

The Herndon Light

Query: Meeting for Business



2nd Month 11, 2018 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting for Quakers, Reston & Herndon Virginia 249

- 2/23-25 Faith & Play Training at Sandy Spring Meeting Newsletter
- 3/2 Religious Education Committee Meeting 7 PM at the Meetinghouse
- 3/4 P&SC Meeting 9:00 AM at Meetinghouse
- 3/4 Potluck at rise of Meeting for Worship
- 3/11 Meeting for Business 9:00 AM
- 3/11 Student Peace Awards Reception Sherwood Community Center 4 pm
- 3/17 Interim Yearly Meeting in Charlottesville
- 3/18 First Hour Discussion 9:00 AM "Carbon Footprint or Handprint" Margaret Fisher

Are our Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business held in the spirit of worship, understanding and forbearance?

In what ways do we each take our right share of responsibility in the service of the meeting?

Do we humbly set aside our own preconceived notions as to proper action, seeking instead Divine guidance as to the right course?

When direction seems lacking, is this seen as a challenge to a more prayerful search for truth?

Is the Meeting aware that it speaks not only through its actions but also through its failure to act?

Advices

Participation in the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business is the responsibility of all. Come with open minds, seeking the Spirit, listening carefully, discerning the truth in what others have to offer. Proceed with forbearance and warm affection for each other. If you cannot attend, prayerfully uphold the Meeting.

We do not seek a majority decision nor even consensus. As we wait patiently for God's guidance, our experience is that way will open and we shall be led into unity. Speak only when God gives you new insight into the matter at hand. Think it possible that you may be mistaken.

Meeting for Business 2/11/18

Herndon Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends holds Meeting for Worship at 660 Spring Street in Herndon each First Day (Sunday). Hymn singing begins at 10:15 am. An unprogrammed Meeting for Worship begins at 10:30 am and lasts about one hour. After worshiping with adults for 10-15 minutes, children and teenagers attend First Day School classes until the end of Meeting for Worship. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information call the Meeting's telephone answering machine at 703-736-0592. The Newsletter Editor is Terence McCormally. E-mail tmccormally@ffpcs.com. Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Meg Wallace. Correspondence and contributions can be sent to PO Box 88 Herndon, VA 20172 **WEBSITE AT** <https://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/herndon-friends-meeting>

The Care Coordinating Committee is available for Friends in need. If you need assistance because of an illness or other emergency, contact Priscilla Chamlee at dandpchamlee@gmail.com; or Fred Cresson at cresson4@verizon.net, or Margaret Rogers at margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com, or Bert Curtis at bertedits@gmail.com

Clerk Liz Willson gathered 23 Friends for Meeting for Business with Attention to

Business at 9:00 a.m. on February 11, 2018, with a reading of the 10th Query on Meeting for Business, from the 2013 edition, Second Reading, of Faith and Practice of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Inga Erickson, clerk of Ministry & Oversight reported on the accomplishment of marriage between Anna Carolyn Cole McCormally and Aaron Louis Goldbeck, under the care of Herndon Friends. The report was accepted.

Terence McCormally reported that he and Margaret Fisher, in consultation with the Peace Awards Subcommittee, have formed a 501(c) 3 registered non profit corporation to facilitate the operation of the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County. The new company, called "Herndon Friends Projects" presented a request to the subcommittee with a request for continuing support from the Meeting. The Meeting united with the Minute: Herndon Friends Meeting appreciates and encourages the independent non-profit organization Herndon Friends Projects (DBA The Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County) in its continuing recognition of local students in the pursuit of peace. The meeting offers support to Herndon Friends Project by:

1. Having Herndon Friends Meeting continue to appoint members to the Peace

Awards Subcommittee to offer as volunteers on the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County of Herndon Friends Projects.

2. Providing space without charge in the meetinghouse for the Annual Meeting and other meetings of Herndon Friends Projects and its committees, including the meetings of the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County.

3. Making an annual gift to Herndon Friends Projects at a minimum of the required sponsorship fee (currently \$200), and any additional donation recommended by the Peace Awards Subcommittee and approved by the Meeting as part of the regular budgeting process.

4. At the request of the Board of Herndon Friends Projects, asking the nominating committee of Herndon Friends Meeting to identify volunteers from the Meeting who would be willing to serve on the Board of Herndon Friends Projects.

5. Other such support as the Board of Herndon Friends Projects may request as considered by the Peace Awards Subcommittee and approved by the Meeting as a whole.

Naming Committee Report was presented by Weez Rothrock. She reported that the committee feels that someone with extensive knowledge of the Meeting members is best prepared to serve on the Nominating committee and nominated our former Clerk Cat Wilkins for a 3 year term beginning 2018. The meeting approved this appointment with thanks.

Dave Wilkins reported on his progress on the Assisted Listening Project for our meeting room. A demo at the meetinghouse is not possible, but a field trip to Falcons Landing in Sterling, where he has installed both a loop system and an FM system can be arranged. The people most concerned with having this service will get together and find a time to visit the site, some Sunday after Meeting in March. Dave will make the arrangements for parking and security entrance there.

Priscilla Chamlee presented the Care Committee Annual Report for 2017. The report was accepted.

The Greening Committee 2017 Year End report was presented by Margaret Fisher. The main project last year was the landscaping and habitat sub-committee planning and planting of the Native Habitat plants. The report was accepted

Ting Yi Oei reported that the first meeting of the Communications and Outreach Committee was held this past week. Three things considered were better organizing greeting of newcomers, signage outside the meeting describing our inclusiveness

and/or our testimonies, and creating a social media presence.

Care Coordinating Committee 2017 Year-end Report

In 2017 the Care Coordinating Committee continued its work coordinating care for the Herndon Friends community in times of need.

The Circle of Care continues with 52 Friends who are willing to consider offering their services for specific tasks such as providing rides, meals, and child care, based on what assistance is needed and whether they are available to provide it. This system is most often used to assist Friends undergoing or recovering from surgery, and in 2017 three Friends and their families were assisted for that purpose. Due to continued technical difficulties, the Committee changed the web-based organizing platform used to keep track of assistance needs and offers of help. Under the care of M&O, the Committee also provided Circle of Care members the opportunity to re-subscribe to the distribution list or opt-out, depending on their current level of interest or capacity to provide help.

Care Committees continue to play an important role. One new committee was established in 2017 and another continues its ongoing work. Both Care Committees worked to help families facing difficult health challenges.

Communications Liaison remains an important function. At times, there are needs that can only be met with prayer, friendship, and encouragement. The Care Coordinating Committee stands ready to communicate these needs to the wider community, while monitoring for material or spiritual needs that might be met by the Circle of Care or a Care Committee. The names and email addresses for each of the Care Coordinating Committee members appear on the front page of The Herndon Light, and Friends are encouraged to reach out.

Student Peace Awards Reception

Student Peace Awards ceremony will be held on March 11 at the Sherwood Community Center. The program will begin at 4 pm but volunteers are asked to come at 2:30. Lots of help is needed. Contact Margaret Rogers or Margaret Fisher for more information. The speaker will be Janessa Gans Wilder, founder of the Euphrates Institute.

Report on Accomplishment of Marriage of Anna McCormally and Aaron Goldbeck

We, the undersigned Committee of Oversight, are pleased to report that the marriage of Anna Carolyn Cole McCormally and Aaron Louis Goldbeck was accomplished on 11th Month, 18th Day in the year 2017 in the manner of Friends. The marriage took place during a called meeting for worship at East Lynne Farm in Round Hill, VA. Under the care of Herndon Friends Meeting and in the presence of 141 witnesses, Anna and Aaron took each other by the hands and took each other as husband and wife – pledging with Divine assistance to be loving and faithful to each other as long as they both shall live. The wedding from start to finish was a simple and joyful celebration of love, family, friendship and community. Anna and Aaron processed into the worship space to the sound of singing. Anna's brother, Sam McCormally, composed a three-part round specifically for the occasion and taught it to all gathered prior to the start of worship. Throughout the ceremony, Anna and Aaron were seated on a wooden bench made by the bride's father for the occasion. Friends of the bride and groom, Sarah Clinton-McCausland and Rosa Ostrum, welcomed all and explained the process of marriage in the manner of Friends. The groom's siblings, Anna and Sam Goldbeck presented the marriage certificate for signing during the ceremony, and the bride's brother, John McCormally, read the certificate to all assembled. The messages out of the silence were deep, loving and joyous. After the ceremony, guests signed the marriage certificate, enjoyed lawn games, and shared a delicious dinner, served family-style. The barn and the loft used for the wedding space and reception space were transformed by decorations made by Katherine Cole, flowers arranged by Shayla McCormally, music curated by Sam McCormally, and the work of many other friends and family. During the reception, the bride's parents, Katherine Cole and Terence McCormally, and the groom's parents, William Goldbeck and Rachel Seidman, all gave loving and heartfelt toasts to the happy couple. We, the Oversight Committee, appreciate the deep thought and reverence with which Anna and Aaron approached their marriage. We have all benefited spiritually from walking this journey with them and commend their continued care to Herndon Friends Meeting as they build their life together.

Inga Erickson Matthew Shinkman
Meg Wallace Elizabeth Willson

Wedding Toast

I suspect the story I'll tell now might resonate with the parents in the room.

My dreams of a daughter (and for a son, but that was for another wedding) started shortly after I realized in 1980 that I wanted my new boyfriend to be my last boyfriend. Suddenly I found my "all I want to do is become a doctor" dream to be wanting also to be a mother (and I knew exactly who I wanted the father to be.)

Dreams do sometimes come true because my daughter Anna arrived about 10 years later. After that I hoped and dreamed she would sometime find a partner as kind and loving to her as her father was to me. When she brought a boyfriend home my question was always, "Is he a good boyfriend?", code for "as good as your dad is to me." But she knew what I meant.

If I could do anything differently I would have listened a little more closely to comments that started around 2009 or 2010 about "My friend Aaron who is in my creative writing class," then "My friend Aaron who graduated and moved to Chicago but comes back sometime to visit his friends at Earlham and sometimes needs a ride back to Indianapolis to get a bus or a plane home." And then finally "My friend Aaron who is in DC with his family to visit his grandfather and east coast family for the holidays who I'm going downtown to meet."

I finally understood when she said, "My friend Aaron who lives in Chicago who is moving to Washington to be my boyfriend."

We met Aaron at the end of a very long drive from Chicago in a U-Haul truck with Anna and his stuff. He didn't know us and looked a bit bewildered at our hugs and big welcome to our home, but by then I knew what Anna felt about him and that was all I needed to know.

So we are so happy she met the man she wants to be her last boyfriend, and that he is a truly wonderful man.

So join us in another toast to Anna and Aaron, to their dreams and their journey with our promises to be beside them in love and friendship

--Katherine Cole

Stubborn Ounces

You say the efforts that I make
will do no good;
they will never prevail
to tip the hovering scale
where justice hangs in the balance.

I don't think
I ever thought they would,
but I am prejudiced beyond debate
in favor of my right to choose which side
shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight.

Bonaro Overstreet (forwarded by Meg Wallace)

Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
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