

## **Abington Quarterly Meeting to Attend to Business**

### **Held at Norristown Monthly Meeting**

**Tenth Month, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

Abington MM – 6 : Byberry MM- 0: Gwynedd MM - 6: Horsham MM – 4 : Norristown MM-9 :  
Plymouth MM – 5 : Richland – 1 : Unami MM - 2 : Upper Dublin MM – 2 : Chestnut Hill MM -1

Amelia Diamond, clerk, began the meeting with worship at 9:10 AM, with 36 Friends present. She welcomed all and thanked Norristown Monthly Meeting for hosting and inviting us to stay for lunch

We approved the clerk's agenda, and the minutes of Quarterly Meeting of Eighth Month Sixth at Abington MM.

Bob Taylor, AQ Trustees president, gave the Trustees financial report for the year ending 6/30/2017. Trustees are considering updates to our By Laws and Conflict of Interest Policies. Bob noted that a "cash" rather than an "accrual" method is being used, and this is considered appropriate by the trustees and the auditors. We received a "clean" independent audit. Bob thanked Dan Hazelton and Bob Reiff for their work in their respective treasurer positions. He also acknowledged the good work of the Home and Care Committee distributing available funds to appropriate recipients. Finally, he noted that they have experienced difficulty in recruiting new members to serve on Trustees, suggesting that we need to be mindful of who might be willing potential candidates. Report was accepted

Dan Hazelton, our new treasurer of Trustees, reported on revenue, expenditures and fund balances the year ending 6/30/17. In response to a question he explained that "Funds Acting as Endowment" are unrestricted bequests, and therefore available for operating purposes if needed. Report was accepted

Bob Reiff, as AQ treasurer, gave receipts and disbursements and spoke of uses of funds by JFC/MSFC. As with the Trustees' and Trustees Treasurers' reports, the AQ Treasurer's report had been distributed to the membership by email. Report was accepted. Rebecca Cratin, administrator of Home and Care, encouraged us to spread the word that there ARE funds available to support the membership, and we should call upon her committee with questions and funding requests. Bob Taylor clarified the grant approval process, explaining that Trustees always coordinates their decisions with Home and Care.

Nancy Gold, clerk of AQ Home & Care, gave the committee's report. Nancy spoke of affordable housing at North Penn Commons in Lansdale. The committee has invited a speaker from The Hickman in West Chester to share information at next Home & Care meeting. Nancy reviewed our commitments with Foulkeways and AQ guidelines for HCC assistance. Report was accepted.

Cindy Reichley, currently at Chestnut Hill MM, spoke briefly on her connection to Planned Parenthood. The proposal of an AQ minute of support for Planned Parenthood had been requested by Connie Lezenby, of Gwynedd Meeting during the 8<sup>th</sup> month "picnic" AQ meeting. Connie now shared information on relatedness to climate change. The clerk noted that a draft minute for this purpose had been prepared in advance, and she asked for several volunteers to review the draft, make changes or additions, and read it to the meeting. Two members, Mary Green and Kaise Coyle volunteered to do this and joined Dan Turner, who had prepared the original draft. At his point the Clerk noted that it was 10am, and suggested that the review of the draft PP Minute continue in another room while those remaining join Norristown's membership in their Meeting for Worship. The Quarterly Meeting then adjourned, planning to resume in an hour.

After Meeting for Worship the AQ clerk reconvened the meeting and Mary Green read the adjusted draft minute out loud. A number of suggestions for improvement were made, which generally urged that negativity in wording be replaced by a more positive approach. Dan Turner made notes and set to work trying to revise the document in line with the ideas that had been offered. Mike Mrozinski, AQ's former clerk, suggested that the meeting proceed with the next item on the agenda while the draft PP minute was being reworked. For clarity, Amelia repeated Friends' thoughts for this minute and noted that the final minute will be distributed electronically.

Karen Shanoski, director of JFC/MSFC conferences gave us a report and video on the June conference at Westtown School. Twenty-two JFC and thirteen MSFC students attended. The theme was Voices of Change: what are things we care about. This brought research on hunger, animals, the earth. Activities included a fire pit, scavenger hunt, singing and many other options. The faith and leadership program explored issues of concern. A soup project donated \$155 to UNICEF. Worship was held at several campus locations. Overall, the facility was amenable to program needs. Karen read us some comments from students. All sharings were favorable. Karen's report was accepted. All reports were accepted with much gratitude.

Karen then gave us a few words on the present status of a possible AQ session on race & racism. No action is currently in process. Rather than parallel PYM efforts, the thought is to wait for what opportunities may open with PYM. Friends are invited to reflect on the concern and to come forward as may be led.

It was agreed that the Experiment to increase AQ participation be held over to next meeting.

The meeting closed with a brief interval worship, and Friends proceeded upstairs to partake of lunch provided by several kind Norristown Meeting members.

Amelia Diamond, Clerk

Dan Turner, note taker