

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Ninth Month 2015

CURRENT ACTIVITIES	
(for details click this VFBM Upcoming Events webpage link...)	
<p>9/25 Community Movie Night at Friends School</p> <p>9/26 10th Annual One Love Festival</p> <p>9/26 Sandcastle Competition</p> <p>10/4 Friends School Master Planning Information Session</p> <p>10/7 Living Waters—Interfaith Summit on Stewardship of Virginia Waters</p>	<p>10/8 Call to Action: Healthcare as a Moral Imperative</p> <p>10/23 Friends School Admissions Open House, Art Auction, Grandparents Day, and Student Performance</p> <p>10/25 2nd Annual Prayer Walk for Peace and Racial Harmony</p> <p>10/30 Friends School Halloween Carnival</p> <p>11/8 Social Justice U</p>
MONTHLY	
<p><u>EACH 1st DAY</u> (Sunday)</p> <p>* <u>10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School-</u> <u>younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</u></p> <p><u>EACH 4th DAY</u> (Wednesday)</p> <p>* <u>8:30-9:00 am – Morning Worship (start your 4th Day off with silent morning worship)</u></p> <p>* <u>7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer (prayer time especially for those in need)</u></p> <p><u>EACH 6th DAY</u> (Friday)</p> <p>* <u>8:50 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community (except when school is not in session)</u></p>	<p><u>1st First Days</u></p> <p>9 am – Buildings & Grounds Meeting</p> <p>12 noon - Peace & Social Justice Meeting</p> <p><u>2nd First Days</u></p> <p>8:30 am - Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (except Seventh Month)</p> <p><u>3rd First Days</u></p> <p>9 am - First Day School Discussion</p> <p><u>4th First Days</u></p> <p>8:30 am Meeting of Ministry & Oversight</p>
SAVE THE DATES	
10/10, 11/14	River Cleanup
10/24	Interim Body Meeting – Location TBD
11/29	Quaker Hum Dingers for 2015
10/29, 11/19	JCOC Homeless shelter meal – Contact Tracey Paladini for details & to assist. tpaladini@yahoo.com

Query Number 3 to consider for the next Business Meeting.

LOVE AND UNITY: 3. 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?

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 09/13/2015

Opening. Meeting opened with a period of silent worship, fifteen persons present.

Queries: Query #2 was read and meeting united in the following response:

The silent meeting for worship is the heart of our practice. It seems that many things happen in the silence besides the open submission mentioned in the query, among them prayer and listening to the messages of others. These, too, however, are done in the spirit of submission.

We note that the opening question does not say "Don't be late!" but rather, enjoins us not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by one's late arrival. That some will come late seems unavoidable. Those who can come early set an example by settling in. Those who are late settle in as quietly as possible and those already settled in maintain the spirit.

Query #4 was read and meeting united in the following response:

We honor the hours given by Friends to the service of others. We accept our talents and possessions as held in trust and as truly belonging to God.

The phrase 'rightful share' raises further questions. Introducing 'rights' is perhaps more definite than is warranted by the waiting submission to God which is the heart of our practice. There is great difference among us in material circumstance and gifts must take different forms.

School Report:

The school began the year with 188 students. That is eight more than last year despite the loss of several multiple-student families to job transfers.

Faculty retention was stable.

Friends are encouraged to visit the Meeting website for the full report, which includes many wonderful activities and events.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer reports that in eighth month income was \$681 and expenses were \$1666. Income is approximately \$1000 behind expenses for the year to date. The major expense this month was \$1100 for removal of trees and limbs. The checking account balance is \$3600, the lowest this treasurer has ever seen it.

Finance Committee has not met this year. Meeting requested that Treasurer convene that committee and address the issue of income shortfall.

Treasurer noted that he writes no check that doesn't have a budget line item covering it and that these lines are generated by committees. Conveners should get their budget requests to the treasurer by the end of October. The budget process for next year is underway.

Communications Committee:

Among other things, they are investigating the addition of speakers and projection equipment to the meeting house.

Meeting asked the committee to confirm that reports presented at the meeting for business are available through the website and that an archive is maintained.

The committee asked that an official letter of appreciation be sent to Nancy Craft for her years of service publishing the newsletter and to Carol Baraff for her years of service as newsletter proofreader.

Building and Grounds:

The committee needs a new convener. Barb French has stepped down and cannot continue to function in that capacity.

Work has begun on the meetinghouse ceiling.

The September workday originally scheduled for 26 September has to be rescheduled to avoid conflicts with other events.

The dead tree and limb removal requested by Meeting has been completed.

The committee requested that Meeting “define and clarify who does long-range planning for the Meeting.” It was agreed to put the matter of who does the planning and the nature of the process on the agenda for the next meeting for business.

Ministers, Elders, and Overseers:

The usefulness of reading the advices in Meeting was discussed.

MEO asked Meeting to approve the previously circulated document outlining the procedures for a clearness committee. Meeting united in approving this document.

Peace and Social Justice:

The committee has been moved by a statement on climate change circulated by the Richmond Meeting. A proposal to ask Meeting to endorse this, or a similar, statement is seasoning and will be brought forward at the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

School Committee:

SC asked for a gathering to present the new master plan for the school. It was agreed to schedule a potluck meeting at rise of Meeting for Worship on 10/4/15 and in the evening of the preceding day, 10/3/15.

Old Business:

As time was exhausted, old business was forwarded to the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Meeting adjourned after a brief moment of silent worship at 10:29AM.

Nancy Nixon, Clerk and Patrick Goold, Recording Clerk

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REMINDER: If you have any report or material for Meeting members’ consideration at Monthly Meeting for Business, please forward to vbfm.emailer@gmail.com no later than 4th day (Wednesday) prior to Meeting. In this way, Meeting members can receive all documents to be considered in a timely fashion. (This would be in addition to sending your report to the Clerk and Recording Clerk). Thank you, from our Communication Committee!!

Also, please check our **Documents for Review** page. Documents are submitted by committees for review and comment before being presented to MFB for approval. See this link for details - http://vbfriends.org/DocPad/Review/_main.html.

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.

The Virginia Beach Friends Meeting newsletters are available:
on our web site (www.vbfm.org) and via email (emailer.vbfm@gmail.com).

VBFM mailing address: PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Phone: 757-428-9515

NCYMC web: www.ncymc.org, or on Facebook Group: North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative