

The Herndon Light



6th Month 11, 2017 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 244

- 6/11 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 9:00 AM
- 6/18 Adult Discussion 9:00 BYM Camping Program STRIDE Program by Kait Lofter-Thun
- 6/25 Meeting Retreat after Rise of Meeting for Worship Runnymede Park—Lunch furnished
- 6/27 FCNL Advocacy Training at the Meetinghouse 5:30 PM for potluck; training 6 to 9
- 7/2 Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship
- 7/9 No Meeting for Business—but sandwich making will go on
- 7/16 Adult Discussion Session 9:00 “Creating Sacred Space: A Spiritual Journey” by Liz Willson
- 8/1-8/6 BYM Annual Session, Hood College Frederick Maryland
- 8/6 Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship
- 8/13 Meeting for Business at 9:00 AM
- 9/17 – Adult Discussion 9:00 AM “The Gathered Meeting,” a Pendle Hill pamphlet by Steven Davison.

Query: Diversity

Does your vision of a just society include people living their lives without fear of discrimination based on who they are, what they believe, and whom they love?

Are we willing to be in communion with each other, open to our differences yet secure in the one Spirit that calls us all to be Friends?

Do my decisions reflect the voices of people of color, people of different sexual identities, people of different ages and economic conditions?

Do I take the risks that right action demands?

Do I seek out and listen to perspectives that promote equal access, inclusion, and welcome for people of all cultures and backgrounds?

How do we work toward creating a community of different people, rather than being a community that just lets different people in?

Do we take the time to see what we want to become as people and as a global community, and do we humbly acknowledge that we have some work to do?

Meeting for Business 6/11/17

Cat Wilkins gathered 23 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at 9:00 AM on 6/11/17 with a reading of the query on Diversity. Recording Clerk **Cathy Tunis** reviewed the minutes from the most recent Meeting for Business in April.

Advancement and Outreach

Reporting for the Ministry and Oversight Committee, Inga Erickson reported the recommendation that Herndon Friends create a new standing committee, the Advancement and Outreach Committee to supplement our current standing committees (Ministry and Oversight (with a subcommittee on Care Committees), Peace and Social Concerns (with a subcommittee on Peace Awards), Religious Education, House and Grounds (with an ad hoc Greening the Meetinghouse Committee, Hospitality, Nominating, Finance). Many Quaker Meetings, including BYM itself, have an Advancement and Outreach Committee although the naming and function of committees is left to individual meetings to discern. Many of the

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 worshipping 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. Notices for the Newsletter can be sent to him at 2514 Trophy Lane, Reston, VA 20191 E-mail tmccormally@ffpcs.com. Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Meg Wallace **WEBSITE AT** <http://www.quakercloud.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 Abbey Compton, Clerk, at abbey.compton@verizon.net; or Priscilla Chamlee at dandpchamlee@gmail.com; or Fred Cresson at cresson4@verizon.net, or Stacey LaRoy at staceybear@laroyfamily.com or Margaret Rogers at margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com

duties envisioned by the Ministry and Oversight Committee for the new committee (Web site development, producing the newsletter, maintaining a list serv, Greeting visitors, following up on the guest book sign ins, providing materials for newcomers to the meeting, keeping the library organized, sending an annual Christmas letter and birthday cards, keeping a directory up to date, making nametags, managing advertisements in newspapers and Friends Journal, having someone answer the Meeting answering machine, addressing welcoming signage inside and outside the Meetinghouse) are currently handled in part by existing committees, in part by appointing individuals (a librarian or a newsletter editor, or the liaisons to FCNL, Cornerstones, William Penn House) or by an industrious Friend who takes on responsibility on their own. Recognizing the value of these efforts, Ministry and Oversight is asking that the new committee be formed to standardize these efforts by having the nominating committee consider appointments for this committee for the 2018 Clerks and Committees which is usually produced in November. M&O envisions these people should be appointed for three year terms, although the first round should have staggered terms.

In considering the recommendation, Friends expressed concern on how this committee would address issues of diversity and inclusiveness; how would the committee assist us in becoming a “community of different people and not just a community that lets different people in.” There was also a question of whether adding another committee is the right solution if the problem is that we have committees that are not performing.

Because of the complexity of the decision, the Clerk did not discern unity in the Meeting to proceed, and the issue will be laid over for re consideration in August. Inga will send the proposal on the list serve so that Friends can review it in more detail.

Jolene Smith reported for the Religious Education Committee. At Meeting for Worship on 6/4/17, two high school students were recognized on their graduation with well wishes from the Meeting: Aaron Huebsch and Patrick Devoda. In addition 4 students are recognized as graduating into middle school: Asa McClendon, David Sullivan, Joseph Long, and Leo Brennan

Jolene also remarked that June 18 will be the last regular First Day School session. A sign up sheet for adults to lead First Day School summer classes is up in the back of the Meetinghouse. The RE committee has selected Patience as the theme for

the summer sessions. Any adult who wishes to lead is encouraged to do so. In the summer we have a joint class and attendance can be quite varied between 3 and 10 students of different ages. We require two adults to lead any youth activity, one of whom must be “cleared” by the RE committee. If no adult signs up to lead a session, children are welcome to stay in Meeting for Worship.

Margaret Fisher reported the recommendation of the Landscaping Committee of the Greening Committee. After the Meeting’s approval, the Landscaping Committee has proceeded with plant and contractor selection for the next phase of landscaping on the Western and Southern aspects of the Meetinghouse property. The proposed changes are to make the meetinghouse more attractive to a diverse wildlife, and to manage storm water run off.

The landscaping committee is recommending that the meeting spend about \$8,700 for plants and labor to complete the landscaping plan that was previously reviewed. The project would be supervised by Lush Life Landscape Design Associates. Margaret anticipates a \$3500 grant from the Virginia Conservation Assistance Fund to pay for the part of the plan having to do with storm water runoff. The plan includes the erection of lattice or other material to provide a visual barrier to the bare ground that will be visible after the overgrown bushes in the front of the meetinghouse are removed before the landscaping is full established. The plan also includes a garden bench to sit by the entry way door. There is an August deadline to apply for the grant, and it is anticipated that the labor will be scheduled for the fall planting season.

The Meeting approved up to \$9000 for the project with the understanding that the grant to defray part of the cost will be vigorously pursued. Funds for this will come the Capital Budget.

Harry Tunis reported on the House and Grounds Committee discussions with electricians to complete electrical work on the Meetinghouse. House and Grounds recommends that the Meeting authorize the outlay of \$5500 to complete several tasks including an underground power line to the new First Day School Cabin, rewire the kitchen outlets with individual GFCI, add an outlet in the storage closet, add a circuit in the kitchen island to allow for a dishwasher in the future, rewire the fixture in the furnace room to meet code, and replace the buzzing magnetic ballasts on the lights in the Meeting room with quieter electronic ballasts. This replacement is also necessary in

anticipation of the future installation of an augmented hearing/amplification system in the Meetinghouse.

There are currently about \$17,000 in the Capital Fund. For 2017, the meeting budgeted for about \$5000 in directed donations to the Capital Fund, of which about \$2900 has been received so far, this year. Harry reports that other Capital improvements to be anticipated in the next year or two include a new roof, and painting of the interior of the Meetinghouse.

Friends approved the expenditure for the electrical work.

Tim Stanley presented the annual report of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. The report was accepted.

Adult Discussion Sessions

June's adult discussion session to be held at 9:00 am 6/16 will be a presentation by BYM staffer Kait Lufter-Thun on the camping program's newly expanded STRIDE (Strengthening Transformative Relationships in Diverse Environments) program, formerly the Working Group on Diversity at Camps. From the BYM Website:

"Started in 2009 as a program to increase authentic diversity at Catoctin by bringing campers from Philadelphia, STRIDE has expanded into 2 new cities this year, and into Opequon, Shiloh, and Teen Adventure, thanks to a generous 3-year grant by the Shoemaker Foundation. STRIDE now provides additional supports to the long-time efforts of many directors, staff, and volunteers to increase equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the camping program."

On July 17th at 9:00 AM, Liz Willson will reprise her presentation from the Women's retreat on "Creating Sacred Space: A Spiritual Journey."

FCNL Advocacy Training

In-person meetings with members of Congress are the most effective way to influence policy decisions, so Friends concerned about shaping public policy in a way that reflects Quaker values can benefit from learning about effective advocacy techniques. The FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation) has been providing training around the country for Friends who want to be more effective in their interaction with legislators. There will an Advocacy Team training session at Herndon Friends Meeting on Tuesday evening, June 27. There will be a simple potluck dinner at 5:30, followed by training conducted by Maiya Zwerling,

FCNL Advocacy Teams National Field Organizer, from 6 to 9 pm.

Register at http://act.fcnl.org/event/advocacy-teams_attend/126.

This workshop is open to the public, and non Quakers are welcome to attend. More information is available at

<https://www.fcnl.org/updates/advocacy-teams-37>

Clearness Committee on Marriage

Anna McCormally and Aaron Goldbeck

At Meeting for Business on 6/11/17, Liz Willson presented a minute from the Clearness Committee appointed by the Ministry and Oversight Committee on receipt of an application by Anna McCormally, a birthright member of Herndon Friends Meeting, and her fiancé Aaron Goldbeck to be married under the care of Herndon Friends Meeting:

"Matthew Shinkman, Meg Wallace, Inga Erickson and Liz Willson, having been appointed by Herndon Friends Meeting as a Committee for Clearness, met with Anna McCormally and Aaron Goldbeck on 9th Day, 6th Month, 2017 at the home of Liz Willson. Both the Committee and the intended partners had prepared with care in advance of the meeting.

We do find that Anna McCormally and Aaron Goldbeck follow a true leading in seeking marriage and believe they are prepared for the dedication and constancy that such a relationship requires.

Being satisfied that there is no obstacle to the proposed marriage, we recommend that Herndon Friends Meeting take Anna and Aaron under their care and hold a Meeting for Worship for Marriage on 18th Day, 11th Month, 2017."

Friends united with the Minute. Ministry and Oversight will appoint a committee of Overseers to assure the accomplishment of the marriage in good order.

Meeting Retreat

Ministry and Oversight is sponsoring an afternoon retreat at Runnymede park in Herndon after rise of Meeting on 6/25/17. Meeting for Worship will be at the Meetinghouse as usual and then Friends will move to Runnymede park for lunch provided by the Meeting. Runnymede is a 58 acre preserve in the middle of Herndon; it include a native plant garden with 100 different kinds of plants flowers and wildlife.

Brief Notes:

Margaret Rogers reminds Friends that the care coordinating committee is available for Friends in need . Contact information for the members of the care coordinating committee is on the first page of the newsletter. One mechanism that the care coordinating committee uses is a circle of care—Friends willing to provide short term service—a ride to the doctor or baby sitting. This is coordinated through the Lotsa Helping Hands website. Friends who wish to be notified (on a no obligation basis) of circle of care opportunities should contact one of the Care Coordinating Committee members who can get them registered.

Peace in the news

Reston State Delegate Ken Plum interviewed Margaret Fisher and Margaret Rogers to appear on his regular Virginia Report, a half hour weekly TV program on Comcast channel 28, to describe the Student Peace Awards. The video can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKIAWxreooE&index=7&list=PLrje5o6qHpBEWdZ49GC6-5pa5tLwIshlK>

Patience is a Virtue

During a discussion of the First Day School summer program Louisa Davis reminded us that “Patience” is one of the 7 virtues. While there are several lists of virtues, Patience was listed as part of the 7 “contrary virtues,” which are opposite to the seven deadly sins or vices enumerated by Pope Gregory in the 6th century CE.

Pride opposed by Humility

Envy opposed by Kindness

Gluttony opposed by Abstinence

Lust opposed by Chastity

Anger opposed by Patience

Greed opposed by Liberality

Sloth opposed by Diligence

There’s a whole slew of First Day School lessons in there.

*Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
Herndon, VA 20170*

End of Year Report

Peace and Social Concerns – 2016

Work of this committee is highlighted below.

- Committee members served as liaisons at VA Quakers interfaith group, Cornerstones, Friends Committee on National Legislation, American Friends Service Committee, and VA Interfaith Center for Public Policy.
- Committee began discernment about Interfaith Peace and Justice. The committee agreed to ask about a budget line. Committee asked Louisa Davis to serve as liaison. Louisa also offered to be liaison for FxCo FCIA.
- OAR – Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources. Committee asked Louisa Davis to serve as liaison.
- Committee was updated periodically on legislation by the General Assembly in Richmond by Ting-Yi.
- Hyperthermia Project - Debbie worked with our committee and Meeting and Cornerstones' to involve us in the Hyperthermia Project. Debbie reported great response from Meeting to serve dinner for homeless as volunteers came forward.
- Adult discussion organized by committee and facilitated by Jon. Jon used the following to guide the adult discussion: "How do we demonstrate core beliefs and testimonies outwardly to the world?"
- Cornerstones Christmas Helping Families – members of our Meeting sponsored all children who needed gifts for the holidays.
- Christmas ornament sale to benefit needy children's medical fund. Paul's daughter created the design this year.
- Thanksgiving Baskets – November 13 was day for shopping and packing boxes. Many on committee, our high school students, and the entire Meeting got involved.
- Committee supported purchasing food and making sandwiches for the Rucker Homeless Shelter on the second Sunday of each month.
- Weekly collection of food at Meeting to take to Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center (Cornerstones).
- Black Lives Matter banner - P&SC discussed this at a couple of meetings and did not come to consensus. Ed offered to take it to Meeting for Business.
- Interfaith Partners for Justice – mission is two fold: one is policing in FxCo to decrease improper stops of minorities and the second is a re-entry program for prisoners. Questions came about how this group works with OAR and response was they work to support those with mental illness in our community. Some action on this topic:
 1. Draft a minute for Meeting for Business to adopt support for Faith Partners for Justice (see below)
 2. Committee agreed that it was okay to say that Herndon Friends supported Interfaith Partners for Justice.
 3. Louisa Davis volunteered to serve as liaison to Interfaith Partners for Justice.

MINUTE: We as a meeting support the values of Interfaith Partners for Justice and we encourage this group as it grows and evolves.

- The Peace Awards Committee is a subcommittee of Peace and Social Concerns. They will be giving their annual report in May or June, at the conclusion of the 2017 Student Peace Awards.

Submitted by Tim Stanley 6/11/17

Accepted by Meeting for Business 6/11/17