activities, working, and faith becompatible and complementary.

97-20 Minutes for second month, 1997 meeting for worship for the conduct of business. Correction to 97-11, Temporary Nominating Committee report. The report should read: First reading of Roger Russell to Nominating Committee. Currently serving on nominating committee are Ann Marie Moriarty, and Rob Oerter. Mary Lord, Pam Tyng and Shelly Thurber are on the temporary nominating committee. With this correction, the minutes were approved.

97-21 Clerk's Commentary/Mail. Ted Robinson

Reporting on Clerking Workshop at Pendle Hill. The clerk requests that agenda items be received by him the Thursday before business meeting. The Clerk reminds us to pause between comments during Meeting for Business, to endeavor to speak one time with the hope that it be absorbed, to try not to become contentious and enter into debate, but to lovingly discern the feelings of those of us who are gathered.

Spring Yearly Meeting Day is 3/22 at Langley Hill Meeting. One important issue coming before the Meeting will be the Tax Refusal status of Frank and Beth Massey. Frank is the General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Friends are referred to the article in the Interchange on this issue. Ann Marie Moriarty reminded Friends that Nominating Committee is seeking an additional member to represent Adelphi Friends Meeting at Yearly Meeting Days. Barbara Platt has offered to attend and represent our meeting for this one time, though she can't make a year-long commitment.

Letter from Linda Beekman, of the Sarajevo Project, to Langley Hill Meeting and forwarded to the Clerk by a member of that meeting. The letter indicated that Linda would be in this area from April 26-28 and that she has a desire to share her work in Sarajevo with Friends. The Langley Hill Friends said that Adelphi Friends might like to invite Linda Beekman to speak with us or, perhaps, join with Langley Hill when she is there. The Sarajevo Project is a project of the Tampa Bay Peace Education Program, St. Petersburg Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), 813-531-3401. Letter referred to Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Families of Diversity, meeting March 15, 1997 10 - 2 a.m. at Adelphi Friends Meeting. Families are invited to support each other, play together, share lunch and experiences. Bring a lunch dish/drink to share. Contacts are Dave Zarembka, 301-208-7862 and Mary Jackson, 301-942-2363.

97-21 Ministry and Worship Committee. Barbara Platt reporting. The Committee brings these queries before us:

How does our meeting as corporate body function to discern our corporate self?

How can we involve more of our community in our corporate life?

Do we need, should we have, a new standing committee of Advancement and Outreach to welcome and bring newcomers and other individuals into the meeting community?

They request Monthly Meeting to begin to look at and discern the way forward for our meeting. This is beyond a time and resources question, it is about how we are as a corporate body, who are we and what role does spiritual discernment play in our corporate decision making. Friends raised that the clearer our mission is to the individuals in our corporate body, the more time, financial and spiritual resources will become available to us.

Approved. The meeting should take definite steps to begin a process of clarifying and discerning our corporate identity as a faith community and discernment of our call as such a community.

We anticipate that a clearer corporate identity and call will affect the life of the meeting in diverse ways including enriching our spiritual lives and increasing the participation of individuals in the affairs of meeting. Ministry and Worship committee is requested to provide queries around this issue and circulate them before holding a second hour to thresh-out and further develop the issues and steps that should be taken in addressing this concern.

97-22 Trustees. Peter Curtis reporting on Harold Confer's behalf. Oversight of Burial Ground in Hughesville, MD. A fund exists in our budget for maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery. There currently are few direct personal ties between the burial ground and our meeting.

Trustees are recommending that the fund and oversight of the grounds be handed over to Baltimore Yearly Meeting in the hopes that Patuxent Monthly Meeting, which is located nearby the burial ground, will grow in its ability to oversee the property. Approved with the request that Trustees communicate this proposal to Trustees of the Yearly Meeting.

97-23 Ad Hoc Committee on Special Projects Funding. Charlotte Miller, reporting. Charlotte requests that we refer to the article in the March newsletter. The Committee recommends establishing a Special Funds Use Committee, that would meet only when needed, as called by its clerk. Guidelines will be developed once the committee is constituted for informing the meeting community of bequests and processing their expenditure. The Ad Hoc Committee recommends that a Special Funds Use Committee be established, that it have 5-7 members, serving 3 year staggered terms. A friend raised a concern regarding the expansion of meeting functions and activities and the lack of people to carry them out, citing burn-out's corrosive effect on the life of the meeting. This friend spoke against the establishment of this committee. Another friend spoke to the fiduciary responsibility of responding to the need of dispersing these funds and also of appreciating those who have come forward to shepherd this project. A member of nominating committee spoke of the need find people to do this work and supported the formation of a standing committee. Nominating Committee noted the increased involvement of new members in committee membership and overall greater ease in filling committee slots.

A friend spoke on behalf of the ad hoc committee stating that it took seriously the issue of establishing another committee and our fiduciary responsibility to attend to this need. They were led to ask that a standing committee be formed, as it helps institutionalize our corporate memory.

A friend recommended calling this oversight committee a Working Group that might meet when it needs to, and lay itself down when needed. Approved. The oversight of the expenditure of the \$24,000 dollars will be addressed by a Working Group consisting of Guy LeValley, Mary Lord, Dee Clarkin and Alison Duncan. Other members are welcome to join the Working Group. This group will bring recommendations to the Meeting for Business for approval and will function under the guidelines prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee as printed in the 3/97 newsletter. Members of the Meeting with concerns should bring them to this working group. The long term issue of how to clothe our attention to the funding of special projects will be addressed in the context of our discernment of our corporate call and corporate identity.

97-23 Nominating Committee. Ann Marie Moriarty reporting. First readings for Sylvia Tennison and Carole Nezzo for Strawberry Festival Coordinators for 1997 only, Mosi Harrington for Assistant Clerk, Robalie Chapin for corresponding clerk.

97-24 House and Grounds. Guy LeValley reporting. An anonymous donor made a contribution \$5,000 for improvements to our physical plant this year with a possibility of additional funds in subsequent years. The committee recommends improvements to the basement of the white house. Their estimate for this project is \$7,500. The Committee requests \$2,500 from reserve for replacement for carrying out this project. Approved.

97-25 Bob Mitchell has boxes for archival storage of records.

97-26 The Clerk spoke for all of us in expressing his profound gratitude for the unstinting work of Charlotte Miller. We agreed to send a letter of Introduction with the Miller/Werge 's to Fort Collins Friends Meeting, asking them to receive these well-loved Friends with loving care. Letter to be drafted by June Confer and Alaine Duncan.

The Meeting closed with a moment of silence.

Ted Robinson
Clerk

Alaine Duncan
Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
4/13/97

The meeting began in worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 23 members and attenders present, a number which grew to 31.

97-27 The Clerk read the section on Personal Spiritual Life from Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice:

Do you make time for meditation, prayer and worship? Do you read the Bible, the writings of Friends, and other inspirational works, seeking new light? Do you regularly seek God's guidance? Are you open to guidance and support and do you give thanks for them? Do you share your spiritual insights with others and willingly receive from them in turn?

97-28 Minutes for third month, 1997 meeting for worship for the conduct of business. Approved.

97-21 Clerk's Commentary/Mail. Ted Robinson

Letter from Paul Buchanan-Wollaston requesting transfer of his membership from Adelphi Friends Meeting to Deer Creek Monthly Meeting. Approved.

Letter from Bill Samuel, of Friends in Christ, who is coordinating with the Friends United Meeting Chain of Prayer on May 3rd, with a Prayer Workshop 1-5 p.m. at Adelphi Friends Meeting. There is a scheduling conflict with the workday sponsored by the House and Grounds Committee. Friends were confident that by being considerate of each group's needs that they could accommodate each other.

The Clerk requests that Clerk's of committees let him know of business that needs to come before Meeting for Business the Thursday before Business Meeting.

97-22 Financial support for Friends desiring engagement in the larger Friends community.

Friends General Conference will match meeting scholarship funds for first time attenders at Friends General Conference, a member has requested scholarship. Decisions regarding expenditure of the moneys in our "Conferences Scholarship" budget are made by the Clerk of Pastoral Care, the Treasurer and the Meeting Clerk.

Another Friend has requested assistance for Catoctin Quaker Camp fees for a child of the meeting. The meeting makes every effort to ensure that each child from meeting who wants to go to Baltimore Yearly Meeting camps has the financial support they need. Tom Skallerup is coordinating camp applications and scholarship funds.

97-23 Use and non-use of Silent Announcements

Pam Tyng, Silent Announcement Coordinator raised the concern that Silent Announcements are left on the table and that people tend to repeat the content of the announcements in vocal announcements. Friends expressed appreciation for the silent announcements and asked Friends to either not repeat

written announcements or be brief in the vocal announcements that are made. Friends are also encouraged to actively use this mechanism for communication.

97-24 Visitors, new attenders, new Friends and **use of Quaker Codes**. Friends are requested to spell out such acronyms as FGC (Friends General Conference), FUM (Friends United Meeting), etc.

97-25 A Request was made to House and Grounds Committee to monitor the **availability and safety of our Assisted Listening Devices**. A member of the House and Grounds Committee reported that most of the units themselves are working but several of the earphones are only working on one side. He pointed out that the earphones are compatible with the stereo earphones that are used with “walk man” type radios and can be substituted for the earphones that came with the Assisted Listening Units. Friends with extra earphones they are not using may donate them to the meeting with great appreciation.

97-26 Report from Nominating Committee. Ann Marie Moriarty reporting. Second reading of Mosi Harrington for Assistant Clerk. Approved.

97-27 Report from Temporary Nominating. Mary Lord reporting. 2nd reading Roger Russell for 3 year term. Approved. 1st reading Earl Redding and Dave Roberts for 3 year term.

97-28 Report from the Treasurer. Page Lacey reporting. Quarterly financial reports will be made available. Research has been made into a new computer program that will make transition of Treasurers easier and information organized in a simplified and unified format. Appreciation to the Treasurer for the long hours and diligent attention she offers was minuted.

97-29 Report from the Ministry and Worship Committee. Rueben Snipper. Spiritual State of the Meeting, first reading. Approved with the recommendation to include Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) (TPFM(P)) as a thriving preparative meeting under our care. The corrected Spiritual State of the Meeting Report will be sent to the Clerk of Potomac Half Yearly Meeting as well as Clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM).

97-30 Report from Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Ernest Walker, Clerk, reporting. An active, participatory course on conflict resolution skills, will be offered May 19th, May 22, and 29 from 7:30 - 10. Jane Manring and Mary Lord are the presenters. The course is called Differences, Disagreements and Disputes: Making Them Work for Relationships. Issues discussed will be community building, communication, problem solving, anger and forgiveness.

Members are encouraged to participate in the Committee's deliberation of allocation of funds under its review. This will be discussed at their May 4th meeting, at the White House at rise of meeting.

The Meeting closed with a moment of silence.

Ted Robinson Alaine Duncan
Clerk Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
5/11/97

97-31 The meeting began in silent worship. The clerk, Ted Robinson, read the 5th Query, Personal Way of Life, from the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice.

97-32 Friends APPROVED the Minutes of the 4th month meeting for business. The clerk gave several announcements of upcoming events. A request for \$5000 from Washington Quaker Workcamps to be taken from the reserves identified by the Finance Committee as excess was referred to the Working Group.

97-33 Ministry and Worship. Barbara Platt reported that Ministry and Worship Committee requests that they not be required to hold a planning second hour to plan a process to discern corporate goals. Interested Friends are invited to the Committee's June Meeting. Friends had no objection. The Committee was commended for its work to date.

97-34 Proposed Comprehensive Calendar. Eileen Levitan has suggested the need to maintain a visible and available Yearly Calendar for our many activities. Many Friends were enthusiastic. It was pointed out that calendar maintenance is one of the duties of the White House Resident; we don't want to increase the job. Committees would be asked to [post their] annual activities and new plans as they develop. Someone will have to determine the priorities for use of the facilities. A very large calendar would be required. Events to be included would include those of general interest on the Yearly Meeting calendar, activities at our facilities of the Horeb Haitian Church, as well as our activities, neighborhood group meetings, etc. Trustees have been asked to come up with a facilities use policy, but there are presently only two members active on Trustees. This need was referred to the Nominating Committee. The Clerk will contact Mary Hillstrom, who had volunteered to work on this project.

97-35 Temporary Nominating Committee brought forward for second reading the names of Earl Redding and Dave Roberts to serve on the Nominating Committee. Friends APPROVED.

97-36 Finance Committee. Brian Camp reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Stewardship and Finance Committee. He reviewed the Baltimore Yearly Meeting budget. Many activities are self-supporting, but office costs and committee programs are supported through apportionments. This year the budget for these expenses is about \$250,000. Because of our stock windfall our apportionment went up. This happened to Sandy Spring last year and is a one-time deal. The increase is \$3500. Friends APPROVED deducting \$3500 from the special projects fund. In the future we will hold these funds back until our apportionment is determined. We will need to send a representative to the Stewardship and Finance Committee Meeting next year to assure that our apportionment is correctly determined.

97-37 Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Ernest Walker reported on the allocation of funds for Designated Outreach. Friends expressed appreciation for the care the committee has taken. A Friends suggested that descriptions of each recipient appear during the year in the Newsletter. We should also publicize these groups at the Strawberry Festival. Friends expressed enthusiasm. Friends APPROVED designated outreach allocation. Publicizing this was referred to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

97-38 Takoma Park Preparative Meeting. Arthur David Olson brought forward the minute

approved by Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) regarding the procedure for weddings and marriages. Takoma Park has been in contact with our Ministry and Worship Committee. The names of the Oversight Committee are communicated to the Monthly Meeting at the time the couple is approved for marriage. If a couple is very new to the meeting, or for other reasons, the couple may be married in the manner of Friends, and that procedure is slightly different legally. The Yearly Meeting is currently developing a document which will provide information about the legal requirements in the various jurisdictions included in the Yearly Meeting. Weddings will be reported back as always. Friends APPROVED the proposed minute.

97-39 Arthur David Olson distributed the State of the Meeting Report and requested that Adelphi forward same to Potomac Half-Yearly Meeting and Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Friends expressed appreciation for the report.

97-40 The clerk announced that in his absence Mosi Harrington, assistant clerk, will close meeting on Sunday, June 22.. The clerk has formed an ad hoc committee consisting of Ann Marie Moriarty, Chris Hough, Cathy Schairer, Denny May, and Rick Picardi, to work on some issues with the Horeb Haitian Church regarding use of our property.

Ted Robinson
Clerk

Martha L. Gay
Assistant Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
6/8/97

97-41 The Meeting began in silent worship. The Clerk, Ted Robinson, read from "Meeting for Worship" from "The Life of the Spirit" and also from "Vocal Ministry" in Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice.

97-42 **The minutes (97-34) from the Fifth Month Meeting for Business were corrected to indicate** that Eileen Levitan had suggested the need to maintain a yearly calendar for the Meeting; not that she would do it. The Clerk will contact Mary Hillstrom, who had volunteered to work on this project. Paragraph 97-40 was corrected to state that Mosi Harrington will close Meeting for Worship on June 22nd, not conduct the June Monthly Meeting for Business. The minutes were approved as corrected.

97-43 Clerk's mail and comments: The Clerk read a letter from Stanley Isaacs' Neighborhood House in New York City thanking the Meeting for the warm welcome given to their young people on a recent visit to Washington. He also read a letter from Guilford College informing the Meeting that Ingrid Werge has been accepted to the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program. The Clerk commented that he had recently attended Potomac Half-Yearly Meeting at which a discussion was held on whether to continue to meet due to lack of support. Many Friends, including our Clerk, believe that the Half-Yearly Meeting needs to continue. He will bring this issue up at a future Meeting for Business. The next Half-Yearly Meeting Day is on September 28, 1997, at Alexandria Meeting. The Clerk expressed deep appreciation to Bob Mitchell for providing a history of Adelphi Friends Meeting to Mildred Gray on the committee gathering information on religious bodies in P.G. County.

97-44 Page Lacey, Treasurer, gave a preliminary report on proceeds from Strawberry Festival of \$6,000 to \$6,500 profit. Page is preparing the second quarter financial report. She was unable to send the outreach checks due to insufficient cash. She suggested the Meeting review the budget and our patterns of giving. The Clerk thanked Dennis Ireland and all those who worked on the Strawberry Festival.

97-45 Reuben Snipper reported for Ministry and Worship Committee that **the marriage of Paul Jolly and Jude Martin took place in good order** under the care of Adelphi Friends Meeting and Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) on April 19, 1997.

97-46 The Clerk reported that Friends Committee on National Legislation has requested use of the Meeting's mailing list for fund-raising. The request was approved.

97-47 Mary Lord reported for the working group that is overseeing expenditure of the Meeting's surplus funds. The working group is accepting proposals over the summer and will make preliminary recommendations in the fall. Application forms are available in the foyer of the meetinghouse and have also been sent to committee clerks, Takoma Park Meeting and Friends Community School. (see June/July newsletter for more details)

97-48 Because of Baltimore Yearly Meeting sessions, the August business meeting will be held on the 3rd Sunday. The Assistant Clerk will conduct the meeting as the Clerk will be away.

Ted Robinson Glenn Riley
Clerk Acting Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
7/13/97

97-49 The Meeting began in silent worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 21 members and attenders present.

97-50 The Clerk read the query on caring for others from Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice:

Do you respect that of God in every person? Do you search yourself for and strive to eliminate prejudices such as those related to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and economic condition? In what ways do you accept and appreciate the differences among your friends and associates? Do you avoid exploiting or manipulating others to accomplish ends, however worthy?

97-51 **The minutes** (97-45) from 6th month Meeting for Worship were corrected to indicate the correct spelling of Reuben Snipper and Paul Jolly's names. The minutes were approved as corrected.

97-52 A concern was noted that outreach checks were mailed late due to insufficient cash on hand. Friends are reminded to bring their obligations up to date. The Meeting for Business will review our patterns of giving at a future business meeting. Materials on stewardship will be forwarded to neighborhood groups for discussion.

97-53 A concern was raised re the Records Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. This Committee met at Representative Meeting in June. They will recommend that the charge and size of the committee be changed at Yearly Meeting Sessions this August.

97-54 School Committee. Angelyn Flowers reporting. The school had a successful year of transition with Judy Smith as principal. She also reported that Friends Community School (FCS) needs 501(c)3 tax status to support fundraising efforts as well as ensuring compliance with Maryland law to operate a daycare center.

Approved. The Business Meeting directs the School Committee to draw up Articles of Incorporation for FCS as a legal entity for presentation to Meeting Trustees. The Articles will dictate the members of the corporation to be the members of the Meeting and the Board of Directors of said corporation to be the School Committee. Once formed, the FCS will then apply for 501(c)3 status as a non-profit entity. The Meeting Trustees will keep the Business Meeting informed of its progress on this matter and will make the draft articles of incorporation available to any interested members prior to Trustees final approval.

97-55 The Meeting closed with sharing of Joys and Concerns.

Ted Robinson Alaine Duncan
Clerk Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
8/17/97

97-56 The Meeting began in silent worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 22 members and attenders present.

97-57 The Clerk read the 8th query on outreach from Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice: *Do you, as the 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?*

97-58 Report from Trustees. Harold Confer reporting. The trustees offered guidance on Quaker process in the discussion on the incorporation of Friends Community School as a 501(c)(3) corporation. The Trustees will present the Articles of Incorporation in complete form to the September Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business for a first reading. Friends are asked to hold this process in the Light as we discern how this process may reflect on the spiritual relationship between the FCS and the Meeting.

97-59 Request from BYM Yearly Meeting Young Friends. Alison Duncan, reporting. A request for use of the Meeting House the week-end of September 5-6 for the Young Friend's Executive Committee Retreat. As there is no scheduling conflict, their request was approved.

97-60 Letter from House and Grounds regarding concerns regarding the relationship between AFM and the Haitian Congregation, noting clean-up, noise, and finances. Referred to the liaison committee.

97-61 Letter requesting a Traveling Letter of Introduction. Virginia Colin requests a letter of introduction for her use when she stays at Friends homes in the Directory of Traveling Friends. The Clerk will prepare the letter.

97-62 Letter requesting the use of the Meeting House by Maryland United for Peace and Justice - September 13th from 10-1. Approved if a scheduling conflict can be resolved with the Maryland Against Handguns group.

97-63 Letter requesting the use of the Meeting House by BYM's Families of Diversity Saturdays 10-2 September 20, November 15, January 17 and March 15. Approved.

97-64 Letter from the Peace Cover Project - Barton Glover Friends Meetings, Barton, Vermont. These Friends have designed a book cover promoting peace efforts of twenty famous people who worked for peace. They invite us to purchase bookcovers to donate to children in our community. Referred to Peace and Social Concerns Committee with encouragement to make contact with Barton Glover's project and develop a plan for their purchase and distribution in both Friends Community School and public schools in the county. Marcy Seitel will coordinate with Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Meeting for Business requests a report back from Peace and Social Concerns Committee at its September meeting.

97-65 Letter with a request to address the Meeting Community on "Does Traffic Steal From Your Spiritual Life?" by Peter St. James, author of the book, Letter from A Busy Street. Referred to Adult Religious Education Working Group.

97-66 Letter from Harold Confer. Referred to Special Projects Funds Committee.

97-67 Report from Temporary Nominating Committee. Mary Lord reporting. The Committee needs new members and requests that Sarah Miller and Shelly Thurber, who have been unable to serve, be replaced at its September Meeting. Its job is to nominate members of the Nominating Committee. Harold Confer volunteered and was approved to join this Committee. Friends are asked to give thoughtful consideration and bring names forward at the next Business Meeting. Appreciation of Sarah Miller and Shelly Thurber for their service is minuted.

97-68 June Confer requests a report from the White House Support Committee regarding our contract with our current Resident. Request referred to Denny May, Clerk of the Support Committee.

97-69 Minutes from the July Meeting for Worship. Approved.

97-70 The Meeting closed with sharing of Joys and Concerns.

Mosi Harrington
Assistant Clerk

Alaine Duncan
Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
September 14, 1997

97-71 The meeting began with silent worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 36 persons in attendance. The Clerk read the Ninth Query on the Social Order from Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The minutes from the Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business for August were approved.

97-72 The Clerk commented that some Friends had suggested that the events of the previous Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business be summarized at the beginning of the subsequent one. There was general agreement among Friends that the minutes should serve this purpose.

97-73 Marcy Seitel reported on the status of the Peace Cover Project (book covers) being sponsored by Barton Glover Friends Meeting, Barton, Vermont. The book covers are expected to arrive any day now along with instructions on how to distribute them to local schools. She encouraged Friends to contact local schools about receiving the covers, especially schools which have a military presence (ROTC or recruiters). Esther Webb reported on behalf of Peace and Social Concerns Committee that the committee supports the project but does not have \$100.00 to cover the costs. Since Marcy has already paid \$100.00 from her own funds, Friends are encouraged to make contributions to Marcy directly. The meeting also decided that Peace and Social Concerns Committee should coordinate this project next year, with funds to be determined during the regular budget process. Marcy volunteered to provide whatever coordination is needed for the distribution of the book covers this year.

97-74 Marcy Seitel also announced that at the First Saturday event for November, which falls on November 1, June Confer will be sharing about her spiritual journey. The evening begins with a pot luck at 6:00 p.m.

97-75 Martha Gay read a letter from Mary Lord requesting support from the meeting for her leading on Quaker peacemaking and volunteer service. Mary stated in her letter that she is “entering a period of expanding Quaker service and ministry on peacemaking and volunteer service.” She asked for the meeting’s help in three ways:

1. A traveling minute in support of her ministry;
2. An account or fund established by Adelphi to receive contributions to defray travel and other out-of-pocket expenses associated with her work; and
3. A request from Adelphi to Representative Meeting that Baltimore Yearly Meeting also establish a fund to receive contributions to support her ministry.

97-76 Friends expressed their strong support for Mary Lord and her ministry and approved providing her with a traveling minute.

97-77 A discussion followed on her second and third requests during which Friends raised questions about the legal and technical aspects of establishing such accounts. In regard to Mary’s request that Adelphi establish an account, Bryan Camp agreed to research these issues and work with Mary’s support committee and the Finance Committee to bring a recommendation to the October business meeting. In the meantime, Friends are encouraged to provide financial gifts directly to Mary. The meeting also

agreed to send a letter to Representative Meeting suggesting that BYM establish a similar account.

97-78 Harold Confer presented for **first reading the proposed Articles of Incorporation to establish Friends Community School as a 501(c)(3) corporation.** This change will make the school a nonprofit corporation and will aid the school in its fundraising and other activities. It would also make Friends Community School solely responsible for its debts and obligations, instead of Adelphi being ultimately responsible as under the current arrangement. The articles establish a Board of Trustees composed of members of the School Committee. They also define the members of the corporation as the members of Adelphi Friends Meeting along with the trustees of the corporation. Bylaws for the new corporation are being drafted now by the School Committee.

97-79 Harold emphasized the importance of the articles covering all activities the school might wish to undertake in the future. Friends raised a concern about whether the bylaws of the new corporation and any future changes were to be approved by the trustees of the corporation or by the meeting. Friends agreed that the bylaws and any future revisions should be approved by the members of the meeting through their role as members of the corporation. Since the bylaws are to be approved by the meeting before taking effect, Friends were comfortable with considering the Articles of Incorporation for approval at the October business meeting even though the bylaws will probably not be completed and available for review beforehand.

97-80 The question was asked if the new Articles of Incorporation and bylaws would replace the 1985 Minute of Understanding in defining the relationship between the school and the meeting. Members of the School Committee agreed to clarify this matter at the time of the second reading of the Articles of Incorporation. The School Committee will place copies of the Minute of Understanding in the foyer of the meetinghouse for Friends to peruse prior to the next Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business.

97-81 The meeting closed with the sharing of joys and concerns.

Ted Robinson

Glenn Riley

Clerk

Acting Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
October 12, 1997

97-82 The Meeting began in silent worship which flowed out of the preceding Meeting for Worship. There were 26 members and attenders present, a number which grew to 34.

97-83 The Clerk read the 10th query on Peace from Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice: *Do you endeavor to live "in virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion for all wars?" Do you work to make your peace testimony a reality in your life and in your world? Do you weigh your day-to-day activities for their effect on peace-keeping, conflict resolution and the elimination of violence? Are you working toward eliminating aggression at all levels, from the personal to the international?*

97-84 Minutes from the September Meeting for Worship. Approved.

97-85 Clerks mail. Comments. The clerk read the following letters:

A thank you note from the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Friend's Executive Committee, for their use of Adelphi Friends Meeting for an Executive Committee retreat. They enclosed a donation of \$45 for their use of the Meeting House.

An announcement of an evening with Jean Bosserman, Cherokee Elder and healer from Virginia on October 20, 7:30 p.m, Yarnall Lobby, Sandy Spring Friends School.

A request for transfer of membership of John and Betty Smallwood and for the transfer of the associate membership of their sons Jesse and Jonah Smallwood from AFM to Langley Hill Meeting. Approved with joy and regret.

An invitation to the AFSC annual gathering Saturday November 15th in Philadelphia. Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias from Costa Rica will be the featured speaker.

97-86 Finance Committee. Bryan Camp reporting. Status report and recommendation regarding the establishment of a fund to support Mary Lord's ministry of expanding Quaker service and ministry on peacemaking and volunteer service. The tentative recommendation is to not set up a line item at the monthly meeting level, but that Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) set up such an account through their Nurture and Recognition of Ministry committee. Brian Camp will report to the November Monthly Meeting for Business after consulting with Bethesda Meeting and Putney Vermont Friends Meeting who have released friends with similar financial backing to resolve the various fiscal issues for Mary personally as well as the monthly and yearly meeting levels. Friends are welcomed, even encouraged to send money to Mary directly.

97-87 Working Group on Skilling Up. Carol Nezzo reporting. The Skilling Up Working Group is under the care of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. The term refers to a need that Quaker Meetings may embrace to develop and implement skills in conflict resolution to help us through conflicts in a way that builds rather than destroys relationships. The AFM Skilling Up Working Group meets on Thursday nights, studying Eight Essential Steps to Conflict Resolution by Dudley Weeks. Their group will meet on

October 9th, and 16th, November 20th and December 18th in 1997. A Visioning Session will be held on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m. to consider how this Skilling Up might manifest in the AFM community.

97-88 Second Reading of the Articles of Incorporation of Friends Community School. Angelyn Flowers reporting. The Fifth Article, naming the Board of Trustees may, in its final form, name other individuals than are on the Articles as presented today. Second Reading of the By-laws will occur at the December Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business. Approved.

97-89 Report from the Working Group on Special Use Funds. Dee Clarkin. The Group recommends donations as follows: \$1300 to AFM Religious Education Committee to purchase furniture, books, a TV and VCR. \$5,000 to American Friends Service Committee's District of Columbia (AFSC-DC) project to conduct Help Increase the Peace Workshops at Martha's Table. \$2500 to initiate a project by CASA and Children's Creative Response to Conflict (CCRC) to lessen racial tensions regarding job competition between Latinos and African-Americans in the Takoma Park Community. \$3000 to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) for upgraded computer software and equipment. \$1500 to Davis House for unforeseen capital repairs. \$6700 to Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) for their building fund. The meeting acknowledges with appreciation the depth and spiritual grounding of the report.

There was extensive discussion about the content of the report and the difficulty of choosing the recipients of the funding. The report and its recommended distributions of funds was Approved. The clerk invites further investigation of funding resources to support other organizations and needs that were not funded at this time. Appreciation was minuted for the committee members: Dee Clarkin, Guy LeValley, Bob Mitchell, Mary Lord, Alison Duncan, Priscilla Holberton. The Committee is laid down until such time the Meeting has need for it. Report referred to the Treasurer for distribution of funds. The Committee will work with the Clerk to prepare letters to the organizations not funded, focusing on the criteria by which the funding recommendations were made.

97-90 Nominating Committee report. Ann Marie Moriarty. The Treasurer of FCS has moved from the area. The Committee brings the name of Robert Kaplan for approval as Treasurer/Meeting Representative for the remainder of 1997. Approved.

97-91 Haitian liaison committee. Anne Marie Moriarty reporting. The Horeb Haitian Congregation leadership has changed, their contract has lapsed and thus there is a need for re-newed communication between AFM and their Congregation. Recommendation that a meeting with the Horeb Haitian Congregation be held with representatives of House and Grounds and Trustees, White House resident, and liaison Anne Marie Moriarty to clarify what our future relationship might be.

97-92 Young Friends, Alison Duncan reporting. The Young Friends would like to host a bagel sale in association with the Religious Education Book Sale next week. Approved. Young Friends will use the funds generated to host a mask-making and pumpkin decorating inter-generational event on November 2. Young Friends would also like to host a SERRV sale on the first and third Sundays in December. Approved.

97-93 The Meeting closed with sharing of Joys and Concerns.

Ted Robinson	Alaine Duncan
Clerk	Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
November 9, 1997

97-94 The Presiding Clerk, Ted Robinson, read the 11th Query, Education, from the Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

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?

97-95 The minutes of the October Meeting for Business were APPROVED after correcting the spelling of Bryan Camp's first name.

97-96 Clerks mail:

The clerk read a letter from Thomas F. Smith, Patuxent Institution, Jessup, MD, expressing to the Meeting his sorrow at the death of Agnes Woodstock. He also expressed the joy of her presence in his life for even a moment, and wished her (and us) safe passage on our/her journey. A card inclosed with the letter contained comments from others. A copy of this correspondence will be placed in the minutes and the originals will be sent to the family. Agnes participated regularly in the Meeting for Worship at the Patuxent Institution.

Quaker Workcamps International thanked the Meeting for providing space on the occasion of their formational meeting. They also thanked those who opened their homes and provided food, and Cheryl Morden, who acted as recorder.

Potomac Half-Yearly Meeting. Evelyn Bradshaw has stepped aside as clerk; Marjorie Scott will succeed her. They propose that the next meeting be Saturday, April 18, 1998. Questionnaire was attached. Information provided will help Half-Yearly Meeting discern the role Friends want them to play and how to obtain better participation. The Clerk expressed his conviction that this is a valuable institution. Peter O'Brien will get copies of the questionnaire made. Friends are invited to respond as individuals. A fund appeal from Washington Quaker Workcamps will be posted.

The annual meeting of the corporation of the American Friends Service Committee is Saturday (11/15/98) in Philadelphia. Oscar Arias Sanchez, Nobel Peace Laureate, will speak then. AFSC is commemorating the 50th anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to it.

The Maryland Department of Transportation is sponsoring a Workshop on the Hughesville Transportation Improvement Project, which involves widening the road that goes by our cemetery. This information will be forwarded by Bob Mitchell to William Wetherald. Many members of the Wetherald family are buried in that cemetery.

An announcement of the Prince George's County Community Ministry Prayer Breakfast was referred to our representative, Esther Webb. The Nominating Committee is seeking two Friends to serve as representatives.

A Friend has expressed concern that we don't acknowledge transfers of membership or greet new members adequately. This was referred to the Pastoral Care Committee. We can talk about at lunch

next week. We used to have a policy. This has been an ongoing problem. We need to build better on our institutional memory.

97-97 The clerk read the Traveling Minute for Mary Lord, the writing of which was approved at the October Meeting for Business. A copy is attached. This letter was endorsed at the recent meeting of Representative Meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

97-98 Nominating Committee. Ann Marie Moriarty presented the Committee's preliminary report for first reading. A copy is attached. The committee is working. A called meeting for first reading of additional nominations may be necessary. Friends thanked the Committee for their prodigious effort. The catered lunch will provide opportunities to find out more about what the various committees do.

97-99 School Committee. Sue Curtis pointed out that the lease will be up in 4 years. The committee is gathering information. This process is ongoing. The Greens sale will be December 6.

97-100 Finance Committee. Bryan Camp distributed preliminary budget proposals and discussed the need for someone to step forward as Assistant Treasurer. He also pointed out that Adrian Bishop, a member of Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) who works as a building inspector, did a quick walk-through of the property and feels we should be setting aside at least \$3,000 to Reserve for Replacement; \$8,000 would be better. The committee then presented to Friends three possible budget scenarios: A bare bones budget (presented by Bryan Camp), based on pledges received, a "same old" budget (presented by Dave Roberts) based on what it would cost to maintain our current standard of living, and a dream budget (presented by Mosi Harrington). The committee did this exercise because the budget can be a self-fulfilling prophecy and Friends need to be aware of what we are giving up if we approve a lower level of funding. Commenting that if we were Methodists, our budget would be about the size of the "dream budget" because we would be paying a pastor, Mosi reviewed the proposed enhancements. They included support of two students at our school, enhanced support of the Yearly Meeting Camping Program, and increased support of two Friends in our Meeting who are under release. This budget formally recognizes that in the last two years we have contributed over \$15,000 in support of our Sharing Fund. It also proposes enhanced budgets for several committees, including money for Adult Religious Education and Peace and Social Concerns' "Skilling Up" efforts. Money needs to be available for child care during Meeting activities. Another need that has been expressed by a variety of Friends has been for a central office, with a computer, copy machine, etc. Religious Education needs more space and would really like an additional classroom. This might be achieved by an addition to the white house, or a prefab classroom. House and Grounds needs more money to do minimal stewardship of our property. A Friend noted that a significant part of the dream budget is for one-time large expenses. Perhaps we should have a special fund drive for some of these things. The clerk thanked the Finance Committee for their prodigious efforts. More Friends need to hear about these efforts and these frustrations.

A Friend expressed the need to hear more about how we should raise money. The clerk of the Finance Committee feels that the committee lacks a vision of how to proceed in the current funding atmosphere. How can Meeting become excited about how we can do these things? The Committee is in some disarray about how to construct the budget and needs more reflection. A Friend suggested that our true path lies in focusing. We have attempted to do a large number of things. Some we have not done well. We may need to be more focused in our efforts and trust that others will do those things which we cannot do. This is difficult. Ministry and Worship is working on this. Finance Committee will present something more definite at the December monthly meeting. Finance Committee needs additional guidance. There is a reluctance to badger people about money. Denny May volunteered to provide frequent reminders to Friends about the importance of giving financial support to the Meeting. The Finance Committee clerk suggested that the Meeting may need to defer final process until January or

even later. This money is the way we finance our outreach in the world.

Friends accepted the report of the Finance Committee with gratitude and will endeavor to transmit the sense of both enthusiasm and responsibility to those not in attendance. The Committee needs to know how Friends wish it to proceed. We will be articulating to Friends the process and the needs between now and January.

97-101 Meeting APPROVED \$500 from the Released Friend line item of the budget to Harold Confer in support of his formation of Quaker Workcamps International. In a letter (attached) requesting the funds Harold said they would be used for support activities, including such things as postage, telephone, and copying.

97-102 Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Ann Riley. The committee is protesting the 2nd anniversary of the execution in Nigeria of Ken Saro-Wiwa. The clerk pointed out that AFSC, in protesting various injustices, has found it most effective to convey also the fact that the persons being protested to are also part of God's creation. Friends felt that time does not permit the work which would be required to send it out under the name of Adelphi Friends. Therefore, it will be sent as a communication from those who have signed it as individuals.

97-103 The committee then brought to the Meeting proposed minutes on the death penalty and on land mines. Friends proposed that the death penalty minute be sent to the governors of the various states which have the death penalty or are considering it, as well as to Friends working against the death penalty. Considerable support for a minute on the death penalty was expressed. The proposed minute was referred back to Peace and Social Concerns Committee. It will be reconsidered and brought for a second reading in December.

A Friend suggested that the minute on land mines would be better sent as a letter than treated as a minute. The committee clerk will take the comments back and it too will be reconsidered in December. Friends APPROVED incorporating the proposed language into a letter to be sent to President Clinton and to Maryland representatives in the House and Senate. A Friend expressed thanks to the committee for speaking on her behalf. Friends were uncertain about the need for a minute, since we have a prior minute (from the 17th century) opposing use of outward weapons.

97-104 House and Grounds. Denny May reported that the fire alarm system has some serious problems and is currently not operational. Use of a sprinkler system requires the presence of an operational alarm system. Our present insurance policy may require the sprinkler system. We are faced with the choice of repairing the existing system, replacing it with a more modern system, or disconnecting the sprinkler system and using smoke detectors. The committee is currently in the process of obtaining estimates. Funds would be taken from the Reserve for Replacement. Friends suggested that the whole cost, including any insurance savings, be considered. Friends APPROVED letting the committee proceed as it sees fit. One of the first things the committee will do is find out precisely what the terms of our insurance policy require. Our insurance policy is joint with Friends Community School. Friends thanked the committee for its work.

97-105 The meeting closed with a period of silent worship.

Ted Robinson	Martha L. Gay
Presiding Clerk	Assistant Recording Clerk

Adelphi Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
12/14/97

97-106. Opening. The meeting began with a period of worship. Out of the silence the clerk, Ted Robinson, read from the section on Cultivation of the Life of Spirit from the *Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting*.

The Society of Friends arose out of personal experience of God as revealed in Jesus Christ. The conviction that God can and does speak to all human conditions— enabling, directing and working through us - is at the center of Quaker faith and practice.

The Divine Spirit, which Friends variously call the Inner Light, the Light of Truth, the Christ Within, That of God in Everyone, has power to reveal, to overcome evil, and to enable us to carry out God's will. Quaker testimonies arise from listening to and obeying this Spirit.

Quaker faith welds the beliefs of its Christian foundation with the conviction that the Holy Spirit speaks to men and women and children of all races at all times. It draws individuals into a community of worship and of work for the redemption and improvement of human life. A Friends Meeting should be such a community. It should involve frequent, regular coming together in a common spiritual search, with members sharing experiences and insights, and finding the channels of service to which we are called individually and collectively.

Martha Gay (Assistant Recording Clerk) acted as Recording Clerk.

97-107. The November minutes were APPROVED.

97-108. The Clerk reviewed correspondence he has received recently.

The 1998 Quaker Women's Retreat, "Ocean of Darkness, Ocean of Light," will be held January 23-25, 1998. Details will appear in Silent Announcements.

James Matlack, AFSC Washington Office, has written expressing their thanks for our recent grant.

Alexander E. Barnes has written requesting membership in the Society of Friends. This was referred to the Pastoral Care Committee.

A Friend suggested that seasonal greeting received from Friends living or sojourning in distant places be shared during our times for joys and concerns and that Friends be informed of where they will be placed.

We have received a Newsletter from the AFSC-DC office, with a calendar, which the clerk asked be incorporated into our calendar in the Newsletter and Silent Announcements.

97-109. Jane Furniss reported on the letter we received from a prisoner at Jessup Institution. She sent copies to Elizabeth and Louise, and wrote to him thanking for his thoughts. He called.

He has recently had a hearing. He is in prison for murdering his wife, and has a daughter and granddaughter. He met Agnes through her prison visitation activities. He has also sent Christmas greetings to the Meeting. He invited Friends to visit at Patuxent Institution.

97-110. Haitian Request. Ann Marie Moriarty reported on a meeting with members of the Horeb Haitian Church, which uses our facility twice a month. A revised contract will be brought to a later business meeting. They are requesting use of the Meeting House on New Years Eve beginning in mid-afternoon and lasting until about 11PM. . We have agreed with them that outdoor activities will end by 9PM. This has generally been a good community to deal with. Ann Marie reported that concerns have been addressed and the ad hoc committee is comfortable with this arrangement. Friends APPROVED the request.

97-111. Nominating Committee. Presented the report (attached). There are still several vacancies. Friends APPROVED the report with thanks.

First readings - in italics. These will be held over for second reading.

Bob Donelan has been approved by Takoma Park as treasurer and needs to be approved by Adelphi as one of our Assistant Treasurers (first reading). Page Lacey has volunteered as Camping Scholarship Coordinator (also first reading). Pastoral Care and Religious Education especially need help.

Several Friends will be visiting Patuxent Meeting 3rd weekend in Jan. to discuss the cemetery in Hughesville and the prospect of that Meeting assuming ownership and responsibility for care of it from Adelphi. These Friends will also join them in worship.

97-112. Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Earnest Walker presented a second reading of **minute on the death penalty.**

Adelphi Friends Meeting opposes the use of the death penalty, under any circumstance, because we, as Quakers, believe in the presence of God in every human being. Moreover, we also recognize that the death penalty is unevenly applied in the United States and is more likely to be imposed on nonwhite and on people of limited economic means. Regardless of the heinous nature of the actions an individual may take, we believe that every human life has equal value and that to take a life, even in retaliation for murder, is morally indefensible.

Friends APPROVED.

97-113. Marcy Seitel has received a second set of book covers at no charge. Unfortunately, no one on the committee feels able to coordinate this project, and the committee recommends that it be handled by Young Friends and Religious Education, who have more contacts in the public schools. A Friend pointed out that it would be better if students were not on their own in dealing with this. Sometimes it is helpful to have an adult along when dealing with school administrators. Another Friend suggested that the Committee could offer assistance which would empower the youth to do this. The Religious Education Committee has seen the book covers and members have handed out some. Recommends that a rep of Peace and Social Concerns Committee come and talk to YF and the two committees work together on this. Referred back to both committees, who may recommend action to Meeting. A Friend suggested that the Committee just go and do. APPROVED.

97-114. The Conflict Resolution Subcommittee of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee has brought to the parent committee a large budget request, which the committee is not entirely comfortable with and unsure about how to handle. A large proportion of this request was for childcare. The clerk expressed concern about the process which has brought to the Business Meeting a concern not yet fully processed by the committee. Friends suggested that a unified approach to both child care and adult Religious Education is needed. The Religious Education Committee originally had responsibility for all Religious Education, but that was too much work, so they concentrated on children. Adult Religious Education has been handled in a variety of ways at various times. A Friend pointed out that Finance Committee is meeting soon and needs this kind of information. The occasion of presentation of the budget in Jan. will be a good occasion for presenting these topics. The Treasurer suggested that Adult Religious Education issues need to be addressed separately, since they are arising with some frequency. This is a growing program area in the Meeting, which we are handling on an ad hoc basis at present. No new structure for a unified approach to Adult Religious Education was proposed for 1998; the concern will be further discussed in a Second Hour. Preparation of this program was referred to the ad hoc Adult Religious Education Committee. Reuben Snipper agreed to convey this concern to this group. Friends recommended that the Ministry and Worship Committee assist appropriate committees in pulling together program for childcare during adult activities. The Meeting noted that the Religious Education Committee is doing a fine job with its portion of the child care, but that more attention needs to be paid to caring for children in order to enable their parents to fully participate in Meeting activities. Childcare is a financial implication of our decision about what our community needs.

97-115. Takoma Park Meeting (Preparative). Arthur David Olson presented the budget report. The meeting is experiencing reduced giving and has reduced the budget in response. Friends APPROVED the proposed budget. The clerk has information about the assets and liabilities.

97-116. Ministry and Worship Committee. Reuben Snipper reported that the committee proposes that sometimes when the clerk is absent, one of the Young Friends be responsible, with the assistance of the Assistant Clerk and Clerk of Ministry and Worship, for closing meeting, asking for joys and sorrows, etc. The regular procedure for the close of meeting would be unchanged. A Friend suggested that the Clerk of Young Friends should be asked. This is not something we do at random, and we should use the officers. Friends approved, noting the feeling of "apprenticeship" contained in this proposal. The clerk need not be absent, since he is in some sense the "master". It might be good to try this out on fifth Sunday when everyone is together. Friends APPROVED Ministry and Worship Committees proposal and authorized them to proceed.

97-117. Records Committee. Carol Beigel reported that the committee has been active. Bob Mitchell has collected the records. The committee will start with the oldest records first and will digitize all minutes and newsletters to come up with searchable text records. We are getting started, thanks to Bob who is trying to meet weekly with Carol. A Friend asked for a sample in a year.

97-118. The Trustees have not met. The Bylaws of Friends Community School will be considered in January.

97-119. Friends APPROVED empowering the Treasurer to continue to spend money absent a budget.

97-120. The meeting closed with a period of silent of worship.