Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Business
09-12-2021, 1pm via Zoom

Meeting opened with a period of waiting worship at 1:05PM,12 persons in attendance.

Query #2 - Meeting for Worship: Are we faithful in our attendance at meetings for worship, and are we careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by our late arrival? Is our behavior therein that of open submission to God in silent communion?
Response: Open submission to God requires a daily letting go of our own emotions, ideas & concerns. We try to practice the discipline of freeing ourselves of distractions in order to hear that 'still small voice.'

Worship & Community: Greeters at the Meetinghouse on Zoom are needed on 9/26. Any care and outreach concerns are always welcomed. World Quaker Day is 10/3, and a program may be planned at the rise of Meeting. The Committee requests that we all review the Queries, and send any ideas on how they might be made more "community oriented" to Dave French by 9/19 for submission to Fall Interim Body. First Day Discussions continue on the 1st & 3rd first days of the month from 9:30-10:15 AM in-person and on Zoom.

MINUTE: Meeting approved the recommendation from Worship & Community Committee and Clearness & Support Committee that Olivia James be permitted to use the Meetinghouse Zoom account for a worship group, and that she and the participants may contribute financially to the meeting as they are led.

We invite and encourage all Meeting members and attenders to join our next monthly Worship and Community meeting, the fourth Monday of each month at 4:00 PM.

Buildings & Grounds: Didn't meet this month. There will be a new custodian, coordinated with the school. Kathie Garner will keep us updated. The lawn and landscaping needs work. Any volunteers?

Faith & Practice: Dave French reported the committee has begun work on the Queries for Monthly Meetings. Input from our members was requested by 9/19/21, and so far we've only heard from two people.

PE&SJ: Sally Gudas continues to need drivers to take immigrants to appointments. The Social Justice University is virtual so everyone can come! Check out the Virginia Organizing Calendar on their report for additional opportunities for service and action. Social Justice University, a legislative coalition, is Sunday 9/26 on Zoom.

Head of School: Like other independent schools, COVID has led to some quarantined classes in the opening days of school. This has not changed any school calendar events, and the community seems just to be grateful to be back at school and learning in-person. Current enrollment is 155, with a waitlist in Kindergarten and ¾ grade. The biggest hurdle facing the school regarding enrollment is attrition and controlling this number. Classes have been scheduled, and technology updated. The campus has seen multiple improvements, including the new playground! Counselor Dee Talbert has met with families of students with learning differences, and conducted ongoing training in diversity, equity, and inclusion. Summer camp was reviewed. Athletics and other co-curricular club programs will begin the end of the month.

School Committee: Had their retreat on 8/21 to develop a 5-year long-range plan. A VAIS video provided a template for such an endeavor. The Committee identified

strengths and weaknesses of, opportunities for, and threats to the school. Four Steering Committees will be established to study these to which others will be invited once they are organized. See the full report for details. Other planning issues were also summarized.

Treasurer's Report: Income exceeded expenses for the month by$320. Year to date expenses exceeded income by $21,000! The main item is payment of $1070.50 to attorney Bert Poole for his work on the Triangle property.

Called Meetings: Were held in 8th month and 9th month to discuss amending the 1984 lease between the meeting and school. Amendments to the proposed Alternate Lease Amendment were discussed at some length. Unity was not reached going forward. The question of hiring a lawyer to represent the meeting will be considered at a future meeting for business.
Today we continued a discussion of the concerns around the Alternative Lease Amendment. There is a Joint Property Task Force meeting scheduled for 9/16/21, 6pm to continue the discussion and strive to come to unity on a Lease Amendment.
There was also a lack of unity on what is the meeting's responsibility for paying a bill for the lawyer, Bert Poole, who drafted the first Lease Amendment. Two members voiced their opposition reasoning that the lawyer was hired by the school. Some members felt that paying half the bill was reasonable. We agreed to let this matter season before addressing it again at Tenth Month meeting for business.

We concluded our meeting at 3:45 PM with a brief silence, 21 present, to meet again, second first day in Tenth month.

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Linda Smith, clerk

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Andrew Young, recording clerk