

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

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www.vbfriends.org

**Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Second month 14, 2016**

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

Query #8: Manner of Living.

Do we observe simplicity and honesty in our manner of living? Are we careful to live within the bounds of our circumstances, punctual in keeping promises, prompt in the payment of debts, and just in all our dealings? Do we choose those activities which will strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual life; and do we avoid those harmful to ourselves and others?

Response to the query #8: Manner of Living.

We are reminded of the root meaning of simplicity as simpleness of nature, integrity and the candid expression of that integrity. We see this candor in our meeting. Do we carry it out into our daily lives? The politics of the day, perhaps of our professional lives, often invite cynicism. The shared life of this community keeps us centered.

Head of School report.



Weekly Events

* First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - Meeting for Worship.

* First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - First Day School - younger children join Meeting during or after Worship.

* Fourth Day (Wednesday), 8:30-9:00 am Morning Worship.

* Fourth Day (Wednesday), 7:00 pm Mid-Week Prayer.

* Sixth Day (Friday) 9:00-9:30 am - School's Meeting for Worship. All are welcome, with special invitation to the School and Meeting Community. Meets weekly when school is in session.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit news, photos, articles, or original writing for the newsletter, please email Christen at christenhansel@cox.net.

Enrollment at Friends School stands at 197. There was a major facilities expense with replacement of the sewer pump in the gym costing \$4600. On the plus side, the asbestos inspection was completely reassuring.

Teacher Dee accompanied a group of students on a Quaker Youth Leadership trip to Rhode Island. Students called it a life-changing event. What they brought back from it has energized the whole upper school.

Preparations are in full swing for Founders Day, which this year will honor John Waller, the architect who designed our meetinghouse.

Ministers, Elders and Overseers report.

After much prayer and discussion MEO has decided to continue reading the advices in the face of the Meeting. They will be read on the first First-Day of the month at the rise of Meeting.

Adult First-Day class is in suspension. Anyone with a leading to take this on is encouraged to contact MEO.

Treasurer's report.

Past rent due payments came in pushing income for first month 2016 to \$3075.16. All renters are now current with their payments. Expenses came to \$734.65.

Peace and Social Justice Committee report.

The committee is considering resuming the peace vigil on Laskin Road. The response to the query concerning the peace testimony, which was considered at the first month meeting for business, contained the sentence "We have abandoned the vigils on Laskin Road." The committee feels this does not express the spirit of what happened. The sense of our discussion was that we intend to be sensitive to our military community, some of whom are school parents, and that Friends will continue to hold vigils and to express opposition to violence and injustice as led, always leaning toward harmony and reconciliation. Meeting was in unity with this statement

Come one, come all!

February 27th, 2016

9 am – 1 pm

Don't miss out on the fun!



Virginia Beach Friends
Meetinghouse Workday

"Many hands make light work!"

Monthly Events

* First First Day (first Sunday of each month), 9:00 am - Building & Grounds Committee meeting.

* Second First Day (second Sunday of each month), 8:30-10:15 am - Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention Towards Business.

* Third First Day (third Sunday of each month), Noon - Peace & Social Justice Committee meeting.

* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), 8:30 am - Ministry and Oversight meeting.

* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), Noon - Communications Committee meeting.

and encouraged participation in all of the activities of the committee.

Communication Committee report.

The committee will help MEO to revise the "About Us" page for the website with the goal of making it shorter and more inviting.

After studying meeting handbooks compiled by other monthly meetings Communication Committee is working to restructure the website with an eye to supporting the development of a handbook for our own meeting.

Building and Grounds Committee report.

Ceiling repairs are going forward. Larry Herz and Debbie Riley will be doing this work. After getting several estimates B&G chose Bailey Roofing to make needed roof repairs. A metal roof cap will be installed, costing \$2600. This will be paid out of the capital expense budget.

A carbon monoxide detector is being installed.

School Committee report.

The annual budget-setting meeting is coming up this month, as is Founders Day; our participation is encouraged.

Young Friends Committee report.

Natalie Bray has been working on a curriculum based on a Philadelphia Yearly Meeting curriculum called "Growing in the Light". There are now planned lessons for each First Day through sixth month. Volunteer teachers are encouraged to step forward, particularly for fourth first day.

Long-Range Planning Task Force report.

The group met and generated three goals: (1) to create a sustainable Quaker community; (2) to encourage spiritual growth; and (3) to embrace individual uniqueness.

Upcoming Events

Meetinghouse Work Day

Date: Saturday
February 27
Time: 9:00 am -
1:00 pm
Location: Meetinghouse

Friends School Founders Day Gala and Auction

Date: Saturday
February 27
Time: 6-10 pm
Location: Friends
School
Campus,
Wilson Center

Budget & Finance Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday
March 10
Time: 8 am
Location: Meetinghouse

Discovery Dinners

Dates: Thursday
March 10
Saturday
March 12
Time: 6:00 pm
Locations: TBD

Interim Body Meeting

Date: April 23
Location: Durham
Meetinghouse
Durham,
North
Carolina

Work will continue on Seventh Day, the twentieth day of the second month (Saturday, February 20), at 9 AM in the upper school. Anyone who wants to attend the second meeting but did not attend this first meeting should contact Linda Smith.

Liability Insurance Task Force report.

The task force met to consider the pros and cons of incorporating, which could be a way of avoiding the cost of liability insurance. Other issues about directors' liability were considered; more research is needed. The task force asked for more time. Meeting approved.

Meeting closed with a period of silence worship. 18 people present.

Submitted by,
Patrick Goold
Recording Clerk

Coastal Friends Gathering

Date: Saturday May 7
Time: 11:00 am, potluck follows
Location: TBD

Peace and Racial Unity Consortium

Date: Sunday June 19
Time: TBD
Location: Mount Trashmore, Virginia Beach

Yearly Meeting

Dates: July 13-17
Location: Guilford College Greensboro, North Carolina

Join us in the Garden
for a Celebration with
FRIENDS

Founder's Day Gala & Auction
honoring our past and securing our future

HONORING JOHN WALLER
Saturday, February 27th, 2016
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Friends School Campus, Wilson Center
Live acoustic rock by Mike Proffitt

Friends School Founder's Day

On February 27, The Virginia Beach Friends School will be honoring John Waller at the Founder's Day Gala and Auction. John Waller is the architect who designed the meetinghouse, which opened in 1955. To read the *Virginian-Pilot's* full article on Waller and the meetinghouse, see http://pilotonline.com/news/local/virginia-beach-friends-school-architect-reflects-on-designing-original-meeting/article_1d474d7f-442f-5eeb-8671-de2f3d27f240.html.

Library Corner

Submitted by Nancy Craft

Our library books are limited to those of a Quaker religious nature due to limited space. The books are located in the subject sections as labeled on the shelves. The Subject section is also listed on the front inside cover of each book. A complete list of the book collection is found in the library computer.

To see if we have a specific book, you can search by Title, Author (or Subject) in the computer database. The book is located by matching the database Subject to the Subject labeled on the shelf. Books have been placed on the shelf in alphabetical order by author, although books can easily be found a bit out of place! (Only one copy of each book is maintained on the shelf due to lack of space.) There are some second copies, while many "extra" copies are being given away to other Meetings or distributed to those interested during the Yearly Meeting sessions each summer.

Reminders

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.

Materials for consideration at Monthly Meeting for Business should be sent to the Clerk, Recording Clerk, and vbfm.emailer@gmail.com no later than the Wednesday prior to Meeting for Business. Thank you, from our Communication Committee!!

Documents submitted for review and comment before being presented to MFB for approval can be found at: <http://vbfriends.org/DocPa d/Review/ main.html>.