

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Eleventh Month 2015

CURRENT ACTIVITIES	
(for details see <a href="#">VFBM Upcoming Events</a> and the <a href="#">Friends School calendar</a> )	
12/6 Faith and Practice Revision, Brown Bag Lunch	12/19 Friends School Alumni Gathering 12/22 Friends School Winter Concert
MONTHLY	
<p><b><u>EACH 1<sup>st</sup> DAY</u></b> (Sunday)</p> <p>* <u>10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School-</u> younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</p> <p><b><u>EACH 4<sup>th</sup> DAY</u></b> (Wednesday)</p> <p>* <u>8:30-9:00 am – Morning Worship (start your 4<sup>th</sup> 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><b><u>EACH 6<sup>th</sup> DAY</u></b> (Friday)</p> <p>* <u>8:50 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship All are welcome, with special invitation to School &amp; Meeting Community (except when school is not in session)</u></p>	<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup> First Days</u></b> <i>9 am – Buildings &amp; Grounds Meeting</i></p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> First Days</u></b> <i>8:30 am - Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (except Seventh Month)</i></p> <p><b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> First Days</u></b> <i>12 noon - Peace &amp; Social Justice Meeting</i></p> <p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> First Days</u></b> <i>8:30 am Meeting of Ministry &amp; Oversight</i> <i>12 noon- Communications Committee Meeting</i></p>

**Query Number 6 to consider for the next Business Meeting: *Growth of Our Children***

*Do we endeavor by example and precept to cultivate in our children a sense of openness and expectancy about life, and to aid them in their growth in spiritual understanding and moral discernment? Do we share with them the faith that guides the practice of Friends, while encouraging them to develop their religious insights as the Spirit of God may lead them?*

**Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
11/8/2015**

Meeting opened with a period of silent worship with fourteen persons present.

1. The queries.

Query #5: Do we regularly attend our meetings for business, and are they held in a spirit of love, understanding, and forbearance? Do we seek the right course of action in humble submission to the Authority of Truth and in the patient search for a sense of unity under Divine guidance?

The meeting united in the following response:

*Our meetings for worship with attention to business are attended by a loyal core of regulars. They are held in a spirit of love and in a patient search for unity. How we conceive of that unity seems to differ as we puzzle about the meaning of the phrases "authority of Truth" and "under divine guidance." We listen behind and through the words to the life that calls us together.*

2. Head of School reported that October was a busy month. The annual fund appeal is out. A well-attended Grandparents Day was held. Volleyball and soccer tournaments ran smoothly and netted a profit of over four thousand dollars from gate receipts and concessions. A silent art auction also made several thousand dollars.

Teachers are at work finalizing their curriculum review.

Teacher Charisse attended a SPARC workshop at Pendle Hill, which was based on the work of Parker Palmer.

3. Treasurer reported that income for the month of October was three thousand dollars and that expenses amounted to fifteen hundred dollars. The year-to-date spending exceeds income by four thousand dollars.

The major expense was payment for personal liability insurance which was eight hundred and seventy-nine dollars.

ACTION ITEM: Meeting asked the trustees to review this expense and advise the treasurer about whether to include this in the budget for next year.

Eleven hundred dollars was spent from the separate 'capital expense' budget.

4. Finance Committee met this month. Tom Kennedy will convene that committee. They will be informing members and attenders of the financial side of the meeting by letter.

5. Communication Committee (CC) has cut the budget for postage and handling for the newsletter to one hundred dollars as it is now published primarily online.

The CC noted that the meeting house scheduler currently operates as part of the communication committee; as the committee sorts itself out this arrangement will be reviewed.

An archive protocol has been developed. Everything that has come to meeting for business since March is archived online, minus sensitive contact information. The committee is working on updating the website and compiling a meeting handbook that is coordinated with the webpage.

Anyone needing contact information of members and attenders should get in touch with Linda Smith.

6. Building and Grounds is soliciting additional bids for continuing the replacement of ceiling panels. They are also looking at the condition of the roof to make sure that it is properly maintained and that there are no leaks there to cause new damage to the ceiling.

The next work day is eleventh month 21 from 9 to 1.

7. Ministers, Elders and Overseers announced that a memorial service for Carol Newlin Baraff is planned for Eleventh month 28 at 3pm at the Association or Research and Enlightenment (ARE), 215 67th Street, Virginia Beach VA. In addition, a memorial service next spring at the ARE camp is being planned.

Discovery dinners are beginning again. There will be two sets in first month on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and two sets in third month on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup>. MEO will develop a query to be discussed at these dinners.

8. School Committee reports that they continue to work on the campus master plan, reviewing and updating the strategic long-range plan, and preparing to embark on a major capital campaign. These are major initiatives that address requirements for accreditation by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and Friends Council on Education.

9. Young Friends reported that First Day School is being covered the first three first days by regulars and the fourth first day by rotating volunteers. They plan to post the names of those who are leading the First Day School in advance.

10. A question of long-range planning was put to the membership body. Does the Meeting want to pursue long-range planning? The sense of the Meeting was that we do. Questions followed about what exactly long-range planning involves. All agreed that planning for all aspects of the physical property and facilities was sensible. What more beyond this? Meeting approved the formation of a committee, consisting of Linda Smith, Dave French and interested others to coordinate an investigation into the process, leaving the question of the exact nature of that process open for the moment.

**ACTION ITEM:** This committee was asked to bring back a proposal to the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

11. Peace and Social Justice Committee (PSJC) announced that an update on activities of the committee has been circulated on the website. As part of its work, individual committee members will be addressing particular concerns at the rise of Meeting.

Meeting adjourned after a period of silent worship.

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](mailto:vbfm.emailer@gmail.com) no later than 4<sup>th</sup> 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](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.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org)) and via email ([emailer.vbfm@gmail.com](mailto:emailer.vbfm@gmail.com)).**

**VBFM mailing address: PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454  
Phone: 757-428-9515**

**NCYMC web: [www.ncymc.org](http://www.ncymc.org), or on Facebook Group: North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative**