

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Eighth Month 2013

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

9/12 5:30 pm - School Potluck Picnic – all are welcome and encouraged to attend!

9/14 4pm - Memorial Service for Amos MacLean, son of Rebecca White – potluck to follow

9/21 9 am – 3pm Women’s Retreat, Durham Meeting, Durham NC. Pot Luck Lunch (See below.)

9/21 One Love Festival –Virginia Wesleyan College , Virginia Beach, VA Actives from 2:30 pm, reservations for dinner plus a concert in the evening. See, www.onelovefestival.com

9/29 3-5 pm – Social Justice University – the VICPP program to prepare us for the advocacy work with the General Assembly!

WEEKLY

EACH 1st DAY (Sunday)

- * 10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School- younger children join Meeting during or after Worship
- * 12:00-12:30 pm Silent Peace Vigil - in front of the Meetinghouse

EACH 4th DAY (Wednesday)

- * 7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer
- * 7:30 pm - Worship Sharing Query: "What is the spiritual vision, the light and life, of our Meeting? Where does Meeting feel led?"

EACH 6th DAY (Friday)

- * 9 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community (Except when school is not in session all summer)

MONTHLY

1st First Days –

9 am – Building & Grounds Meeting

Noon- Knitting

12:15 pm - Peace & Social Justice Meeting

2nd First Days –

8:30 am - Meeting for Worship with attention to Business (Except Seventh Month)

3rd First Days

9 am - First Day School Discussion
The Great Divorce by C. S. Lewis

4th First Days

9 am Meeting of Ministry & Oversight

SAVE THE DATES

To Be Determined	The River Cleanup Days. Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 whitpeace.river@gmail.com For more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, Trista@LRNow.org
10/3	Empower Hampton Roads Public Meeting, Norfolk VA
10/27	Representative Body Meeting, Davidson Meeting, Davidson NC
10/7 and 11/18	JCOC Meeting/School serves the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Preparation begins 3-4 pm with meal ready at 6pm. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer 392-1480 tpaladini@yahoo.com
4/14-16/2014	FWCC Consultation, High Point NC
4/26/2014	Representative Body meeting, Durham Meeting, Durham NC
7/9-13/2014	Yearly Meeting, Guilford College, Greensboro NC

Query 2 to ponder for next Business session (9/8/2013) *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?*

Query 1: *Do we faithfully uphold our testimony for worship which is based on silent waiting, and for free and unprogrammed ministry that may be shared by all? Is there a living silence in which we feel drawn together by the Light of Christ, the power of God in our midst; and is this inspiration carried over into our daily lives? Do we come to Meeting with hearts and minds open and ready to worship in silence or in vocal ministry or prayer as the Holy Spirit leads us? Does our meeting encourage those who may have a gift for the spoken ministry?*

Response: At least one of us does not feel the Christ-centered language is connecting but rather separates them from others in the meeting. Others hope we could move beyond the words and into the spirit of the message of caring for one another, of being present to the living silence. The message of Christ, however, can be seen here and in all religions as the message of loving one another. Sharing worship with others in holy places has been a tender experience and it is felt that our experience with others is interconnected. We respect the searching that each of us undertakes to find our place in Spirit and we hope that others who visit us also feel a connection to us.

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Eighth Month 11, 2013

Meeting for Business Eighth Month 11, 2013

P&SJ: The Committee decided to focus its attention on making phone calls to Virginia State Senators and Delegates in an effort to encourage Medicaid expansion since the time frame for expansion is limited. There was continued discussion also on other projects the committee might take on but no decision was made at this time. We continue to encourage each of us on the committee and in meeting to keep working on our own individual concerns as it takes each of us to further change.

Head of School Report from Linda Serrette:

Admissions: Open House was quite well attended. There were a few student visits during the last two weeks of camp as a result of Open House. We have admitted three foreign students into high school, two boys and a girl. They are from Japan, China and Vietnam. The Japanese student's housing is still not finalized. We lost a tenth grade foreign student as there was no host family for him.

Maintenance: The new Cottage room and the external walls/window frames of Fox and Woolman are being painted. Now that Camp is over, cleaning and touch-ups are going on all over the campus. The gym was painted last week. Dominion Power has not given us any dates for the removal of the old poles in the front playground.

Life of the School: Summer camp ended Friday, August 2. Our groups this year were a bit smaller. More children from schools other than VBFS attended our camps this year, which was unusual -but good from an Admissions point of view. Volleyball and soccer practices have officially started. New faculty members employed thus far are Jordan Storm who will replace T. Caitlin and Jennifer Hollingsworth who will be joining the LS team.

School Committee Report:

Enrollment. Confirmed Enrollment as of 7/31/13: 112. Goal is 147-160

VAIS. Meeting with Ron Sykes former, head of Middleburg. Expected drop in enrollment due to lower school's decreased population. Models for fund raising.

Spiritual Life. Student led. Include Spiritual Life report in School Committee Handbook in order to formalize the direction of Spiritual Life Committee.

Advancement Report. Incorporate comments/advice from Ron Sykes.

Bldg and Grounds Report with VBFM. Attendance: Patrick, Lewis, Nancy Craft. Tom Kennedy, Bob Clapp, Barb and Dave French. Opened discussion for future plans for school and meeting.

Foreign Students/Housing. Incentives for hosting foreign students.

Empty Chair Plan. Methods to retain students valuable to school who cannot afford full tuition

VAIS Workshop. Lewis White and Joanne Young summarized what they learned at the VAIS workshop for Heads of School and Trustees that they attended

Foundation. Research of Foundation By-Laws and Operation and how to populate the Foundation Board

Events on Campus. Historically, Virginia Beach Friends School has not held events on campus that serve or sell wine and beer. This unwritten policy is currently under reconsideration as we seek ways to hold donor-attracting events on campus which will showcase our school environment and the students' work. The ability to highlight the work of the students and the rich experiences available at Friends School greatly enhance the ability to solicit funds. In addition, events on campus would save the school the expense of renting facilities off-campus. This saved money would directly enhance the funds to promote our Quaker mission.

Several schools within and around the NCYM were surveyed concerning their policies and all of them have events to raise money for the school on campus that serve adult beverages within specific guidelines.

New Policy: Wine and Beer (but not hard liquor) may be served and/or sold individually at special events on campus up to four times a year when Children are not present as all attending must be age 21 or over.

SC was in unity in pursuing establishing a form of the above policy. Consulting a lawyer for legal input before final draft will be considered.

Treasurer's report

Regular income / expenses.

* Major expenses included repair to the a/c unit and painting supplies; about \$1000 was spent in these two months. B&G is approaching their budgeted total.

* The \$7,500 invested in Calvert several years ago, as part of the Rita Wass gift to the meeting, was transferred to Friends Fiduciary Fund, where it is expected to earn much better. The money had increased to \$7,733.46. This is part of an on-

	June	July	YTD	Budget
Income	\$2,387.20	\$769.65	\$14,138.08	
Expenses	\$1,235.22	\$1,006.91	\$19,179.57	\$28,855.50

going effort to get better earnings on our investment money. Another part of the Rita Wass gift (\$15,000) that has been in a Certificate of Deposit at Self Help Credit Union is being transferred this month. This isn't showing in the figures above. \$799.22 was deposited from Dominion Power and then transferred from our account to the school as compensation for tree removal. This isn't shown in the figures above.

- * Our checking account has about \$8,000 as of 7/31/13.
- * The Sunday night AA group has discontinued use of the building so our rental income will decrease by their \$50/month.

Young Friends Report

- * Room dividers - two dividers were purchased but we currently have four dividers due to damage in shipping. The committee will decide what to do with the extra dividers but it has been suggested that they be donated to the Friends School and this will be discussed at next committee meeting.
- * It has been requested that Myra continue to be notified by those using the children's space.
- * An outing with children and their parents to Creeds Preparative Meeting, possibly on Sept. 29, has been tentatively planned. Members and attenders are welcome to join us that day.
- * We welcome Crystal Waitekus to our committee.
- * We will miss Nancy Craft's presence and dedication to Young Friends Committee. She's agreed to help when needed, and for that and all the years she has served in this capacity we are very grateful.

Request: It was requested that Meeting send Grace LeClair \$100 as per her request for help paying for a recent surgery and this was approved. Her address is as follows if others wish to contact Grace with support: 50 Water Lane, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Property Committee: Committee met with Virginia Power but no start date was given on power line changes. It also identified items to be working on regarding property issues. Time will be spent looking at easements and property lines. There is recognition that hiring an attorney may be needed. A current consideration is the need to update the sign at the front of the property.

Hospitality Report: The committee has assigned a person to be in charge each Sunday for setup and cleanup. Committee will use reusable items as often as possible. This will be evaluated by the committee at its next meeting in 9th month.

Memorial Request. Rebecca White, a former member, is requesting a memorial service for her son, Amos McLean, to be held here on Sat. Sept 14 at 4pm. We have been asked to supply drinks for the reception and Nancy Craft will coordinate with Nicole Karlins. This has been approved by meeting and Nancy Nixon will provide iced tea and at least one member of the Hospitality committee will be present.

B&G Committee:

- * We met 8/4/13 as scheduled. We also had an emergency meeting several weeks ago to deal with electrical issues, noted below.
- * Electrical problems were repaired by Robert Powers at a cost of \$766. AC problems were repaired by Chris Mazzeo for \$225.00. Asplundt discovered that the wires to the Meeting House had burned in 2 places.
- * Kitchen Sink and faucet: This item is tabled until it becomes a higher priority.
- * We painted the handicap ramp to preserve the wood with a slip resistant paint.
- * Tables: 1. Small rectangular table will be removed from upstairs library. 2. Move current kitchen table to library. 3. Move large round table to kitchen. Let's try this for a few months.
- * Downspouts flex hoses are loose; Larry will secure them. New drain pipe works. We are trying to keep the basement dry. The dehumidifier needs to be emptied often; anyone who knows how should empty it.
- * The committee wants to have good access to the basement for people who have trouble using the stairs. Barb and Tobias will do more study on options and requirements. Joel Pfeiffer is coming next Sunday at 9AM from MPS to explain the chairlift.
- * Pruning has been completed around the building. The trees and vines growing into the electric wires were cut.
- * We plan to purchase a new vacuum cleaner for approximately \$300 and this was approved. This will come out of the capital fund which has now been depleted.
- * The Sunday night AA group cleaned the basement carpet as a departing gift to the Meetinghouse.
- * Front Steps are a safety problem because the walkway slab has sunk, and because the top of the step cement is lower than the brick. We found a company to do the job for an estimated: \$750. We intend to do this work next week if possible. This includes patching the steps up the handicap ramp. This money will come out of the capital fund which has now been depleted.

- * A subcommittee was formed to prioritize improvement and projects: Nancy Nixon, Linda Smith, Kathie Garner and David French. Meeting is scheduled for August 19th.
- * Next Meeting 9th Month, 1st day at 9 AM before Meeting for Worship.

The committee is asking for \$2,000.00 for maintenance and Meeting approved.

Membership Committee on report for Linda Tingle Shirk. The committee has met twice with Linda and heartily recommends her membership and Meeting happily approves the recommendation for membership.

Creeds Preparative Meeting. Members from this meeting have visited the Creeds Preparative Meeting and are moved by the depth of the worship experience. We will continue to encourage visits between the two meetings.

Welcoming Committee for Tom Bertrand. A welcoming committee met with Tom and his wife and welcomed him to this Meeting as he has transferred his membership here.

Judith Stevens, Acting Clerk

Rebecca Mani, Acting Recording Clerk

Women's Retreat 9/21/2013 Durham Meeting, 404 Alexander Ave. Durham NC Breakfast will be furnished, potluck lunch.

Breakfast at 8:30 am for registration; contact Kristin Olson-Kennedy kolsonkennedy@gmail.com 704-799-1711 to register!!

Title: The Elephant and the 6 blind people; exploring our spiritual experiences together. Open to all women to attend!!

Objective: To consider and explore our own personal spiritual experience using words and other modes of expression. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of these experiences as well as possibilities for further exploration and/or sharing with others.

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.

Newsletter Notes: The Deadline for the newsletter is the day of our monthly Business session.

We are encouraging folks to receive the newsletter electronically to help save our funds. Please consider receiving this newsletter via only electronic emails. **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. Please indicate if you no longer want to receive the hard copy newsletter. You may also communicate via the Meeting's mailing address, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

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