

The Herndon Light



1st Month 10th, 2016 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 231

Jan 17	Fauquier Friends Worship Group at Bealton Depot next to library
Jan 17	Adult Discussion: To Whom Shall We Give led by Amy Shinkman and Chris Long
Jan 17	Religious Education Committee after rise of meeting for worship
Jan 29-31	BYM Women's Retreat at the Pearlstone Retreat Center in Reistertown, MD
Feb 7	Greening Committee 9:00 AM at the Meetinghouse All welcome
Feb 7	Worship Sharing on the Spiritual State of the Meeting during Meeting for Worship
Feb 7	Potluck at Rise of Meeting For Worship
Feb 14	Meeting For Business 9:00 AM
Feb 21	Adult Discussion Clearness Committees led by Stacey Laroy
Feb 21	Fauquier Friends Worship Group at Bealton Depot next to library

Query: Listening

When is it hardest for me to be ready to listen?
To what extent do I open myself to the risks of listening?

How have I been changed by deeply listening to another, to God, to nature?

How does my own perception affect the way I understand what others say?

Meeting For Business 1/10/16

Cat Wilkins gathered 22 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business with a reading of the query on Listening.

Friends responded out of the silence

"My psychiatrist colleague said 'Listening requires all your attention and all your skills. It is an activity that can only be accomplished by adults.' And another colleague told me that 'listening is among the very best things that one Friend can do for another'"

"It may be necessary to distinguish between not listening to someone and not agreeing with them."

Ministry and Oversight

Fred Cresson presented for the Ministry and Oversight Committee. There will be a Worship Sharing during Meeting for Worship on 2/7/16 to discern the Spiritual State of The Meeting. The Ministry and Oversight Committee will present distribute the queries to be considered prior the Worship Sharing.

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** www.herndonfriends.org.

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 stacebear@laroyfamily.com or Margaret Rogers at margrog@juno.com

Two Adult discussion sessions are scheduled. On 1/17 Chris long and Amy Shinkman will lead a discussion on "To whom shall we give." On Feb 21 Stacey Laroy will lead a conversation on Clearness Committee.

Fred presented the annual report of the M&O committee, which was accepted. The report is included elsewhere in the newsletter

Care Coordinating Committee

Abbey Compton presented the Annual Report of the Care Coordinating Committee. She reminded the Meeting that the Care Coordinating Committee has three basic functions: maintaining the Circle of Care – the list of 47 friends who have signed up to be available to provide different kinds of help when called on (this activity is coordinated by an online calendar); formation of care committees when needed for specific members of the meeting; and communicating when friends have not requested material support but are asking to be held in the light. Abbey reports there are two active care committees. The report was accepted.

Meeting Gathering as a Committee of the Whole to Appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate Members of the Nominating Committee.

Harry Tunis and Curtis Jacobs are the remaining members of the Nominating committee after the expiration of the term of Bert Curtis and Weez Rothrock at the end of 2015. During Meeting for Business, the clerk asked for a period of silent

worship to identify candidates for an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee to identify one to two candidates for the nominating committee. Responding out of the silence Don Chamlee and Katherine Cole volunteered to serve as the ad hoc committee. Their service was accepted.

Committee on Greening the Meeting House

Margaret Fisher presented two proposals from the Greening Committee:

To encourage reuse of paper materials, Greening committee has proposed the meeting hold a periodic event to share magazines or books of spiritual nature. If accepted, the expectation is that materials would be brought into the Meetinghouse on a specific day, possibly the day of Adult Discussion sessions. Friends could take what materials they wanted, with the expectation that the person who brought them in would take home any unwanted materials that day. The proposal was accepted.

The Committee also recommended the creation of a “yahoo group” to post availability of useful but rarely needed equipment (think leaf blowers or shredders, party supplies like punch bowls or folding chairs, baby strollers for visiting nieces and nephews or garden equipment.) This would mainly be for borrowing but could be used to offer items to give away. The list could be expanded to include services like ride sharing, or babysitting. Unlike services such as Freecycle, the listings would only be available to Herndon Friends and access would be by invitation only. The proposal was accepted as a trial. Margaret will send out an invitation on the listserve, or Friends can email her to sign up.

Budget 2016

Treasurer Devon Mahoney presented the second reading of the 2016 Budget. An excerpt is presented below

Selected Items	2015 Actual	2015 Proposed
INCOME		
General Fund Contributions	46,079	48,931
In Kind Contributions	563	1000
Fauquier Friends	1,130	1,130
Total Income	\$50,646	\$51,061
EXPENSES		
Mortgage	12,036	12,036
BYM Apportionment	10,860	10,410
Gifts	6,050	6,050
Hospitality Committee	424	600
House and Grounds	5,482	6,770
Ministry and Oversight Scholarships	\$2250	3500
Sandwich Making	1817	2500
Fauquier Friends	816	1130
FUND BALANCES	2014	2015
Capital Fund	8192	12361

Growth and Building Fund	373967	374490
Family Emergency Fund	6063	6076

It was noted that total contributions declined from \$49,700 to \$47,900. Some of this deficit is thought to be related to incomplete reporting of “In-Kind” contributions (IE: someone purchases sandwich supplies and decides not to ask for reimbursement so doesn’t give Devon the receipt).

Due to recent drops in stock market, The Growth and Building Fund showed minimal growth despite the addition of the \$5000 payment from Dominion Electric for the easement to place the electrical box on the corner of the meetinghouse lot. The Finance Committee continues to monitor HFM investments.

BYM apportionment represents the second largest expenditure in the budget, after the mortgage. The apportionment is the amount requested from BYM to support the administrative activities of the yearly meeting. The apportionment is set by the BYM finance committee and is based on a formula that includes the number of members, and the contributions received by monthly meetings. Forty two monthly meetings are assessed by BYM a total of \$462, 200 resulting in a mean of \$11,005, with apportionment ranging from \$570 (at Gettysburg Monthly Meeting) to \$65,000 for Friends Meeting of Washington. At \$10,410, Herndon Friends Meeting is the 13th largest contributor. Some meetings have not been able to fund their allotted apportionment amount, and BYM has a 2-3% non payment rate; this year they’ve budgeted for a \$6500 “bad debt” on apportionment. In the last two years, Herndon Friends Apportionment has actually decreased, but the Meeting has decided to continue to send the difference between the 2014 assessment and the current assessment as an unrestricted donation. Some other meetings are doing the same.

BYM Budget 2016	2016 Budget
Apportionment (-6500 bad debt)	455,700
Contributions and Grants	207,000
Total Admin Income	663,200
Administrative Wages & Benefits	326,889
Development Expenses	137,748
Other Administrative Expenses	149,150
To Unrestricted Reserves	12,294
Contributions, Gifts & Grants	51,450
Committee Expenses	12,650
Total Administrative Expenses	690,191
Income over Expenses	(26,991)
Camp Program Fee Income	821,851
Camp Property Income	180,137
Camp Program and Property	67,000

Contributions	
Other Camp Income	32,150
Camp Program/Property Income	1,101,138
Camp Program Wages & Benefits	449,354
Camp Property Wages & Benefits	158,663
Camp Property-Program Expenses	449,175
Camp ProgramProperty Expenses	1,057,192
Total Camps	43,946
Youth Programs Fee Income	23,850
Youth Programs Contributions	2,500
Youth Programs Released Funds	200
Total Youth Programs Income	26,550
Youth Programs Expenses	60,225
Total Youth Programs	(33,705)
Annual Session Fee Income	96,210
Other Program Fee Income	37,500
Other Program Contributions	5,500
All Other Program Income	9,955
Total All Other Program Income	149,165
Annual Session Expenses	95,165
All Other Program Expenses	37,250
Total All Other Program Expenses	132,415
Total All Other Programs	16,750
Totals of All BYM Activities	
Income, all sources	1,940,053
Expenses, all programs	1,940,053

Report of the Greening Committee

We have been discussing ways to reduce the storm water runoff from our property. Runoff from impervious surfaces is a major contributor to the degradation of our waterways and destroying the things that live in them. Normally in Virginia, most rain water would be captured and percolated by trees and other plantings and arrive in streams gradually from underground. Now, though, it rushes off roofs and pavements and dumps quickly into streams, causing them to flood. The flood water undermines the stream banks, kills the stream life, and carries sediment down to the bay where it smothers the aquatic grasses which are the basis for that ecosystem. Runoff also carries poisons with it. The best solution to this problem is for landowners to take responsibility for retaining storm water on their own properties. There are a variety of ways to do this technically, including building underground water collectors and rain gardens. The majority of our property is covered by impervious surfaces. The meeting will need to decide whether it is willing to spend money to help the rest of the living world, knowing that there will be no monetary return on the investment.

We have consulted Dan Schwartz, from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and we have asked for an estimate from Ken Fraine, owner of Drainage and Erosion Solutions. We plan to discuss it again at the next Greening Committee meeting, which

is planned for 9 am on February 7. All are welcome.
--Margaret Fisher

Ministry and Oversight Committee Year-End Report 2015

The Ministry and Oversight Committee continued our work in 2015 to support the spiritual life of the Meeting. Early in the year, we held adult discussions on the testimonies of Peace and Simplicity, as well as the Godly Play story of Easter. The Spiritual State of the Meeting was discerned through Worship Sharing. Mid-week Meeting for Worship was provided, but not well-attended, which has led the committee to lay this down for next year. In lieu of a full retreat this year, we had an all-ages game night that was well attended and hope to continue to have more of these in the future.

At the request of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, we encouraged the Meeting to review sections of Faith and Practice and submitted feedback.

In May, Fauquier Friends Worship Group, which is under the care of Herndon Friends Meeting, celebrated its one year anniversary.

During the summer, the discussion about our connection with food and living in unity with the world led to a minute approved at Meeting for Business. Six children from our Meeting attended Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camps, and their families received our camp grants.

In the fall, we asked each committee to lead an adult discussion relating to their work. Religious Education began with thought-provoking fables. The Nominating Committee led a discussion where each committee was represented to speak about the work they do. The Greening Committee facilitated a discussion led by a representative from Alliance Climate Solutions. We are looking forward to continuing with the remainder of the committees next year.

This year we welcomed new member Jodi Beatty and the transfer of member Inga Erickson. We also celebrated the marriage of Caitlin Murphy and Damian Allen. Four members went through the process to officially be able to sign Virginia marriage licenses, and we are looking forward to future marriages under the care of HFM.

The Care Coordinating Committee, which will have its own year-end report, provided support for a variety of members and attenders in need.

We ended the year with Christmas singing and Christmas Eve pot luck and worship.

Cat Wilkins and Fred Cresson

Brief Notes

Sadly, Dee Dee Wilkins missed the first Business Meeting of 2016, breaking her lifetime streak of attendance. She did make it to Meeting for Worship, and was noted to be very attentive to the piano player during singing. Like everyone else, she has the opportunity to attend Business Meeting again on February 7th.

BYM Camp Registration opens January 15 at 7 pm for returning campers and February 1st for new campers. Many Herndon Friends say BYM camps are a central part of their Quaker development, allowing them to participate in a welcoming non judgmental community and explore new aspects of their lives. Herndon Friends believe so strongly in the value of Quaker camp for our young Friends that we offer \$350 scholarship assistance to every child in the meeting to help defray the cost of attending a BYM camp.

Catoctin Quaker Camp is building a new bathhouse. BYM is still soliciting donations to cover the cost—so far \$188,000 has been received towards the goal of \$297,000.

The Washington Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology is hosting their annual retreat on February 12-14 at the Bishop Clagett Center near Frederick Maryland. The keynote speaker is Dr. Bonnie Damron who will be speaking about the Penelope archetype in the Odyssey. The WFCRP has been meeting annually since 1977. Registration closes on February 5. More information is available on line at <http://fcrp.quaker.org/wfcrp-2016-registration.html>

Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
Herndon, Virginia 20170