

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Tenth Month 2011

WEEKLY	CURRENT EVENTS			MONTHLY
<p>EACH 1st DAY: (Sunday) <i>10:30-11:30 am</i> <i>Meeting for Worship</i> First Day School- younger children join Meeting during or after Worship <i>12:00-12:30 pm</i> <i>Silent Peace Vigil</i> in front of the Meetinghouse</p> <p>EACH 4th DAY (Wednesday) <i>7 pm</i> <i>Mid-Week Prayer</i> <i>7:30 pm</i> <i>Worship Sharing</i> Query: "What is the spiritual vision, the light and life, of our Meeting? Where does Meeting feel led?"</p> <p>EACH 6th DAY (Friday) <i>9 – 9:30 am</i> <i>Meeting for Worship</i> All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community</p>	10/21/11	9am – 12 2-7 pm	School – Grandparents Day –program WHRO phon-a-thon – contact Eileen Vernon 428-7534	<p>1st First Days 9 am <i>Peace & Social Justice Meeting</i></p> <p>2nd First Days 8:30 am <i>Meeting for Worship with attention to Business</i></p> <p>3rd First Days 9 am <i>First Day School Discussion – Pendle Hill Pamphlet, "The Use of Silence"</i></p> <p>4th First Days 9 am <i>Meeting of Ministry and Oversight</i></p>
	10/22/11	1:30- 10 pm	One Love Festival – Virginia Wesleyan College. See details of schedule in this newsletter.	
	10/22/11	11 am	Representative Body Meeting , Greenville, NC	
	10/27-10/31	5-7 am & 5pm	Homeless shelter work with the Lutheran Church next door On breakfast and dinner	
	10/28/11	6-9 pm	Halloween Carnival and MS/US Dance	
	10/29/11	9am – 1pm	Work Day at the Meetinghouse, contact Bob Clapp	
	10/30/11	12:30 pm	Pot Luck Lunch , discussion of "The Mind of Christ"	
	10/31/11		School Closed for students – teacher work day	
	11/5/11	9 am	Clean The Bay Day . Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440	
	11/8/11	4-6 pm	JCOC Meeting/School serves the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer 392-1480 tpaladini@yahoo.com	
	11/11/11	7:30 – 10 pm	Coffee House to benefit Steady Footsteps – See how you can help: sign-up sheet on the Meetinghouse bulletin board.	
	11/22/11	12 noon	School – dismissal	
	11/23-25		School Closed – Thanksgiving	
	11/30 -12/3	11/30 to 12/3	School Christmas Bok & Craft Fair	
	12/2/11		Teacher Jane Book Award Ceremony	
12/3 & 12/4		Fair Trade Festival at Waterside – help support Steady Footsteps, sign-up sheet on the meeting bulletin board		
2011 EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES				
	Every Tuesday & Saturday	7 am	CATHOLIC WORKER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Breakfast on the Streets: (prep begins at 6 am at Sacred Heart Church). Serve and share a meal with over 100 brothers and sisters left out of the downtown boom, on Armistead St. (behind the HRT building on Monticello).	
"SAVE THE DATES"	2012 TBA		Clean The Bay Day . Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440	
	4/28/12		Representative Body Meeting. Location to be determined	
	7/11-15/12		Yearly Meeting at Guilford College Campus, Greensboro NC	

Query #4 to ponder for the next business session: *Work of the Meeting. Do we assume our rightful share in the expenses of our Meeting? Do we regard our time, our talents, and our possessions as given to us in trust, and do we use them freely for the needs of others?*

Query #3 - Love and Unity. *Do we follow the teachings of Jesus and seek the inspiration of His Holy Spirit in our daily lives? Are love and unity maintained among us? Do we cultivate a forgiving spirit, and do we avoid and discourage needless and destructive criticism of others? When differences arise, do we endeavor promptly to resolve them in a spirit of love, honesty, and humility?*

Response: Friends responded: Our meeting feels the presence of the Holy Spirit as we gather, and we can feel ourselves growing together in love and unity, following the leadings of the spirit. In our daily lives, where conflict is common, we find the leadings of the spirit helping us reach peace.

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 10/9/2011

Meeting opened with a waiting silence with approximately 19 members and attenders present.

A letter to the family of Anne Lippincott in sincere appreciation of her generous gift was read to the Meeting.

Dear Ms. Hale,

September 30, 2011

I am the Clerk of Virginia Beach Friends Meeting and I wanted to tell you how much we appreciate the generous gift left to us by Anne Lippincott and her estate. There are several members in the Meeting who fondly remember John and Anne Lippincott and have been sharing memories of their days with the Meeting and the School. They were such a vital part of both, especially in the early days, and we still have the Memorial Garden which offers a quiet place to sit amongst the flowers and the trees which still surrounds the Meeting and School even while the city has grown up around us. They are both remembered for their love of nature and for their dedication to education. I am told that Anne offered not only her time to many projects but was also known for her kind heart. We are grateful to have been remembered by her, and she and John will continue to be remembered by us.

In God's light, Rebecca Mani, Clerk- VBFM

Treasurer's Report from Andy Young.

Treasurer's Report to business meeting

Summary income and expenses (excluding bequests, capital, and HRSD project)				
	9th month	YTD	Budget for 2011	YTD % actual vs. budget (should be 66%)
Income	\$1381.40	\$14151.90	\$24,513	% 58
Expenses	\$1716.35	\$20121.69	\$24,763	% 81
Difference	\$334.95	\$5969.79	\$250	

1. The table above shows that we are "short" almost \$6000 year to date of donations to support the Meeting's budget for the year. The Meeting will need to consider what to do to make up this shortfall, but that discussion should be postponed until Friends have had another month or two to consider their personal contributions. There is ample money in our various accounts to meet our budget, so this isn't a "crisis".
2. The details of income and expenses vs. budget are in a spread sheet report available by paper copy. This report now shows the status of all designated funds. The spread sheet shows the current best understanding of the money in various funds; this continues to need clarification to determine the money in some of them, and the treasurer is working with Ruth Anne Childress and others to get this data.
3. The investment / budget committee met. Members attending were Tom Kennedy, Bob Clapp, Nancy Craft, Andy Young, and Dave French. Andy will be our convener; our next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 1. Minutes are available upon request.
4. The treasurer reminds everyone that it is not appropriate to spend money that exceeds the budgeted amount. Any "emergency needs" are exceptions; any planned needs should get business meeting approval in advance. Further, any money spent from non-budget funds e.g. sewer project, capital improvements, need proper documentation in advance of the checks being written. The treasurer will assume that if there is money in a non-budget pool, then that money may be spent.
5. Apparently several years ago a formula was developed for allocating interest earned on money in the SHCU money market account. This has proved to be very cumbersome and, since earned interest is rather small, unimportant. Further, the treasurer doesn't have the details of that decision, and since significant additional money from the Lippincott bequest and the sewer project has been added to the account, the old formula doesn't seem appropriate. Therefore, unless there is guidance to the contrary, all earned interest on that account will be put into the "reserve" pool.
6. The budget committee needs input this month from each committee. A proposed budget and committees expected to be responsible for "championing" each line item is available today. If a committee thinks it shouldn't be responsible for an item, the convener should discuss this immediately with someone on the budget committee e.g. Bob Clapp, Bob Smith, or Dave French.
7. The business meeting last month approved sending Virginia Lockett to the World gathering, but the treasurer lacks guidance about what total amount of money is approved, and where this money should be taken from.
8. With assistance from Ruth Anne Childress, the treasurer is now authorized to write checks on both the Towne Bank account and the BB&T account. The Self Help Credit Union authorization has been applied for and is assumed to be approved, and a check was written (in October) for \$934.45 for the fireplace logs on that account (capital project money).

- The financial work of our meeting will be conducted by one committee- the Finance Committee. A smaller subcommittee will be working on the budget. This smaller group is meeting at 9Am on 10.14.11.
- Meeting discussed funds needed to send children and teachers to Quaker enrichment opportunities, specifically Quaker teacher education. The School Committee Clerk, Linda Smith, will communicate this request, and any other School Committee budget items of importance, in writing to the budget subcommittee, prior to 10.14.11.
- Meeting allocated approximately \$2,000.00 to send Virginia Lockett to the Friends World Conference. Monies were to come from the Lippincott bequest.
- Last month Meeting undertook a prayerful consideration of a contribution toward the 8th grader at VBFS. Meeting committed \$2,000.00 from the Lucy Stone account for this support. Meeting is reminded that future planning for this scholarship candidate should be incorporated into our budget, if ongoing scholarship need is likely.
- Meeting is reminded from a review of income and expenses that Meeting does not currently have sufficient income to meet budgeted expenses for 2011.

Head of School Report from Linda Serrette.

Admissions:

- Current enrollment is 140.
- Preparations are underway for the October 22 Open House and there will be a program including the "Parent Toolbox".
- The school is hosting a luncheon for directors of potential feeder schools in the area on October 14.

Maintenance/Safety:

- A serious plumbing problem occurred in Lower School that caused the hallway and part of three classrooms to be flooded. The problem was identified and repaired. Exactly a week later, the building flooded again. The plumbers were contacted and are presently checking the main pipe for a crack.
- The roof of the art room is being repaired.
- We had our first Fire Drill on Thursday.
- We are planning to replace old fence near MS to reduce traffic over our lawn.

Program Details:

- Teachers in all divisions are beginning the lengthy task of curriculum review in preparation for the 2012 VAIS accreditation process.
- New programs for this semester include On the Air, Cultural Café, Improv and the Spoken Word, and a computer skill/ keyboarding course for fifth and sixth graders.
- Three seniors are currently doing in-house internships: two in Early Childhood Education and one in Athletics.
- All core Middle and Upper School teachers are now posting homework on the web.
- Our Middle School team won the Sand Sculpting competition last week at the Neptune Festival.

Development:

- As part of our resolve to improve our visibility and community outreach this year a group of students will be performing at the One Love Festival.
- This week we begin preparations for our Annual Fund drive.

Technology

- We are awaiting some final bills to come in so that we can see what funds remain for software purchases. The students love the SMARTBoards

Upcoming Events:

- Grandparents' Day and WHRO Phone-a-thon: October 21
- Halloween Carnival: October 28

Nominating Committee Report was given by Pat Phelan-Young

The 2011-12 listing of Committees and Contacts is now available online or in hard copy (distributed). All meeting members and attenders are still welcome to join committees. Meeting expressed gratitude to the nominating committee for their work facilitating the leadings of our members and attenders to join in the work of the meeting.

Membership

- A letter from Faye Bailey was read asking for consideration for membership. A Clearness Committee was formed: Nancy Craft, Rose Kennedy, Barb French, and Judith Stevens.
- A Clearness Committee consisting of Bob Clapp, Bob Young (convener), Gillian Spencer and Pat Phelan-Young warmly recommended John Francis (Jack) Callan for membership in VB Friends Meeting, Meeting approved.

Member News

- Joseph Fiutko's name has been legally removed as a Trustee of VB Friends Meeting, due to his death.
- A sympathy message was created for Jenny Jacobs, a former Meeting member and former long-time manager of Things Unlimited, on the recent deaths of both her parents.

School Committee Reports by Linda Smith

September report:

1. School Committee approved and adopted the 2011-2012 budget.
2. We welcomed our newest member to SC, Joanne Crass. Joanne is a nurse and she currently operates a local private neurofeedback practice. She and her husband have adopted four children from foreign countries. Her son, JJ, attended Virginia Beach Friends School starting in eighth grade and graduated in 2008. He is now a senior at Guilford College. While JJ was at Friends School, Joanne was active in the parent organization, serving as both recorder and clerk for several years. At Friends School, Joanne has taught science courses and filled in at the office. She is very committed to VBFS and the values it embodies.

October report:

3. SC welcomed a new member to our committee this month, Joanne Young. Her son is in 10th grade and has been here for several years. She is strongly committed to Friends School. We now have nine members on School Committee. Each new SC member has chosen a mentor.
4. Our Development Activity for October: Upper School Teachers presented their programs and activities for the first Semester Schedule complete with handouts. SC found it very interesting and thorough. Eight colleges are scheduled to make visits to our campus for our seniors. T. Carrie has managed to receive \$800.00 in technology equipment free. SC thanked them for their wonderful work.
5. B&F committee will be interviewing three investment firms on Oct. 12th to determine how to best invest our funds from the sale of Things Unlimited property.
6. T. Megan, Director of Advancement, created an Advancement Master Calendar for the year's major events.
7. The Advancement Committee brainstormed ideas for Annual Fund effort. In late October there will phone-a-thon for the Annual Fund staffed by parent reps for each class. A postcard reminder about the phon-a-thon, which will have a photo of a current family, will be mailed out to the community prior to the event.
8. If you have any spare time to volunteer, even just an hour or two, contact T. Megan - tmegan@friends-school.org. There's lots of stamping and mailing of postcards, stuffing envelopes, etc. to be done! Many hands make light work.
9. WHRO Phon-a-thon - VBFS is participating in WHRO's Fall Membership Drive on "Pet Pledge Friday!" Volunteers are needed to answer phones and enter membership information on computers on Friday, October 21st, from 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm at the WHRO studios located at 5200 Hampton Blvd., Norfolk VA. Food will be provided by WHRO. Please contact T. Eileen at (757)428-7534 so she can put your name on the list! The more friends we have volunteer, the more publicity we gain via WHRO! So please join us! (Volunteers are encouraged to stay from 2-7p.m., but it's not mandatory).

Ministry and Oversight Report was given by Pat Phelan-Young

Query 1: "Are we aware of our duties as ministers, elder, and overseers, and do we conduct ourselves in a manner commensurate with our responsibilities?"

Response: "Friends might benefit from an annual reading of our duties out of *Faith and Practice*. We reviewed the section on vocal ministry. We reaffirmed our practice of recognizing each other's spiritual gifts."

We discussed the need for more education of the membership on how to serve on committees and to represent the Meeting to the public. It was agreed that we gather committee conveners to develop guidelines for their committee responsibilities.

M&O asked Meeting to host a potluck on 10/30 to discuss the Pamphlet "The Mind of Christ" which we have been studying. Meeting agreed.

Building and Grounds was given by Bob Clapp.

- Pest Control Action Items: It was determined that the school has a termite contract and Meeting House could be covered. No evidence of termites has been found and there is little likelihood because of cement walled basement foundation and brick facing. (Note: during Meeting discussion resulted in understanding that the meeting currently pays a small portion, \$75, of the current extermination contract the school maintains.)
- Fireplace Action: Arrangements with the low bidder have been made to start work on installing gas lines through the attic crawl space to the fireplace. Logs have been purchased for \$934.95. Work will begin 10.10.11.
- Tree Work Action: tree damage at the entrance off Laskin Road from Hurricane Irene was cleaned up prior to the opening of school.
- Storm door and window replacement arrangements are ongoing.
- Lawn mowing: Negotiations are ongoing to find a company or individual to meet our lawn care needs.
- REMINDER: Fall workday, Saturday 10.29.11 from 9AM to 1PM. Bring tools for inside and outside work. Please contact Bob Clapp if you plan to come so we can plan accordingly. Another workday will be planned for after the leaves fall.

Peace and Social Justice Report from Gwynne Wells.

The following projects could use meeting support and volunteers, signup sheets are on the bulletin board.

- P&SJ is working with our neighbor church, the Church of the Good Shepherd, to feed the homeless from 10.27.11 through 10.31.11. Support is particularly needed from 5-7 AM. Dinner help is also needed from 7-10 PM. On 10.16.11 from 1-3PM help is needed to prepare items that will be frozen in preparation for the full week of meals.
- Meeting has a large presence planned at the One Love Festival on 10.22.11. This is held at Virginia Wesleyan College. Please visit www.onelovefestivalva.org for details.
- On 11.11.11 Meeting will host a coffeehouse in the Meeting House to benefit Steady Footsteps from 7:30 to 10 PM, featuring a silent auction, food, music, poetry and talent. Donations are welcome. Sign-up sheets are on the Meeting bulletin board. Meeting approved use of the upstairs and downstairs of the Meeting House that evening.
- The Fair Trade Festival, on 12.3 and 12.4.11 also offers Meeting a chance to raise money for Steady Footsteps through the sale of fair trade goods from Palestine. We need volunteers to work the table at this fun event. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
- Collections are currently underway for warm items for the homeless, men, women, and children. Please leave your donation in the bin in the lobby.

Judith Stevens, Clerk and Patricia Swan, Recording Clerk

If you do not receive this newsletter electronically it means the meeting does not have an active email for you. **To receive the newsletter and/or other meeting news electronically via email only, send a request to ybfm.emailer@gmail.com.** Please include your name, address, phone number and email when making requests. If you no longer want to receive the hard copy newsletter, please include this in your email. You may also communicate via the meeting's mailing address, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. **Please remember it costs the Meeting 50 cents for every returned newsletter. Please forward address changes to avoid returned newsletters.**

The purpose of this newsletter is to share the monthly meeting minutes with members, attenders and others interested in the Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting. The minutes represent the official view of the meeting. Other articles relating to the meeting are included on a space available basis and reflect the views of the person submitting the information. The name of the person writing or submitting each article is included to avoid the impression the information represents the opinion of the meeting.
