

VIRGINIA BEACH MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

3rd Month, March 2019

Meeting opened with waiting worship, 9 persons present.

Opening Worship: Query #9: Manner of Living: Are we mindful of Friends testimonies against alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other harmful drugs; and do we refrain from using them or dealing in them, realizing that abstinence is the clearest witness against overindulgence? Do we seek to avoid all kinds of gambling and places of diversion that tend to be demoralizing? Do we keep in mind how diverse and widespread are the temptations to grow richer at the expense of others? Are we faithful to our testimony against taking oaths?

Response:

Examining the many portions of this query about manner of living we ask ourselves, are our actions based on our beliefs? Do we act on our faith? We reflect on why oaths are pervasive in ordinary speech. There are no degrees to Truth. We reflect on the unfair structure of our society and work toward equality. This query helps us stay connected to God.

Action Items and Other Business:

School Report:

Mike Barclay shared the re-enrollment letter which outlines some of the many accomplishments since June; including branding, website updates, social media, academics, fundraising, and technology and safety upgrades. This spring the Greenhouse will be re-launched and next year the Cottage will reopen to house a new toddler program.

Rosalie Deer Heart's Clearness membership committee met once and will continue.

Interim Body April 27 at Durham Friends:

Agenda requests are welcome. Dave French and Nancy Craft are delegates. Others are welcome to attend. Please notify the clerk if you plan to attend.

The official name of our meeting is Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Hofheimer memorial update:

The service, scheduled for 3/30/19 is in the Wilson Center, will be a Quaker service with a few programmed portions. A volunteer sheet was circulated. The Hofheimers express their deep appreciation to the Meeting and the School.

School Committee Update:

It is important to have a clear recorded title to our Meeting property. It is currently recorded in parcels. We recommend that the Property Task Force move toward a single plat for the meeting

property in conjunction with the school when they move forward, as soon as practical. We discussed a future lease between the school and the Meeting.

Yearly Meeting Delegates:

There was discussion about how delegates are chosen for Yearly Meeting. We requested Nominating Committee consider this issue.

Young Friends:

Request for more funds for a table and chairs will exceed their budget by about \$150. It is approved to provide them with funds to purchase these items.

We encourage those who are not parents to help with young friends as we seek one or two people to help once a month. Please contact Linda Smith.

Building and Grounds:

Meeting approved spending \$500 for a chair rack. Building and Grounds purchased rubber treads for the stairs to improve safety. Our next work day is 5/18/19.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer/Finance Committee:

Major expenses last month included our donation to Friends School (\$16,000) and property insurance (\$1,959). The money donated to School for a student's tuition has been returned and re-invested. The annual report was prepared and reviewed by Beth Patterson and will be available.

Peace and Social Justice Committee:

Note: Steve Baggary will not be available for a bag lunch on 3/31/19 as planned; however, he will visit with the Peace and Social Justice Committee on 4/7/19. We need several people to coordinate our lobbying efforts with state and local representatives.

Faith and Practice Committee:

Next meeting is 3/23/19 and all are welcome.

Nominating Committee:

Please let Andy Young know as soon as possible of any special committee staffing needs. Next meeting: 3/27/19 at 10 a.m. in Meetinghouse kitchen.

Meeting closed with silent worship, 15 people present.

Jeanne Crawford, Clerk

Joanne Crass, Recording Clerk